



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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October 16, 2012

Ms. Sine Murray
Planning Manager
Office of Park Planning
Division of Recreation and Parks
Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 525
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

RE: Eden Gardens State Park - Lease number 2463

Dear Ms. Murray:

The Division of State Lands, Office of Environmental Services, acting as agent for the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, hereby approves the Eden Gardens State Park land management plan. The next management plan update is due October 16, 2022.

Approval of this land management plan does not waive the authority or jurisdiction of any governmental entity that may have an interest in this project. Implementation of any upland activities proposed by this management plan may require a permit or other authorization from federal and state agencies having regulatory jurisdiction over those particular activities. Pursuant to the conditions of your lease, please forward copies of all permits to this office upon issuance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ms Gengenbach".

Marianne S. Gengenbach
Office of Environmental Services
Division of State Lands

Eden Gardens State Park

APPROVED Unit Management Plan

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

Division of Recreation and Parks
October 11, 2012



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INTRODUCTION

Eden Gardens State Park is located in Walton County (see Vicinity Map). Access to the park is from United States Highway 98 on County Road 395 (see Reference Map). The Vicinity Map also reflects significant land and water resources existing near the park. On December 24, 1968, the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (Trustees) obtained title to a 10.644-acre property constituting the initial area of Eden Gardens State Park. Lois G. Maxon donated the property to the Trustees. Since the initial donation, the Trustees acquired several parcels and added them to the park. These acquisitions were obtained through the Preservation 2000/ Acquisitions and Inholdings program, through the Murphy Act of 1939, by donation and transfer. Presently the park has approximately 161 acres.

According to Lease No. 2463, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) manages Eden Gardens State Park for the purpose of preserving, developing, improving, operating, maintaining and otherwise managing the property for public outdoor recreational, park, conservation and related purposes. Eden Gardens State Park is designated single-use to provide resource-based public outdoor recreation and other park related uses. There are no legislative or executive directives that constrain the use of the park.

PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PARK

Eden Gardens State Park conserves the landscape design of Mr. Emmitt Hill and Mr. M. B. Green, two of the Florida State Park system's founders and most influential landscape designers. The state acquired lands to provide Florida residents and visitors with a public state park and a historic memorial. Some examples of the significance of Eden Gardens State Park include:

- Eden Gardens State Park preserves the histories of the Wesley Family, Ms. Lois G. Maxon, and Mr. Emmitt Hill and Mr. M. B. Green, through the ongoing story of the Wesley House and its surrounding lands.
- The park contains ornamental gardens constructed from the original designs and master plans by Mr. Emmitt Hill, former state park director, and Mr. M. B. Green, former assistant state park director.
- The park also preserves the Wesley House, a nineteenth-century vernacular structure constructed of regional heart pine that was milled onsite by the Wesley family. The park's benefactor, Ms. Maxon, transformed the structure into an example of mid-twentieth century Neoclassical Revival architecture as part of an early attempt at restoration.
- The park preserves mid-twentieth century interior design that includes Ms. Maxon's extensive collection of Louis XVI antique furniture. The park also

contains the archeological remains of the worker's quarters, which were connected to the Wesley family's operations and sawmill.

Eden Gardens State Park is classified as a State Garden in the DRP's unit classification system. In the management of a State Garden, major emphasis is placed on the maintenance and enhancement of the gardens. Recreational uses are generally passive, related to the aesthetic enjoyment of the gardens; however, the unit also provides active recreational activities such as fishing and boating. Development in the park has been limited to picnicking and canoeing/kayaking facilities, a nature trail and necessary support facilities. Park programs emphasize interpretation of the natural and cultural attributes of the park

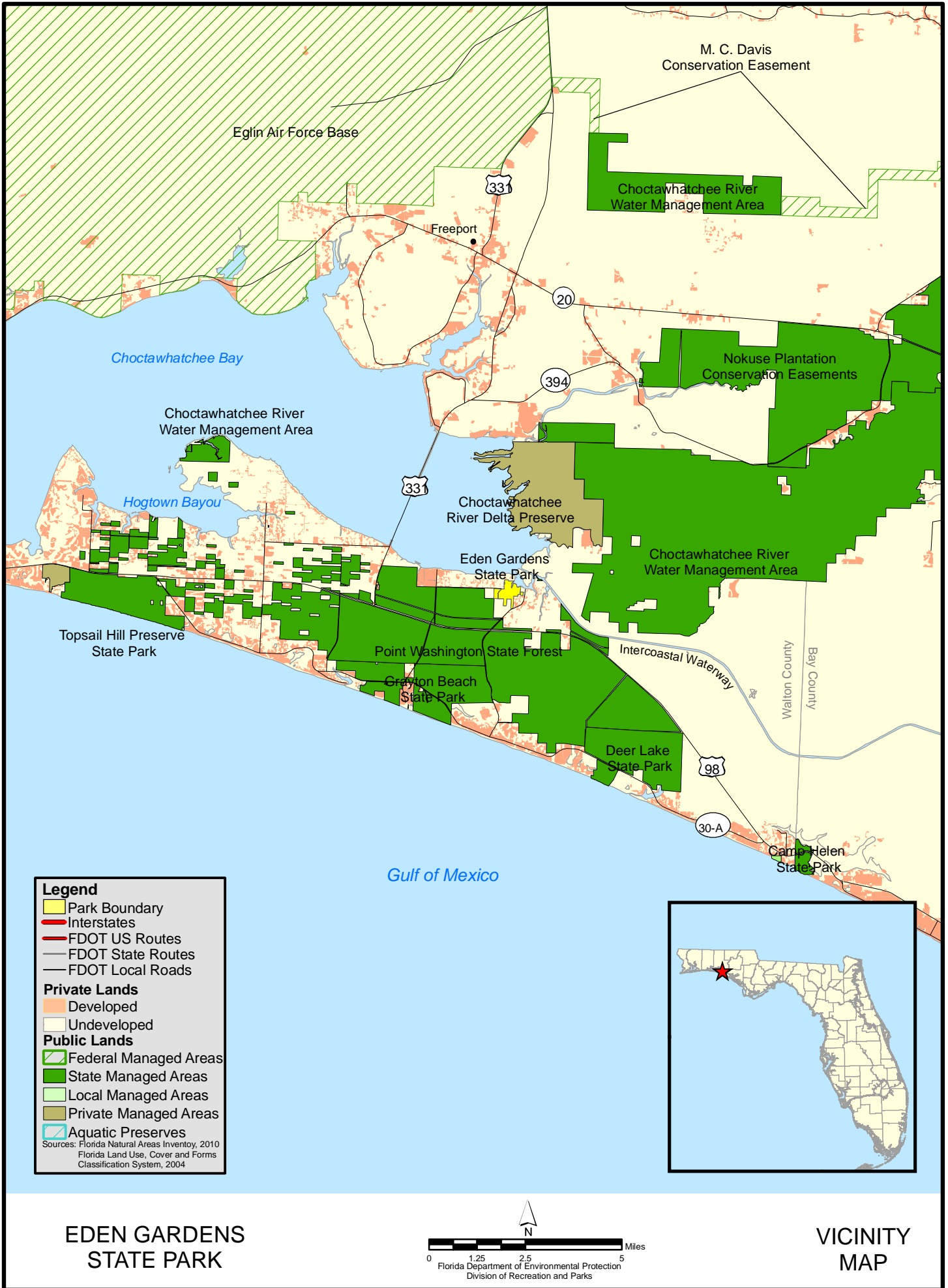
PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE PLAN

This plan serves as the basic statement of policy and direction for the management of Eden Gardens State Park as a unit of Florida's state park system. It identifies the goals, objectives, actions and criteria or standards that guide each aspect of park administration, and sets forth the specific measures that will be implemented to meet management objectives and provide balanced public utilization. The plan is intended to meet the requirements of Sections 253.034 and 259.032, Florida Statutes, Chapter 18-2, Florida Administrative Code, and is intended to be consistent with the State Lands Management Plan. With approval, this management plan will replace the August 16, 2001 approved plan.

The plan consists of three interrelated components: the Resource Management Component, the Land Use Component and the Implementation Component. The Resource Management Component provides a detailed inventory 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, cultural resource management and restoration of natural conditions.

The Land Use Component is the recreational resource allocation plan for the park. Based on considerations such as access, population, adjacent land uses, the natural and cultural resources of the park, current public uses and existing development, measurable objectives are set to achieve the desired allocation of the physical space of the park. These objectives locate use areas and propose the types of facilities and programs and the volume of public use to be provided.

The Implementation Component consolidates the measurable objectives and actions for each of the park's management goals. An implementation schedule and cost estimates are included for each objective and action. Included in this table are (1) measures that



Legend

- Park Boundary
- Interstates
- FDOT US Routes
- FDOT State Routes
- FDOT Local Roads

Private Lands

- Developed
- Undeveloped

Public Lands

- Federal Managed Areas
- State Managed Areas
- Local Managed Areas
- Private Managed Areas
- Aquatic Preserves

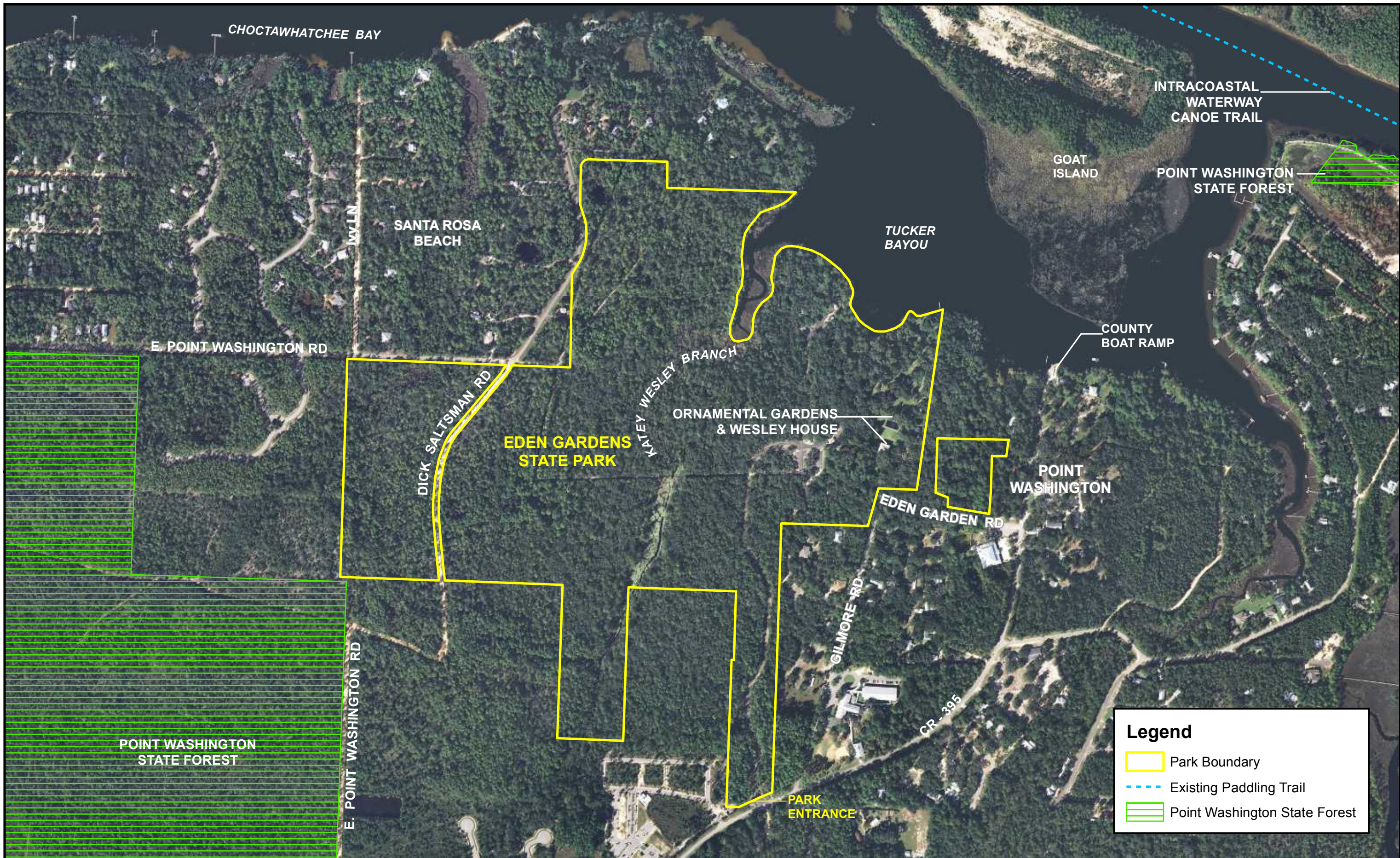
Sources: Florida Natural Areas Inventory, 2010
Florida Land Use, Cover and Forms Classification System, 2004



**EDEN GARDENS
STATE PARK**



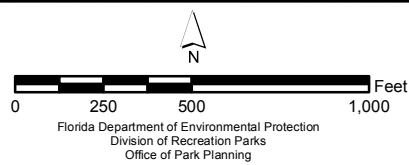
**VICINITY
MAP**



Legend

- Park Boundary
- Existing Paddling Trail
- Point Washington State Forest

EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK



REFERENCE MAP

will be used to evaluate the DRP's implementation progress, (2) timeframes for completing actions and objectives and (3) estimated costs to complete each action and objective.

All development and resource alteration proposed in this plan is subject to the granting of appropriate permits, easements, licenses, and other required legal instruments. Approval of the management plan does not constitute an exemption from complying with the appropriate local, state or federal agencies.

In the development of this plan, the potential of the park to accommodate secondary management purposes was analyzed. These secondary purposes were considered within the context of the DRP's statutory responsibilities and the resource needs and values of the park. This analysis considered the park natural and cultural resources, management needs, aesthetic values, visitation and visitor experiences. For this park, it was determined that no secondary purposes could be accommodated in a manner that would not interfere with the primary purpose of resource-based outdoor recreation and conservation. Uses such as water resource development projects, water supply projects, stormwater management projects, linear facilities and sustainable agriculture and forestry (other than those forest management activities specifically identified in this plan) are not consistent with this plan.

The potential for generating revenue to enhance management was also analyzed. Visitor fees and charges are the principal source of revenue generated by the park. It was determined that multi-use management activities would not be appropriate at this park as a means of revenue for land management since they are compatible with the park's primary purpose of resource-based outdoor recreation and conservation. Instead, techniques such as entrance fees, concessions and similar measures will be employed on a case-by-case basis as a means of supplementing park management funding.

The use of private land managers to facilitate restoration and management of this park was also analyzed. Decisions regarding this type of management (such as outsourcing, contracting with the private sector, use of volunteers, etc.) will be made on a case-by-case basis as necessity dictates.

MANAGEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Management Authority and Responsibility

In accordance with Chapter 258, Florida Statutes and Chapter 62D-2, Florida Administrative Code, the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) is charged with the responsibility of developing and operating Florida's recreation and parks system. These are administered in accordance with the following policy:

It shall be the policy of the Division of Recreation and Parks to promote the state park system for the use, enjoyment, and benefit of the people of Florida and visitors; to acquire typical portions of the original domain of the state which will be accessible to all of the people, and of such character as to emblemize the state's natural values; conserve these natural values for all time; administer the development, use and maintenance of these lands and render such public service in so doing, in such a manner as to enable the people of Florida and visitors to enjoy these values without depleting them; to contribute materially to the development of a strong mental, moral, and physical fiber in the people; to provide for perpetual preservation of historic sites and memorials of statewide significance and interpretation of their history to the people; to contribute to the tourist appeal of Florida.

Many operating procedures are standardized system-wide and are set by internal direction. These procedures are outlined in the DRP's Operations Manual (OM) that covers such areas as personnel management, uniforms and personal appearance, training, signs, communications, fiscal procedures, interpretation, concessions, public use regulations, resource management, law enforcement, protection, safety and maintenance.

Park Management Goals

The following park goals express the DRP's long-term intent in managing the state park.

1. Provide administrative support for all park functions.
2. Protect water quality and quantity in the park, restore hydrology to the extent feasible and maintain the restored condition.
3. Restore and maintain the natural communities/habitats of the park.
4. Maintain, improve or restore imperiled species populations and habitats in the park.
5. Remove exotic and invasive plants and animals from the park and conduct needed maintenance-control.
6. Protect, preserve and maintain the cultural resources of the park.
7. Provide public access and recreational opportunities in the park.
8. Develop and maintain the capital facilities and infrastructure necessary to meet the goals and objectives of this management plan.

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 Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS),

Florida Forest Service (FFS), assists DRP staff in the development of wildfire emergency plans and provides the authorization required for prescribed burning. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC), assists staff in the enforcement of state laws pertaining to wildlife, freshwater fish and other aquatic life existing within the park. In addition, the FFWCC aids the DRP with wildlife management programs, including imperiled species management and Watchable Wildlife programs. The Florida Department of State (FDOS), Division of Historical Resources (DHR) assists staff to ensure protection of archaeological and historical sites.

Public Participation

The DRP provided an opportunity for public input by conducting a public workshop and an Advisory Group Meeting to present the draft management plan to the public. These meetings were held on May 8, 2012 and May 9, 2012, respectively. Meeting notices were published in the Florida Administrative Weekly, April 27, 2012 38/17, included on the Department Internet Calendar, posted in clear view at the park, and promoted locally. The purpose of the Advisory Group meeting is to provide the Advisory Group members an opportunity to discuss the draft management plan (see Addendum 2).

Other Designations

Eden Gardens State Park is not within an Area of Critical State Concern as defined in Section 380.05, Florida Statutes, and it is not presently under study for such designation. All waters within the park have been designated as Outstanding Florida Waters, pursuant to Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code. Surface waters in this park are also classified as Class II waters by the Department. This park is not within or adjacent to an aquatic preserve as designated under the Florida Aquatic Preserve Act of 1975 (Section 258.35, Florida Statutes).

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMPONENT

INTRODUCTION

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) in accordance with Chapter 258, Florida Statutes, has implemented resource management programs for preserving for all time the representative examples of natural and cultural resources of statewide significance under its administration. This component of the unit plan describes the natural and cultural resources of the park and identifies the methods that will be used to manage them. Management measures expressed in this plan are consistent with the DEP's overall mission in ecosystem management. Cited references are contained in Addendum 3.

The DRP's philosophy of resource management is natural systems management. Primary emphasis is placed on restoring and maintaining, to the degree possible, the natural processes that shaped the structure, function and species composition of Florida's diverse natural communities as they occurred in the original domain. Single species management for imperiled species is appropriate in state parks when the maintenance, recovery or restoration of a species or population is complicated due to constraints 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.

The DRP's management goal for cultural resources is to preserve sites and objects that represent Florida's cultural periods, significant historic events or persons. This goal often entails active measures to stabilize, reconstruct or restore resources, or to rehabilitate them for appropriate public use.

Because park units are often components of larger ecosystems, their proper management can be affected by conditions and events that occur beyond park boundaries. Ecosystem management is implemented through a resource management evaluation program that assesses resource conditions, evaluates management activities and refines management actions, and reviews local comprehensive plans and development permit applications for park/ecosystem impacts.

The entire park is divided into management zones that delineate areas on the ground that are used to reference management activities (see Management Zones Map). The shape and size of each zone may be based on natural community type, burn zone, and the location of existing roads and natural fire breaks. It is important to note that all burn zones are management zones; however, not all management zones include fire-dependent natural communities. Table 1 reflects the management zones with the acres of each zone.

Table 1: Management Zone Acreage and Prescribed Fire Management

| MANAGEMENT ZONE | ACREAGE | MANAGED WITH PRESCRIBED FIRE |
|-----------------|---------|------------------------------|
| EG-01 | 3.46 | N |
| EG-02 | 11.41 | N |
| EG-03 | 28.82 | N |
| EG-04 | 23.63 | N |
| EG-05 | 36.35 | N |
| EG-06 | 20.09 | N |
| EG-07 | 37.30 | N |

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT

Natural Resources

Topography

The park is situated on a relatively flat landscape. Elevation ranges from just above sea level on the shores of Tucker Bayou and gently increases with distance from this bayou and a northward-flowing creek, locally referred to as Katie Wesley Branch, to exceed 15 feet at the park boundary.

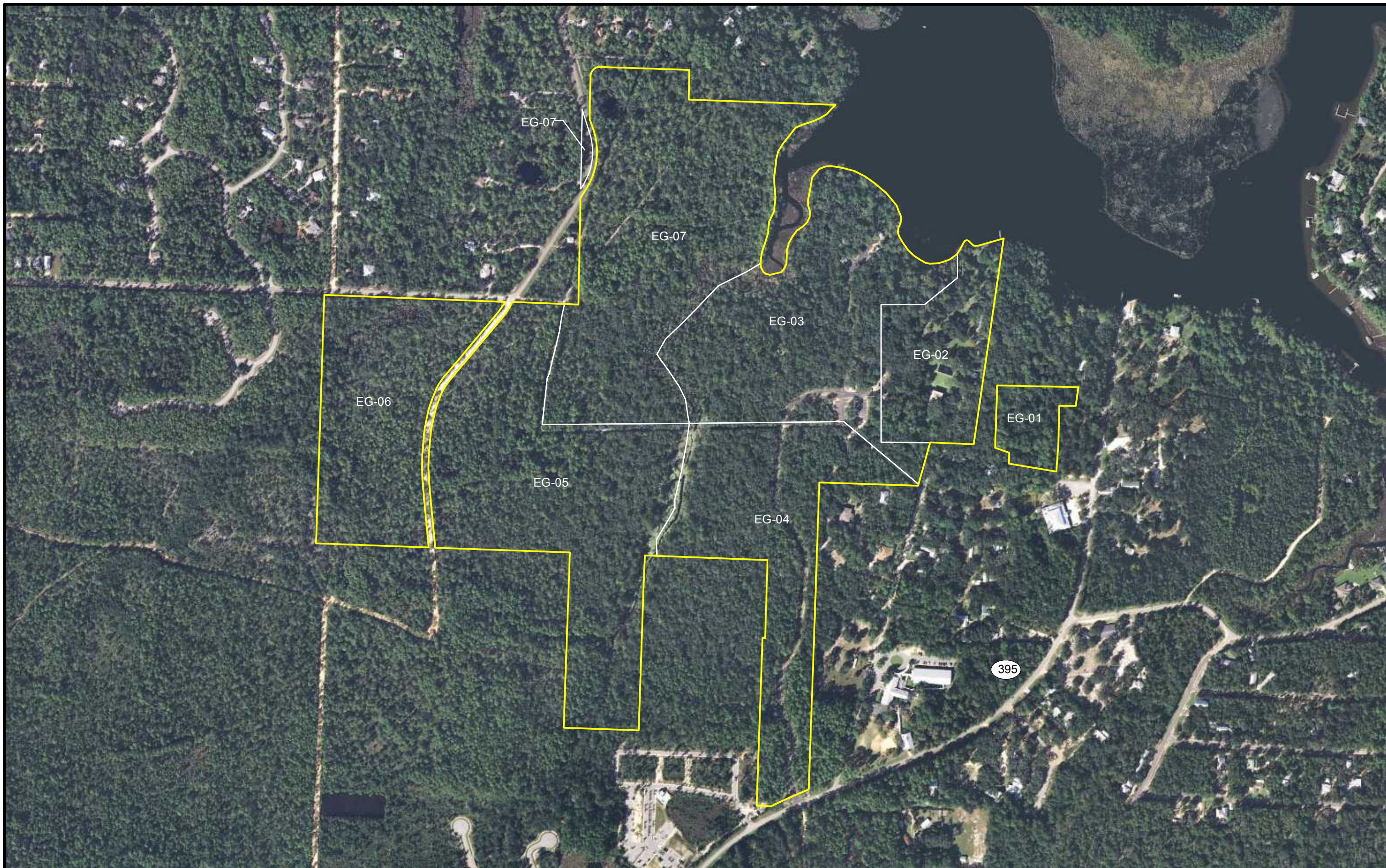
Geology

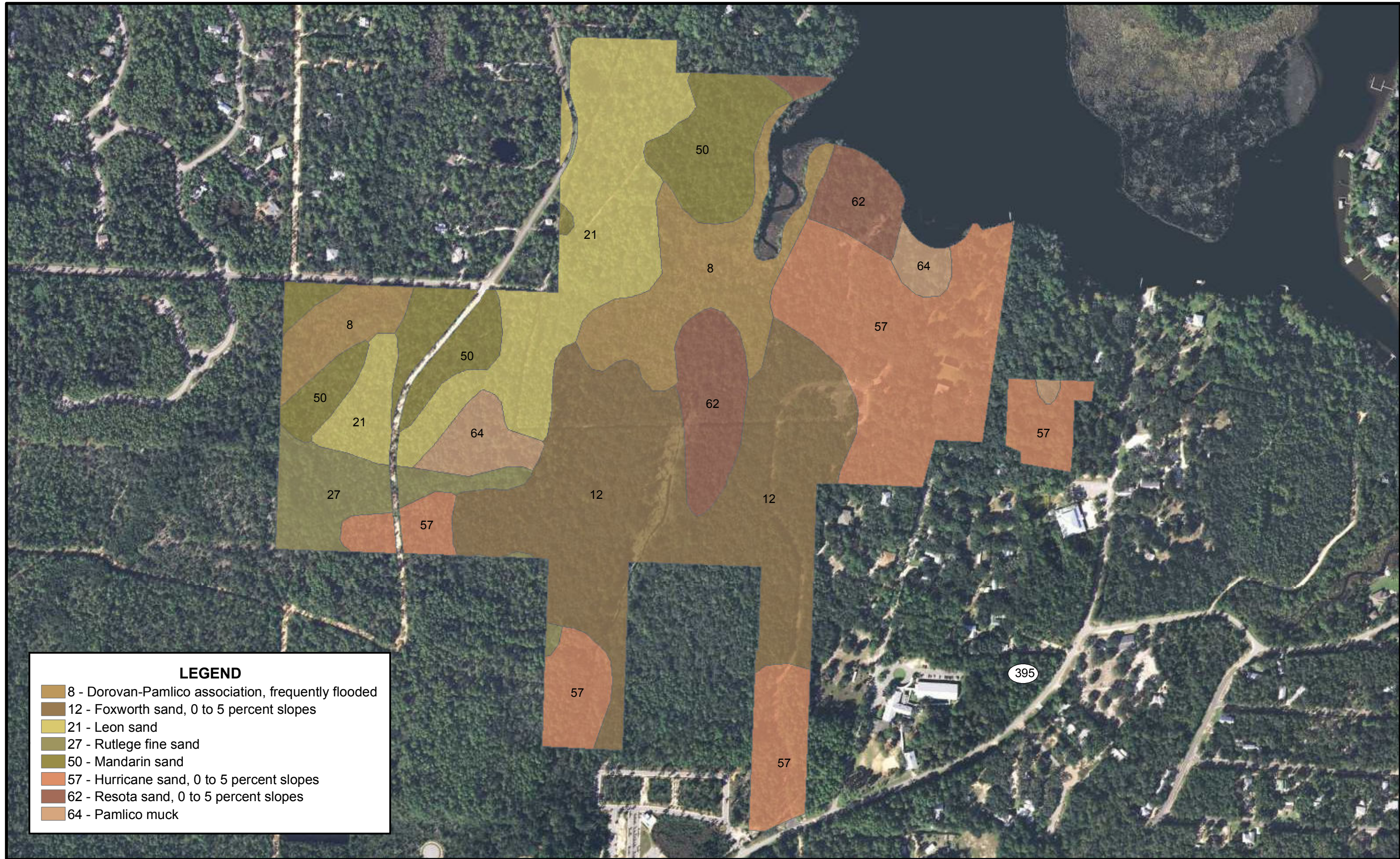
Eden Gardens State Park is in an area of Walton County dominated by the Gulf Coastal Lowlands. These lowlands were formed during the Pleistocene epoch between glacial events. As the sea levels fluctuated between ice ages, sediment was redeposited, forming a gently sloping plain or terrace.

Soils

This park is comprised of eight soil types (see Soils Map), including the Dorovan-Pamlico association, Foxworth sand, Leon sand, Rutledge fine sand, Mandarin sand, Hurricane sand, Resota sand, and Pamlico muck. Addendum 4 contains detailed soil descriptions for the soil types identified within this park.

The Dorovan-Pamlico association soils are level, poorly drained sands associated with two of the larger floodplain swamps occurring on the property. As such, it is very dark, rich in organic matter, and frequently flooded; wetland areas tend to occur on these soils in other parts of the county. On this property, Pamlico Muck is also associated with the swamp area adjacent to the bayou as well as the developed area of zone EG-02; a section of this soil type in the western portion of the park supports mesic flatwoods. On the other end of the spectrum lies Foxworth Sand, which is well drained and level to gradually sloping. At this park, this soil is closely associated with the xeric hammock

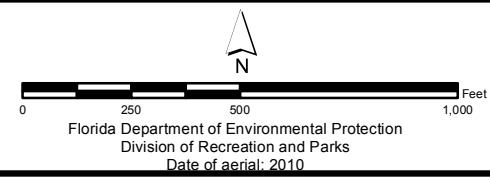




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- 8 - Dorovan-Pamlico association, frequently flooded
- 12 - Foxworth sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes
- 21 - Leon sand
- 27 - Rutlege fine sand
- 50 - Mandarin sand
- 57 - Hurricane sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes
- 62 - Resota sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes
- 64 - Pamlico muck

EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK



SOILS MAP

natural community and is generally sandy throughout its profile. Xeric hammock also occupies the well-drained Resota Sand just south of the centrally located floodplain swamp. Hurricane Sand is somewhat poorly drained and often occupies slightly elevated portions of flatwoods communities. At this park, the developed gardens area and patches of scrubby flatwoods stand on this soil type. The Leon Sand is, by contrast, poorly drained and typically associated with flatwoods, which is the case in this park. Mandarin Sand is intermediate in terms of water drainage and is usually associated with flatwoods; at this park, one may find mesic hammock and scrub occupying different locales of this soil type, which is likely a consequence of land use history. Rutledge Fine Sand is poorly drained and chiefly associated with mesic flatwoods; given its drainage characteristics, it would likely hold standing water if it was topographically situated to receive water flow from other locales. This situation is also similar to the westerly patch of Pamlico Muck.

Erosion is a minimal problem at the site. A portion of shoreline along Tucker Bayou adjacent to the Wesley house and gardens has been stabilized with a sea wall. Soils in the balance of the property have been stabilized by vegetation. Management activities will follow generally accepted guidelines established in the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) 1993 Silviculture Best Management Practices to prevent soil erosion and conserve soil and water resources on site.

Minerals

This park unit contains no known mineral deposits of economic value.

Hydrology

The park occurs on the southern shore of Tucker Bayou, which is an extension of the Choctawhatchee Bay. Tucker Bayou is adjacent to the location where the artificially constructed Intracoastal Waterway merges with the bay. Drainage from park property follows a generally northeasterly direction into Tucker Bayou principally through the Katie Wesley Branch as well as surface runoff. Other watercourses off property drain small portions toward the bayou. Given the park's location along a large inland bay connected to the Gulf of Mexico, hurricanes or other major storm events affecting the bay may occasionally prompt local flooding in low-lying areas. Although the main park amenities, including the Wesley House, gardens and park administrative buildings, are somewhat close to the edge of Tucker Bayou, this area is at least five feet above sea level and significant flooding is relatively rare. Furthermore, a Phase I environmental site assessment was completed for the western portion of the park, called the Butler Tract, and no evidence was found of any water quality problems from past land use practices (Harding Lawson 2000).

One flooding issue bears mentioning. West of the Katie Wesley Branch, there is an unpaved access road that divides EG-05 and 07. At times when the water table is relatively high from an extended period of abundant rainfall, the sharp corner where

the road shifts from east-west to north-south is capable of flooding up to about one foot or more deep. Thus, there is the possibility that this condition may impede the passage of lower clearance vehicles along this stretch. This would primarily be a concern in terms of access for fire line maintenance or the use of prescribed fire itself. While this issue had been considered for potential remedy as a management objective, a field visit in late July 2011 determined that no significant flooding was observed following recent rains; over the longer term up to that point, the panhandle had been experiencing an extreme drought and a presumed lowering of the water table. Consequently, it was decided that more information was needed before defining this as an objective; this area should be monitored for flooding over the next planning cycle to better understand the necessity of further action. Should future corrective action be deemed necessary, the translocation of the Florida-listed plant Curtis' sand grass (*Calamovilfa curtissii*) growing along the margins may be required.

Over the past decade, park staff has noticed the water volume in the Katie Wesley Branch progressively increasing at the point where the main east-west access road through the Butler Tract crosses this creek. Anecdotal reports indicate that as recently as 15 years ago, an ATV could cross the water to access the westernmost zones and beyond, which is currently impossible. Aerial photographs indicate that the Katie Wesley Branch was once a slender watercourse meandering through its small drainage basin; it has now swelled to almost completely fill this basin. The water level has noticeably risen in only the past few years. In summer 2011, park staff determined that the main obstruction creating this situation is what appears to be a sizeable beaver dam that has raised the water level by almost one meter. As the swamp is quite dense with vegetation, it is not currently known if other dams may occur downstream. Options should be explored in order to remove the dam(s) and, possibly, trap the beavers if they remain in the vicinity (they have not been observed in the recent past). This would enable the access road crossing to be used again and prevent wider scale flooding of the immediate area. An additional benefit of improving water flow would be to potentially create habitat along the shallow creekside that may support introduction of pitcher plants (*Sarracenia* spp.) at a future time.

Natural Communities

This section of the management plan describes and assesses each of the natural communities found in the park. It also describes of the desired future condition of each natural community and identifies the actions that will be required to bring the community to its desired future condition (DFC). Specific management objectives and actions for natural community management, exotic species management, imperiled species management and restoration are discussed in the Resource Management Program section of this component.

The system of classifying natural communities employed in this plan was developed by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI). The premise of this system is that physical

factors such as climate, geology, soil, hydrology, and fire frequency generally determine the species composition of an area, and that areas, which are similar with respect to those factors will tend to have natural communities with similar species compositions. Obvious differences in species composition can occur, however, despite similar physical conditions. In other instances, physical factors are substantially different, yet the species compositions are quite similar. For example, coastal strand and scrub--two communities with similar species compositions--generally have quite different climatic environments, and these necessitate different management programs. Some physical influences, such as fire frequency, may vary from FNAI's descriptions for certain natural communities in this plan.

When a natural community within a park reaches the desired future condition, it is considered to be in a "maintenance condition." Required actions for sustaining a community's maintenance condition may include, maintaining optimal fire return intervals for fire dependant communities, ongoing control of non-native plant and animal species, maintaining natural hydrological functions (including historic water flows and water quality), preserving a community's biodiversity and vegetative structure, protecting viable populations of plant and animal species (including those that are imperiled or endemic), and preserving intact ecotones linking natural communities across the landscape.

At the point in time when the park's natural communities have reached their desired future condition, they are considered to be in a maintenance status and share certain basic characteristics and management requirements. These include the maintenance of the optimal fire return intervals for fire dependant communities, the maintenance control of non-native plant and animal species, the maintenance of natural hydrological functions (including historic water flows and water quality), the maintenance of proper vegetative structure that represents the natural diversity of the community, the maintenance of healthy populations of plant and wildlife species (including those that are imperiled or endemic), and the maintenance of intact ecotones between natural communities across the landscape.

The park contains nine distinct natural communities as well as developed areas (see Natural Communities Map). A list of known plants and animals occurring in the park is contained in Addendum 5.

MESIC FLATWOODS

Desired future condition: Dominant pines in northern Florida are longleaf pine. With the region's history of logging, longleaf pines have mostly been replaced with slash pines. Native herbaceous groundcover is over at least 50 percent of the area and is less than 3 feet in height. Saw palmetto/shrub component comprises no more than 50 percent of total shrub species cover, and are less than 3 feet in height. Shrub species

include saw palmetto, gallberry, fetterbush, runner oak, dwarf live oak, shiny blueberry, and dwarf huckleberry. Shrubs are generally knee-high or less, and there are few if any large trunks of saw palmetto along the ground.

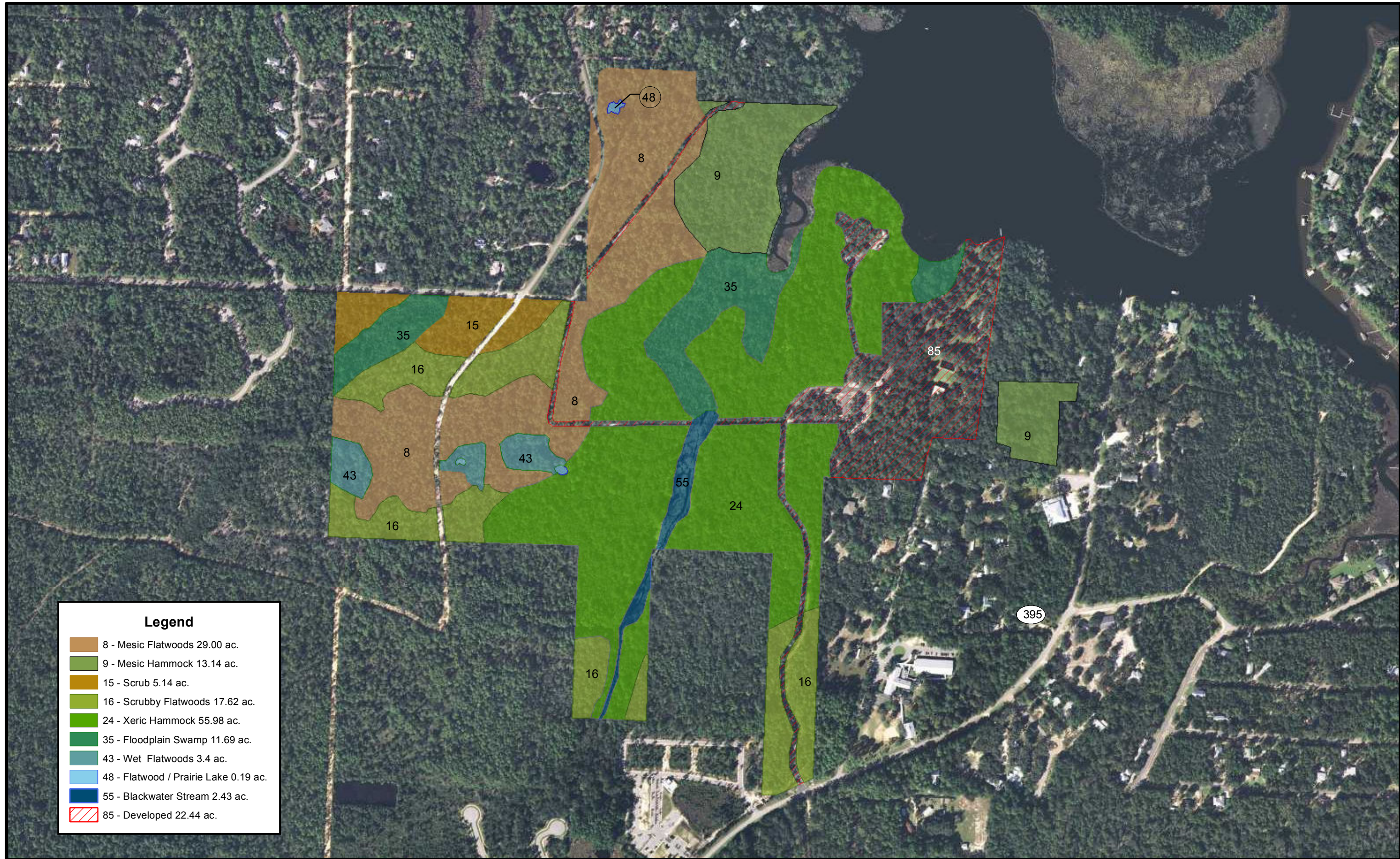
Description and assessment: This community occurs in portions of zones EG-05, 06 and 07. As with typical mesic flatwoods in this region, slash pine (*Pinus elliotii*) and saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*) are the main vegetative components of much of this community. However, fire suppression has increased the densities of shrubs such as fetterbush (*Lyonia lucida*), rusty lyonia (*Lyonia ferruginea*) and sparkleberry (*Vaccinium arboreum*). Some areas are very dense with this shrubby foliage making accessibility very difficult. As with other portions of the park, lack of fire and past land use practices have altered the vegetative structure, though burning should allow this community to gradually assume an approximation of the desired future condition. Scattered wiregrass (*Aristida stricta*) and Curtis' sand grass (*Calamovilfa curtissii*) individuals are still present in this community and should increase in abundance as prescribed fire operations are initiated. A small proportion of the canopy consists of longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*). Historical aerial photography shows that most of this community was cleared prior to the 1940s.

General management measures: The most important management measure for this community type is the introduction of prescribed fire. The ongoing development of surrounding neighborhoods presents urban interface challenges, but the reduction of wildfire threats over time will benefit those living nearby. No exotic plants were observed in these communities, but these stands should be monitored and exotic plants treated if encountered.

MESIC HAMMOCK

Desired future condition: A well-developed evergreen hardwood forest and often-dense canopy is typically dominated by live oak, Southern magnolia and pignut hickory. The shrubby understory may be dense or open, tall or short, and is typically composed of saw palmetto, beautyberry, American holly and sparkleberry. The groundcover may be sparse and patchy and may contain panic grasses, switchgrasses, sedges as well as various ferns and forbs. Abundant vines and epiphytes may occur on live oaks and other subcanopy trees. Mesic hammocks generally contain sandy soils with organic materials and may have a thick layer of leaf litter at the surface. Mesic hammocks are rarely inundated and not considered to be fire-adapted communities and are typically shielded from fire.

Description and assessment: There are two areas in the park occupied by mesic hammock. The Russ Tract, a parcel measuring about 3.5 acres and formerly dominated by a homesite in the mid-20th century, comprises the easternmost portion of the park. It is separated from the rest of the park by a relatively narrow private landholding. While the edges of this parcel are rather dense with midstory trees and shrubs, the interior is



Legend

- 8 - Mesic Flatwoods 29.00 ac.
- 9 - Mesic Hammock 13.14 ac.
- 15 - Scrub 5.14 ac.
- 16 - Scrubby Flatwoods 17.62 ac.
- 24 - Xeric Hammock 55.98 ac.
- 35 - Floodplain Swamp 11.69 ac.
- 43 - Wet Flatwoods 3.4 ac.
- 48 - Flatwood / Prairie Lake 0.19 ac.
- 55 - Blackwater Stream 2.43 ac.
- 85 - Developed 22.44 ac.

quite open and shaded by large canopy trees. There are widely scattered slash pines in the canopy, but these form a minor component compared with the abundant hardwoods on this site and the population shows no evidence of regeneration. There is a small meandering creek just east of the zone EG-01 boundary that empties into Tucker Bayou to the north. This watercourse provides adequate moisture to support an herbaceous groundcover of lizard's tail (*Saururus cernuus*), netted chain fern (*Woodwardia areolata*), and sparse individuals of royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*) as well as a locally dense stand of Florida anise (*Illicium floridana*) toward the northern portion of the tract. The homesite is on slightly raised and drier ground, adding to the habitat diversity within the stand. Other species observed on the site include live oak (*Quercus virginiana*), laurel oak (*Quercus hemisphaerica*), pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*), American holly (*Ilex opaca*), southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*), yaupon (*Ilex vomitoria*), deer berry (*Vaccinium stamineum*), resurrection fern (*Polypodium polypodioides*), poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), trumpet creeper (*Campsis radicans*), woodbine (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*), and crossvine (*Bignonia capreolata*). The other stand of mesic hammock occurs just off the Tucker Bayou to the west of the Katie Wesley Branch, measuring about eight acres. This stand contains many of the same species as are found at the Russ Tract, though it differs in terms of vegetation structure. Mature trees form a large component of the stand, however, the canopy cover is less complete and a higher quantity of light reaches the midstory and ground layer. Thus, ground-level vegetative density is higher throughout the stand to make walking more difficult. Bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*) are locally abundant groundcover species.

General management measures: Aside from the need to monitor for and treat exotic plant species when encountered, there are no other management measures necessary for this community type at this time. The westerly stand within zone EG-07 is in very good condition given its location in a relatively remote corner of the park. There is a small neighborhood a short distance to the north of this stand, but no significant signs of disturbance from off-site visitation were apparent. Since this area can be accessed via a primitive dirt track originating near Point Washington Road, this stand should be occasionally monitored to ensure that no one disturbs the community by felling trees, establishing campsites, or illegally dumping trash. The vegetation within the Russ Tract is in good condition, considering its formerly ruderal history as a homesite. The exotic plant species, Chinese wisteria (*Wisteria sinensis*) and air potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*), had formerly covered a significant proportion of the substrate, but intensive control efforts have succeeded in reducing these infestations so that this community can now be described to be in a maintenance condition in terms of exotic occupancy. Inspection and treatment efforts will continue as necessary.

SCRUB

Desired future condition: Dominant species over the vast majority of scrub acres include sand live oak, myrtle oak, Chapman's oak, saw palmetto and rusty staggerbush.

Scrub oak canopy varies in height from 3– 8 feet. There is a variety of oak age classes/heights between different scrub patches. There are scattered openings in the canopy with bare patches of sand that support many imperiled or endemic plant species; these species are regularly flowering and replenishing their seed banks. Sand pine, where present, usually does not dominate in abundance, percent cover or height. Some areas of mature sand pine occur; groves of sand pine in select locations in the panhandle may exceed 100-150 years of age.

Description and assessment: There is a small area of scrub along Point Washington Road in the northern portion of zones EG-05 and 06. Predominant plant species include sand pine (*Pinus clausa*), sand live oak (*Quercus geminata*), laurel oak, saw palmetto and deer lichen (*Cladina* sp.). The stand in northeastern zone EG-06 has abundant patches of open ground with an appreciable accumulation of oak leaf litter and little needlecast. Light interception to the ground layer is high. The stand at the northwestern corner of zone EG-06 is a scrub community though with a higher coverage of mature sand live oaks and fewer sand pines. The stand in zone EG-05 is more marginal in quality with a greater density of vegetation, though sand pine is well represented.

General management measures: Through a long period of fire suppression, the standing biomass is dense in the two easterly stands. The vegetative continuity is high enough in zone EG-05 to support a large fire, which may present a hazard to surrounding landholdings; extreme care will be necessary when this stand is burned. The stand in the zone EG-06 northeastern corner has less continuity though the large quantity of oak leaf litter may effectively carry a fire. Since scrubs are pyric communities prone to large stand replacement conflagrations, lack of fire management may present a wildfire risk. As adjacent lands continue to be developed and more people move into the area, burning or reducing standing biomass should be considered before smoke management becomes increasingly difficult.

SCRUBBY FLATWOODS

Desired future condition: Dominant tree species of the interior are usually longleaf pine and/or slash pine. Mature sand pines are typically not present. There is a diverse shrubby understory often with patches of bare white sand. Scrub oak “canopy” varies in height between 3 – 8 feet and there is a variety of oak age classes/heights across the landscape. Dominant shrubs include sand live oak, myrtle oak, Chapman’s oak, saw palmetto and rusty staggerbush. Cover by herbaceous species is often well below 40 percent.

Description and assessment: This community occurs in the western portion of the park within zones EG-05 and 06 as well as on the southernmost tips of zones EG-04 and 05. The overstory consists primarily of widely spaced slash pines with scrub elements in the understory. Patches of open ground are frequent throughout these stands, which have variable levels of needlecast and oak leaf litter. Common plants include sand live

oak, laurel oak, fetterbush, myrtle oak (*Quercus myrtifolia*), running oak (*Quercus elliotii*), bracken fern, saw palmetto, Curtis' sandgrass, rusty lyonia, and deer lichen.

Occasionally, clumps of wiregrass may be observed. According to historical aerial photography, several areas of this community type near the southwestern corner had undergone extensive disturbance beyond logging operations; these patches have very low herbaceous groundcover to this day despite high light penetration and are instead covered with dense growths of deer lichen.

General management measures: After years of fire suppression, the woody biomass has become relatively high for this community type with laurel oaks particularly abundant in the severely disturbed areas. Reintroduction of fire, where possible, is crucial to reduce this vegetative material and increase the abundance of pyric species, including wiregrass and Curtis' sandgrass. Of course, those areas without sufficient groundcover would not burn well. No exotic plants were observed in these communities, but the stands should be monitored and exotic plants treated when encountered.

XERIC HAMMOCK

Desired future condition: Typically considered a late successional stage of scrub or sandhill that generally occurs in small isolated patches on excessively well drained soils. Vegetation typically consists of a shade-casting closed canopy dominated by live oak, laurel oak, and other hardwoods. Sand pine, slash pine or longleaf pine may also be a minor component. Understory species generally include saw palmetto, fetterbush, myrtle oak and yaupon. A sparse groundcover layer of wiregrass and other herbaceous species may exist but is typically absent. A continuous leaf litter layer may be present.

Description and assessment: At more than 51 acres, this community occupies the largest portion of the park. It is centrally situated, divided by the Katie Wesley Branch and several of the access roads. Vegetation in this community displays two general localized affinities. Those areas occupying most of the northerly portions of this type have comparatively few pines in its overwhelmingly hardwood-dominated overstory and midstory. Typical species of xeric hammock may be found throughout this area, including southern magnolia, live oak, pignut hickory, laurel oak, saw palmetto, fetterbush, American holly, yaupon (*Ilex opaca*) and persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*).

Near the southernmost extent of this community along the current entry road for the park, there is an interesting divergence from the above description. While still classified as xeric hammock, this small region has characteristics indicative of scrub origins. Tall sand pines alternate with several species of oaks, including myrtle oak, sand live oak, and laurel oak, occupying the full vertical profile between midstory and canopy. Needlecast is sparse here, though the ground is thick with oak leaves and patches of deer lichen.

General management measures: No specific management measures are currently necessary for this community type during the next planning cycle aside from ongoing treatments of exotic plants when encountered.

FLOODPLAIN SWAMP

Desired future condition: Frequently or permanently flooded community in low-lying areas along streams and rivers. Soils consist of a mixture of sand, organics and alluvial materials. Closed canopy is typically dominated by bald cypress but commonly includes tupelo species as well as water hickory, red maple, and overcup oak. Tree bases are typically buttressed. Understory and groundcover are typically sparse.

Description and assessment: There are three areas classified as floodplain swamp, all of which have been highly altered from their past character. Bald cypress should be the predominant canopy tree in these areas, but these are now less common and many have likely been extracted by timbering operations over the years. The easternmost swamp measures about one acre and lies just west of the grassy field of zone EG-02. Though altered, it is in somewhat good condition with a canopy of very large trees, including southern magnolia, slash pine and tupelos (*Nyssa* sp.); saw grass occurs immediately adjacent to the bayou. Other species include cabbage palm (*Sabal palmetto*), sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), Florida anise, dwarf palmetto (*Sabal minor*), cinnamon fern, green arrow arum (*Peltandra virginica*), wax myrtle, cross vine, royal fern, water oak (*Quercus nigra*), yaupon, bog hemp (*Boehmeria cylindrica*), poison ivy, witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), American holly, lizard's tail, and netted chain fern. The water is rather shallow with margins of muddy soils gradually transitioning to drier soils. The swamp north of the Katie Wesley Branch has deeper water and is composed of dense thickets of trees and shrubs, including titi (*Cyrilla racemiflora*), tupelo, sweetgum, and sweet bay (*Magnolia virginiana*). Accessibility is very difficult on land or by water. Regardless, an obstruction within this stand has been causing a slow rise of the creek's water level over the past decade. In preparation for this plan, park staff approached the southern edge of the swamp and observed what appeared to be a large beaver dam blocking water flow. The third swamp occurs near the northwestern corner, which drains through park property, through the neighborhood, and into the bayou. Dense clumps of golden club (*Orontia aquaticum*) were observed in shallower waters.

General management measures: Exotic plants should be treated when encountered in the swamps. Aside from a patch of torpedo grass (*Panicum repens*) near the road crossing with the zone EG-06 swamp, other exotic plants were not observed in these wetlands. The beaver dam on the boundary between the Katie Wesley Branch and the floodplain swamp should be removed to restore the flow and decrease water levels.

WET FLATWOODS

Desired Future Condition: Dominant pines consist of longleaf pine and slash pine. Pond cypress (*Taxodium ascendens*) may reach canopy in some locations. The canopy is

open, with pines being widely scattered and of at least three age classes. Native herbaceous cover is at least 80 percent. Herbaceous groundcover species such as pitcher plants (*Sarracenia* spp.), Curtiss' sand grass (*Calamovilfa curtissii*), yellow-eyed grass (*Xyris* spp.), beaksedge (*Rhynchospora* spp.), and wiregrass (*Aristida stricta* var. *beyrichiana*) may be present and abundant in some areas. Common shrubs include sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*), fetterbush, large leaf gallberry, titi and wax myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*).

Description and Assessment: There are three wet flatwoods areas within zones EG-05 and 06. Their canopies blend together with surrounding communities in contemporary aerial photography, but historical aerial photos show that they were relatively well vegetated in the 1940s when other flatwoods communities were cleared of trees. Similar to the nearby flatwoods communities, woody shrubs are extremely dense after decades of fire suppression. Portions of this community are impenetrable without cutting a trail for access and the shrubs frequently extend higher than head level. Species observed include fetterbush, large leaf gallberry (*Ilex coriacea*), sweet bay, slash pine, titi, black titi (*Cliftonia monophylla*), and southern magnolia. Cypress trees (*Taxodium* sp.) were observed growing deep within the wet flatwoods area of zone EG-06.

General management measures: The most important management measure for this community type is the introduction of prescribed fire. While herbaceous groundcover is very scarce at present due to the high vegetative biomass, habitat quality and recruitment opportunities should improve for herbaceous growth as burning proceeds. While no exotic plants were seen in this community, monitoring should continue as the stands are opened up and exotic plants treated as they are encountered.

FLATWOODS LAKE

Desired Future Condition: Often associated with depression marshes that are characterized as shallow, generally round or elliptical depressions, vegetated with concentric bands of aquatic vegetation. Depending upon the depth and slope of the depression, an open water zone, with or without floating plants, may occur at the center. The open water zone is considered a marsh lake if it is small in comparison to the surrounding marsh. Otherwise, the system is considered a flatwoods lake or a prairie lake, depending upon the surrounding community. The hydrosol is typically acidic sand with some peat and occasionally a clay lens. Although water levels may fluctuate significantly, water is typically present year-round.

Description and Assessment: Three small lakes occur in the midst of flatwoods communities within zones EG-05 and 07. These water bodies are not immediately evident in recent aerial photography, but may be seen quite obviously in historical aerial photos from 1941 onwards when much of the western portion of the park appears to have been denuded of most woody vegetation. Though two of the lakes are a short distance from roads, they are surrounded by exceptionally dense thickets and are thus

hidden from casual observation. While it cannot be said with certainty at this point, they all appear possibly to have been artificially excavated from existing depressions or at least highly altered in the past. These shorelines are surrounded by dense clumps of shrubs, primarily fetterbush and large leaf gallberry. From what could be observed through the shoreline vegetation, they lack evidence of significant muck accumulations along their shallows. The two southerly lakes have scatterings of multiple tupelos; the northerly lakeshore is practically impenetrable with shrub cover despite its proximity to access routes and lacks tree cover along its immediate shoreline.

General management measures: The most pressing issue for these water bodies is to introduce prescribed fire into the surrounding flatwoods communities, which would reduce vegetative biomass along their shores. There was no evidence of significant aquatic herbaceous vegetation in these lakes, exotic or native, though it was late winter at the time of observation.

BLACKWATER STREAM

Desired future condition: Characterized as perennial or intermittent watercourses originating in lowlands where extensive wetlands with organic soils collect rainfall and runoff, discharging it slowly to the stream. The stained waters are laden with tannins, particulates, and dissolved organic matter derived from drainage through adjacent swamps, which results in sandy bottoms overlain by organic matter. Emergent and floating vegetation (including golden club, smartweed, grasses and sedges) may occur but is often limited by steep banks and dramatic seasonal fluctuations in water levels. Desired conditions include minimizing disturbance and alterations and preserving adjacent natural communities.

Description and assessment: The main creek bisecting the park in a north-south direction, locally referred to as Katie Wesley Branch, is characterized as a blackwater stream. Its origin is located outside the park boundary and it flows north to drain into Tucker Bayou. Vegetation occurring on its surface consists primarily of abundant watershield (*Brasenia schreberi*). The banks slope rather abruptly toward the water and are thick with vegetation, such as titi, fetterbush and various grasses. However, this vegetative density may be considered somewhat atypical for the banks of a blackwater stream, which likely results from the recent rise in water levels over the past decade caused by beaver dam obstructions within the downstream swamp. Anecdotal reports indicate that one could cross the creek along the east-west running access road with an ATV as recently as fifteen years ago, which is currently impossible.

General management measures: The creek's water quality appears to be in good condition. Removing obstructions within the downstream swamp is the most pressing need for this community type, which may open habitat along the stream for pitcher plant reintroduction in the future. Park staff should monitor and treat exotic plants if they are encountered.

DEVELOPED

Desired future condition: The developed areas within the park are managed to minimize the effect of these land covers on adjacent natural areas. Priority invasive plant species (EPPC Category I and II species) are removed from all developed areas. Developed areas have proper stormwater infrastructure and their structures are placed so as to not interfere with prescribed fire management.

Description and assessment: Much of the original property is actively manicured as an ornamental garden. Parking areas, picnic areas, and roads are other examples of developed portions of the park.

General management measures: As mentioned above, a significant management priority for this area is to treat invasive exotic plant species when encountered. Chinese wisteria and English ivy (*Hedera helix*) often recruit into the southeastern corner of zone EG-02 among the planted ornamentals. In addition, access roads within the Butler Tract have ongoing problems with illegal dumping and even on one known occasion, palmetto harvesting. A gated entrance and park property signs on the access road between zones EG-05 and 07 have been erected within the past year, which should deter these activities. However, a gate cannot be placed at the beginning of the dirt track along Point Washington Road since the triangular parcel immediately north of zone EG-05 is privately owned.

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 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC) or the FDACS as endangered, threatened or of special concern.

Curtis' sand grass (*Calamovilfa curtissii*), listed as threatened by FDACS, was observed along the Butler Tract access road between zones EG-05 and 07 as well as scattered in the groundcover on the southern portion of zone EG-06. Since this grass is adapted to growth in a pyric community, introduction of a prescribed burning program would serve to increase available habitat for it, reduce the density of competitors less tolerant to fire, and increase local abundance over time. Additionally, the access road and its immediate surroundings occasionally experience temporary flooding following heavy rains. If it is determined in the future that this road needs improvement measures in order to reduce this flooding or to create a better firebreak, a plan would be drafted to provide for relocation of individuals to more suitable habitat before project initiation. This population will be specifically targeted for monitoring over the next planning cycle. Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*) and cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*), which are both listed as Commercially Exploited, were observed within mesic hammocks and

floodplain swamps of the park; no targeted efforts are necessary other than ensuring that adequate conservation buffers are maintained in order to prevent disturbance in the vicinity.

Listed animal taxa in the park include multiple Species of Special Concern, including American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*) and a variety of birds (see Table 1 below). These species are commonly seen in other natural areas around the region and should be managed by maintaining habitat quality and protection from visitor impacts by locating future facilities away from prime refugia. For the listed wading birds (little blue heron [*Egretta caerulea*], reddish egret [*Egretta rufescens*], snowy egret [*Egretta thula*], tricolored heron [*Egretta tricolor*], and white ibis [*Eudocimus albus*]), maintenance of emergent vegetation around the shoreline and good water quality is important. Finally, since park visitors may encounter alligators within flooded habitats of the park, education, outreach and signage is important and would minimize the need to remove nuisance alligators from the park. Brown pelicans (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) have also been observed along the park’s shoreline along Tucker Bayou.

Table 2 contains a list of all known imperiled species within the park and identifies their status as defined by various entities. It also identifies the types of management actions that are currently being taken by Division staff or others, and identifies the current level of monitoring effort. The codes used under the column headings for management actions and monitoring level are defined following the table. Explanations for federal and state status as well as FNAI global and state rank are provided in Addendum 6.

| Table 2: Imperiled Species Inventory | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Common and Scientific Name | Imperiled Species Status | | | | Management Actions | Monitoring Level |
| | FFWCC | USFWS | FDACS | FNAI | | |
| PLANTS | | | | | | |
| Curtis’ sandgrass <i>Calamovilfa curtissii</i> | | | LT | G3/S3 | 1,2,4, 10 | Tier 2 |
| Cinnamon fern <i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i> | | | CE | | 2, 10 | Tier 1 |
| Royal fern <i>Osmunda regalis</i> | | | CE | | 2, 10 | Tier 1 |
| REPTILES | | | | | | |
| American alligator <i>Alligator mississippiensis</i> | | T (S/A) | | G5/S4 | 2,4, 10,13 | Tier 1 |

| Table 2: Imperiled Species Inventory | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------------------|------------------|
| Common and Scientific Name | Imperiled Species Status | | | | Management Actions | Monitoring Level |
| | FFWCC | USFWS | FDACS | FNAI | | |
| BIRDS | | | | | | |
| Brown pelican <i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i> | LS | | | G4/S3 | 2,10,13 | Tier 1 |
| Little blue heron <i>Egretta caerulea</i> | LS | | | G5/S4 | 2,10,13 | Tier 1 |
| Reddish egret <i>Egretta rufescens</i> | LS | | | G4/S2 | 2,10,13 | Tier 1 |
| Snowy egret <i>Egretta thula</i> | LS | | | G5/S3 | 2,10,13 | Tier 1 |
| Tricolored heron <i>Egretta tricolor</i> | LS | | | G5/S4 | 2,10,13 | Tier 1 |
| White ibis <i>Eudocimus albus</i> | LS | | | G5/S4 | 2,10,13 | Tier 1 |

Management Actions:

1. Prescribed Fire
2. Exotic Plant Removal
3. Population Translocation/ Augmentation/ Restocking
4. Hydrological Maintenance/ Restoration
5. Nest Boxes/ Artificial Cavities
6. Hardwood Removal
7. Mechanical Treatment
8. Predator Control
9. Erosion Control
- 10..... Protection from visitor impacts (establish buffers)/law enforcement
- 11..... Decoys (shorebirds)
- 12..... Vegetation planting
- 13..... Outreach and Education

Monitoring Level:

- Tier 1. Non-Targeted Observation/Documentation: includes documentation of species presence through casual/passive observation during routine park

activities (i.e. not conducting species-specific searches). Documentation may be in the form of *Wildlife Observation Forms*, or other district specific methods used to communicate observations.

- Tier 2 Targeted Presence/Absence: includes monitoring methods/activities that are specifically intended to document presence/absence of a particular species or suite of species.
- Tier 3. Population Estimate/Index: an approximation of the true population size or population index based on a widely accepted method of sampling.
- Tier 4 Population Census: A complete count of an entire population with demographic analysis, including mortality, reproduction, emigration, and immigration.
- Tier 5 Other: may include habitat assessments for a particular species or suite of species or any other specific methods used as indicators to gather information about a particular species.

Detailed management goals, objectives and actions for imperiled species in this park are discussed in the Resource Management Program section of this component and the Implementation Component of this plan.

Exotic Species

Exotic species are plants or animals not native to Florida. 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. If left unchecked, invasive exotic plants and animals alter the character, productivity and conservation values of the natural areas they invade.

Approximately 4.5 acres were repeatedly treated for exotic plants over the course of recent years, including persistent infestations as well as scattered incidentals in the natural areas; intensive herbicidal treatments have reduced or eliminated these infestations so that the following areas are now in maintenance condition. Annual surveys of park lands and treatment by park staff when necessary will continue. These infested areas were generally restricted to three areas of the park. The largest of these areas occurred along the southeastern boundary of zone EG-02 (~0.3 acres) and extended across the intervening private landholding into virtually all of zone EG-1 (3.46 acres) at variable densities. Chinese wisteria (*Wisteria sinensis*) was scattered throughout this area, though many of the other species listed in Table 2 had been located on the edge of zone EG-02 and within zone EG-01. Two exotic species not currently listed by FLEPPC but formerly problematic at the park include English ivy (*Hedera helix*), which trailed along the ground on both sides of the wooden boundary fence along the eastern fringe of EG-02, and yew plum pine (*Podocarpus macrophyllus*), which occurred as infrequent isolated individuals in zones EG-01 and 02. Cooperation with the neighboring landowner in treatment of this infestation is crucial in order to keep these exotic plants under control. Dense vines of air potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*) had once

covered the shed and surrounding area of the Russ homestead in zone EG-01. Annual treatments will reduce the current densities of these vines and other exotic species.

A second infested area occurred in a patch approximately 0.4 acres in extent in the easternmost extension of zone EG-03, bordering zone EG-02. Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) was observed to occupy variable densities in this area. This locale appears to be a fallow sliver of the original gardens area and is now overgrown with vegetation. There are several exotic ornamental plants growing along the fringe of the grassy field of zone EG-02, including Japanese yew (*Taxus cuspidata*) and Chinese fir (*Cunninghamia lanceolata*); these woody plants had been here for a long time and display no evidence of naturalization.

A third area occurred as a linearly scattered strip of torpedo grass (*Panicum repens*) along the road shoulder of East Point Washington Road and the northern fringe of zone EG-06 (~0.3 acres). Affected areas included the grassy ruderal road shoulder, the very fringes of the scrub vegetation, and a clump along the edge of the floodplain swamp near a culvert leading under the road and off the property to the north. Immature mimosa trees (*Albizia julibrissin*) had been located as widely scattered individuals along the entrance road and walking trails in zones EG-03 and EG-04 and are hand pulled whenever encountered. A patch of Mexican petunia (*Ruellia caerulea*) had once been supported in a flower bed outside the Wesley House, but has since been eradicated.

Table 3 contains a list of the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC) Category I and II invasive, exotic plant species found within the park (FLEPPC, 2009). The table also identifies relative distribution for each species and the management zones in which they are known to occur. An explanation of the codes is provided following the table. For an inventory of all exotic species found within the park, see Addendum 5.

| Table 3: Inventory of FLEPPC Category I and II Exotic Plant Species | | | |
|--|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Common and Scientific Name | FLEPPC Category | Distribution | Management Zone |
| PLANTS | | | |
| Air potato (<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i>) | I | 2 | EG-01 |
| Chinese privet (<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>) | I | 0 | EG-01 & 02 |
| Chinese wisteria (<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>) | II | 2 | EG-01 & 02 |
| Heavenly bamboo (<i>Nandina domestica</i>) | I | 0 | EG-01 & 02 |
| Japanese honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera japonica</i>) | I | 0 | EG-02 & 03 |

| Common and Scientific Name | FLEPPC Category | Distribution | Management Zone |
|--|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Mexican petunia (<i>Ruellia caerulea</i>) | I | 0 | EG-02 |
| Mimosa (<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>) | I | 0 | EG-03 & 04 |
| Torpedo grass (<i>Panicum repens</i>) | I | 2 | EG-06 |

Distribution Categories:

- 0 No current infestation: All known sites have been treated and no plants are currently evident.
- 1 Single plant or clump: One individual plant or small clump of a single species.
- 2 Scattered plants or clumps: Multiple individual plants or small clumps of a single species scattered within the gross area infested.
- 3 Scattered dense patches: Dense patches of a single species scattered within the gross area infested.
- 4 Dominant cover: Multiple plants or clumps of a single species that occupy a majority of the gross area infested.
- 5 Dense monoculture: Generally, a dense stand of a single dominant species that not only occupies more than a majority of the gross area infested, but also covers/excludes other plants.
- 6 Linearly scattered: Plants or clumps of a single species generally scattered along a linear feature, such as a road, trail, property line, ditch, ridge, slough, etc. within the gross area infested.

Exotic animal species include non-native wildlife species, free ranging domesticated pets or livestock, and feral animals. Due to the negative impacts to natural systems attributed to exotic animals, the DRP actively removes exotic animals from state parks, with priority being given to those species causing the ecological damage.

In some cases, native wildlife may also pose management problems or nuisances within state parks. A nuisance animal is an individual native animal whose presence or activities create special management problems. Examples of animal species from which nuisance cases may arise include raccoons, venomous snakes and alligators that are in public areas. Nuisance animals are dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

In terms of exotic animal issues at the park, feral cats occasionally prowl the grounds; less frequently, stray dogs are observed at the park. Cats often prey upon small mammals or birds in the area and dogs may chase wildlife or even be safety concerns to park visitors. When these animals are encountered on the park property, the local animal control office should be contacted for assistance with removing them from the park. USDA personnel removed feral hogs from the park in the 2007-8 and 2008-9 fiscal

years (5 and 2, respectively); if they become problematic again, park staff should arrange for USDA or a hog control contractor to remove them.

Detailed management goals, objectives and actions for management of invasive exotic plants and exotic and nuisance animals are discussed in the Resource Management Program section of this component.

Special Natural Features

There are no special natural features on the park. However, with recent and planned parcel acquisitions in or adjacent to EG-06, the configuration of landholdings will allow for the creation of a habitat corridor with the Point Washington State Forest. This corridor would enable the potential migration of plant and animal species within natural communities with minimal barriers to flow. Corridors have emerged as a useful conservation strategy in areas where large tracts of continuous land are no longer available as a means for local populations to exchange individuals, thus enhancing probabilities of survival and preserving genetic variability. Over time, addition of other parcels to the park and cooperation among local landowners can amplify the effectiveness of such corridors. This purpose should be pursued whenever possible.

Cultural Resources

This section addresses the cultural resources present in the park that may include archaeological sites, historic buildings and structures, cultural landscapes and collections. The Florida Department of State (FDOS) maintains the master inventory of such resources through the Florida Master Site File (FMSF). State law requires that all state agencies locate, inventory and evaluate cultural resources that appear to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Addendum 7 contains the FDOS, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) management procedures for archaeological and historical sites and properties on state-owned or controlled properties; the criteria used for evaluating eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and the Secretary of Interior's definitions for the various preservation treatments (restoration, rehabilitation, stabilization and preservation). For the purposes of this plan, significant archaeological site, significant structure and significant landscape means those cultural resources listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The terms archaeological site, historic structure or historic landscape refer to all resources that are at least 50 years of age or will become 50 years old during the term of this plan.

Condition Assessment

Evaluating the condition of cultural resources is accomplished using a three-part evaluation scale, expressed as good, fair and poor. These terms describe the present condition, rather than comparing what exists to the ideal condition. Good describes a condition of structural stability and physical wholeness, where no obvious deterioration other than normal occurs. Fair describes a condition in which there is a discernible decline in condition between inspections, and the wholeness or physical integrity is and

continues to be threatened by factors other than normal wear. A fair assessment is usually a cause for concern. Poor describes an unstable condition where there is palpable, accelerating decline, and physical integrity is being compromised quickly. A resource in poor condition suffers obvious declines in physical integrity from year to year. A poor condition suggests immediate action is needed to reestablish physical stability.

Level of Significance

Applying the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places involves the use of contexts as well as an evaluation of integrity of the site. A cultural resource's significance derives from its historical, architectural, ethnographic or archaeological context. Evaluation of cultural resources will result in a designation of NRL (National Register or National Landmark Listed or located in an NR district), NR (National Register eligible), NE (not evaluated) or NS (not significant) as indicated in the table at the end of this section.

There are no criteria for use in determining the significance of collections or archival material. Usually, significance of a collection is based on what or whom it may represent. For instance, a collection of furniture from a single family and a particular era in connection with a significant historic site would be considered highly significant. In the same way, a high quality collection of artifacts from a significant archaeological site would be of important significance. A large herbarium collected from a specific park over many decades could be valuable to resource management efforts. Archival records are most significant as a research source. Any records depicting critical events in the park's history, including construction and resource management efforts, would all be significant.

Pre-Historic and Historic Archaeological Sites

Desired future condition: All significant archaeological sites within the park that represent Florida's cultural periods or significant historic events or persons are preserved in good condition in perpetuity, protected from physical threats and interpreted to the public.

Description: The park has three archaeological sites recorded in the Florida Master Site File (FMSF): Temp A (8WL2267), Temp B (8WL2268) and Temp C/D (8WL2269). Site 8WL2267 contains artifacts from the late archaic (Gulf Formational Elliotts Point - Deptford, 1000-500 BC) and Weeden Island culture (also known as late Woodland culture, 450-1000 AD) prehistoric periods through the late nineteenth century. Site 8WL2268 contains campsite artifacts from the Weeden Island culture. Site 8WL2269 is a multiple component site containing artifacts from the Deptford, Weeden Island, Pensacola and Ft. Walton prehistoric periods through the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century historic period. The historic period is represented at this site with concentrations of handmade bricks and windowpane fragments. The western portion

of Site WL2269 may also contain remnants of the mill worker's housing. Two informants, including a grandson of William and Katie Strickland Wesley, indicated in oral interviews that worker's housing was located in the area where the new restrooms and picnic shelters were constructed in 2008. These individuals remembered some of the houses as being occupied as late as the early 1950s. These three FMSF archaeological sites were discovered in 2007 in the course of conducting subterranean surveys in preparation for a park facilities construction project (e.g. park office building, entrance road, parking lots, sidewalks; Mathews and Campbell 2009). Further study by a phase II assessment was conducted on sites 8WL2267 and 8WL2269 prior to construction (Wayne and Dickinson 2008).

There are two submerged sites associated with the park's history in the adjacent waters of Tucker Bayou. The sites are listed in the FMSF as the Magnolia Wreck Site (8WL458) and the Sawmill Site (8WL1308). In 1985, the Magnolia Wreck was identified and confirmed as the nineteenth century sailing ship that carried freight between Pensacola and Point Washington. The wreck, a vessel owned and operated by Captain George Houseman, was previously reported to be in good condition (Werndli, 1985), though its current condition is unknown. The original 1985 plot and subsequent 1999 plot placed the site north of the outflow of the Katie Wesley Branch, west of the park's main developed area. The Sawmill Site contains the remains of the Wesley Sawmill that collapsed into Tucker Bayou. The mill and the region's lumber were economically vital to the development of the area and the loss of these resources altered the community's economic base. The tide and currents have scattered the mill's wooden wharf artifacts throughout the site. The physical basin, underwater cultural sites, and associated literature of Tucker Bayou was analyzed by the University of West Florida Archaeological Institute (Bratten and Dickey 2004). Note that while these submerged sites are related to the cultural heritage of people inhabiting the park and surrounding area through recorded history, they are not on park property and are furthermore believed to be located beyond the offshore management authority claimed by the DRP for this park (100 feet).

Condition Assessment: All terrestrial archaeological sites (8WL2267, 8WL2268, 8WL 2269) within the park are in good condition. The sites are stable with minimum deterioration because the artifacts are buried within the soil substrate and protected from exposure, erosion, looting and impacts from development.

Level of Significance: Some sites require additional research before eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places can be determined. The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) determined that there is insufficient information to evaluate the National Register eligibility of Temp A (8WL02267) and Temp C/D (8WL02269) because of limited testing of the sites. Additional monitoring of these sites has been recommended until they can be more thoroughly tested and evaluated for significance. Temp B (8WL02268) has been determined ineligible by the SHPO in concurrence with

the surveyor's findings that the site is an indeterminate prehistoric artifact scatter that lacks significant research potential.

General management measures: Further research is needed to evaluate the significance and National Register of Historic Places eligibility of prehistoric sites 8WL2267 and 8WL2269.

Historic Structures

Desired future condition: All significant historic structures and landscapes that represent Florida's cultural periods or significant historic events or persons are preserved in good condition in perpetuity, protected from physical threats and interpreted to the public.

Description: There are two historic sites with Florida Master Site File designations currently associated with the park. The Eden site (8WL0097) contains the Wesley House and its surrounding ornamental gardens and the Russ Tract (8WL2582) contains the John Russ House and an ancillary building.

The park's ornamental gardens were developed by Lois Maxon and are an important historic feature of the site. Many of the garden's original features remain intact, including a collection of ornamental plants from all over the world, which provide the architectural backdrop for sitting areas and sculpture. The garden's original master plan was developed in 1966 by Greene-Hill Planners, a Florida firm whose partners included M. B. Greene and Emmitt Hill. During the 1930s, Mr. Greene and Mr. Hill played significant roles in the founding of Florida's state park system, including the Civilian Conservation Corps' (CCC) planning and development of state parks in Florida. Hill and Greene were director and assistant director, respectively, of the DRP in the 1950s.

The Wesley House is a wood framed vernacular house that was constructed in 1897 for William H. and Katie Strickland Wesley. The house is similar to the nearby historic Simeon Strickland House (8WL454) located just outside the park boundary on Gilmore Road and built by Katie's father. Many of the Wesley House's building materials were regionally logged by Wesley and Strickland's lumber company and milled at the Wesley Sawmill. During the Wesley period, the interior of the main house consisted of seven bedrooms and a parlor with an outbuilding containing the kitchen, dining room, pantry, and bathroom. Philip Branson purchased the property from the Wesley heirs in 1953, salvaged interior hardware and wooden elements, and reportedly relocated the outbuilding to Grayton Beach for use as a tourist cabin. He sold the house with approximately 10 acres of land to Lois G. Maxon in 1963. From 1963 through 1964, Ms. Maxon transformed the framed vernacular home into a mid-twentieth century interpretation of a "Southern plantation" Neo-Classical Revival. This redesign was intended to display an extensive antique and decorative arts collection, typical of

Southern upscale interior design. Although the building's general mass, proportions, and floor plan are intact, Maxon's alterations vary significantly from the original and retain little historical significance to the Wesley family. The recent addition of a wheelchair elevator was implemented by the DRP to facilitate visitor access.

The Russ Tract (8WL02582) includes early twentieth century structures and is an example of a small home site typical of the period. The John Russ house is a one story framed vernacular house featuring an end chimney as well as board and batten siding. The two buildings are severely damaged.

It bears brief mentioning that historical aerial photography dating back to 1941 revealed that some of the unpaved access roads still apparent and occasionally used in the Butler Tract could be considered as cultural features. This fact should be considered if future development activities are contemplated that would potentially impact them. An effort to better characterize these features would be advisable.

Condition Assessment: Overall, the Eden site is in good condition with normal wear from age and visitor use; some specific elements of the site would need upgrades and other various measures in order to preserve the site and its historical integrity. At one time, the ornamental gardens fell into disrepair and several design elements from the original Green-Hill master plan were altered. In recent years, the condition of the gardens has greatly improved and is currently rated as good because of the dedicated efforts of the volunteers, citizen support organization, and DRP staff. The conditions of landscape accessories and sculptural elements are generally fair to good. The reflecting pool is in good condition. A plan has been developed by park management to improve the reflecting pool water quality with a filter and cleaning system.

The Wesley House is now used as a museum, is in good condition, and is primarily in a state as it was when Maxon donated the property. Daily wear and tear had been considerable, leading some interior elements (e.g. corridor paint and finishes on banister railings) to become worn with use. The roof was replaced and the exterior was professionally repainted in 2008; the interior of the house was repainted in 2010. The porch floors (decks) tend to warp or settle as they capture and retain water and are continually maintained to prevent rot. Maxon's renovated columns are 2"X 4"s covered with Masonite type wood and had shown significant moisture damage; they were replaced in 2011. The unknown condition of house's electrical system is a concern and should be completely inspected and deficiencies corrected.

All Russ Tract (8WL02582) structures are threatened and in poor condition. A FMSF form has been submitted to DHR to document the site, however, more research and a survey should be done in the future. The structures are in ruinous condition with portions collapsed and or in danger of collapse.

Level of Significance: The Eden Site (8WL0097) should be considered eligible under National Register Criterion B, Person, as the original landscape architects of the ornamental garden, M. B. Greene and Emmitt Hill, have an important connection to the history of the state and the Division of Recreation and Parks. The Eden Site was originally considered ineligible for the National Register of Historic Places due to the many structural and design changes made to the Wesley House by Lois Maxon during her ownership of the property. However, the transformation in 1964 of the two-story frame vernacular Wesley home into a Neo-Classical Revival design in the spirit of the “Southern Plantation” mansion will become 50 years of age during the plan period (2014), and the 1964 changes will be considered significant in their own right. The Eden site (8WL0097) is also potentially eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, Design/Construction, as an important mid-twentieth century example of architectural history and southern landscape architecture, as reflected in the restoration effort of the house and the development of the surrounding gardens.

The Russ Tract (8WL02582), which includes both the John Russ House and an ancillary building, has not been evaluated for National Register significance.

General management measures: Restoration of Green-Hill’s missing garden elements should be undertaken based on the existing historic landscape plans and photos available to the park. Relocating a recently added garden west of the house should be considered to better conform to the original plan. Since the garden as originally designed was never entirely completed, all further improvements to the grounds should be guided by the original plans toward the objective of fulfilling this vision. The park should continue its successful program of grounds maintenance using the services of park volunteers and staff. A plan to improve the reflecting pool with a filter and cleaning system has been developed by park management and should be implemented.

As recommended in the 2002 architectural and historical assessment conducted by Environmental Services, Inc., the house and gardens will be managed as an historical site. The Wesley House receives routine maintenance as necessary. Specific cyclical maintenance items include continued monitoring of the exterior paint with touch ups as needed, monitoring and pruning of adjacent tree limbs, and monitoring of the new roof’s condition.

It is not feasible to restore or rehabilitate the Russ Tract structures located in zone EG-01. In consultation with Division of Historical Resources (DHR) and Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources (BNCR), these structures should be dismantled after adequate documentation.

Collections

Desired future condition: All historic, natural history and archaeological objects within the park that represent Florida’s cultural periods, significant historic events or

persons, or natural history specimens are preserved in good condition in perpetuity, protected from physical threats and interpreted to the public.

Description: The Maxon collection contains an impressive array of antique furniture and decorative items. This collection is part of Lois Maxon's donated estate and represents her tastes and family heirlooms. The cornerstones of this assemblage include a 16-piece ensemble of authentic Louis XVI furniture and an additional Louis XV wall mirror. The collection also incorporates other eighteenth and nineteenth century styles of furniture and accessories sourced from North America, Europe and Japan, including Colonial, Chippendale Empire, Victorian, Rococo, and Art Nouveau. A separate collection of photographs, chalk drawings, and paintings is mounted in the house's enclosed veranda. These images are primarily used for interpreting the Wesley era.

There is a variety of historical documents archived at the park, which correspond to the history of the property's ownership. Selected documents are on view along with the photograph collection. All collections at Eden Gardens State Park are currently owned by the state and most of the items are on permanent display.

Condition Assessment: Overall, the Maxon collection is in fair condition. Many of the pieces in the Louis XVI furniture collection require major or minor restoration and rehabilitation. Several of the oil paintings need professional cleaning to prevent damage from mold; the portrait of Joshua Smythe requires restoration to repair a canvas tear.

General management measures: The park's collections management program includes the following measures:

- 1) **Scope of Collections** (currently under revision): The collection is based on Lois Maxon's vision of southern gentility as it applies to home décor.
- 2) **Inventory Catalog - Property Inventory:** Annual property inventories are performed for the entire collection. Updated inventories are maintained on paper and electronically with a CD backup documenting all items with photo and written description.
- 3) **Housekeeping:** Collections within the house are routinely cleaned and generally maintained within the recommended NPS guidelines for museum collections.
- 4) **Safeguarding:** Collection items in the house are monitored for security and fire prevention at all times by ADT Security Services.
- 5) **Climate Control**
 - a) **Temperature:** The upstairs and the downstairs HVAC units were replaced in 2007 and 2008, respectively. These systems have separate thermostats for each floor and are closely monitored by staff. Specific temperature settings depend on the season and are set on 78 degrees F in the summer and 72 degrees in the winter.
 - b) **Humidity:** The house does not have humidity control. Humidity controls

are recommended for the HVAC units in order to achieve optimum preservation conditions for the collection, particularly the Louis XVI and Chippendale furniture.

- c) **Pest Control:** Ongoing monthly pest control is provided for the exterior of the house. Regular monitoring and response control are provided for the house’s interior and the collection. Preventive measures are enforced at all times.
- 6) **Personnel Training:** Previous staff and volunteers that maintained the house were provided training in collections management in order to implement National Park Service (NPS) conservation standards. Current staff and volunteers continue to apply NPS standards to the best of their ability, but have not received direct training. It is recommended that current and future supervisory staff undergo coursework to meet the changing needs of the collection, have access to updated information and resources, and provide staff and volunteers with procedural guidance to ensure the preservation and protection of the collection.

Detailed management goals, objectives and actions for the management of cultural resources in this park are discussed in the Cultural Resource Management Program section of this component. Table 4 contains the name, reference number, culture or period, and brief description of all the cultural sites within the park that are listed in the Florida Master Site File. The table also summarizes each site’s level of significance, existing condition and recommended management treatment. An explanation of the codes is provided following the table.

| Table 4: Cultural Sites Listed in the Florida Master Site File | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Site Name and FMSF # | Culture/Period | Description | Significance | Condition | Treatment |
| Eden Site 8WL97 | Late 19th century – Mid 20th century | Historic Structure | NR | G | P |
| Russ Tract 8WL2582 | Early 20 th century | Historic Structure | NE | P | R |

| Table 4: Cultural Sites Listed in the Florida Master Site File | | | | | |
|--|---|---------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Site Name and FMSF # | Culture/Period | Description | Significance | Condition | Treatment |
| Temp A 8WL2267 | Prehistoric -early 20th century (late archaic (including Gulf Formational Elliotts Point - Deptford, Weeden Island) late 19th -early 20th century | Archaeological Site | NE | G | P |
| Temp B 8WL2268 | Prehistoric | Archaeological Site | NS | G | P |
| Temp C/D 8WL2269 | Prehistoric to 20th century (Deptford, Weeden Island, Pensacola, Ft. Walton, Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century) | Archaeological Site | NE | G | P |

Significance:

NRL National Register listed
 NR National Register eligible
 LS locally significant
 NE not evaluated
 NS not significant

Condition

G Good
 F Fair
 P Poor

Recommended Treatment:

RS Restoration
 RH Rehabilitation
 ST Stabilization
 P Preservation
 R Removal

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Management Goals, Objectives and Actions

Measurable objectives and actions have been identified for each of the DRP's management goals for Eden Gardens State Park. Please refer to the Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates in the Implementation Component of this plan for a consolidated spreadsheet of the recommended actions, measures of progress, target year for completion and estimated costs to fulfill the management goals and objectives of this park.

While, the DRP utilizes the ten-year management plan to serve as the basic statement of policy and future direction for each park, a number of annual work plans provide more specific guidance for DRP staff to accomplish many of the resource management goals and objectives of the park. Where such detailed planning is appropriate to the character and scale of the park's natural resources, annual work plans are developed for prescribed fire management, exotic plant management and imperiled species management. Annual or longer- term work plans are developed for natural community restoration and hydrological restoration. The work plans provide the DRP with crucial flexibility in its efforts to generate and implement adaptive resource management practices in the state park system.

The work plans are reviewed and updated annually. Through this process, the DRP's resource management strategies are systematically evaluated to determine their effectiveness. The process and the information collected is used to refine techniques, methodologies and strategies, and ensures that each park's prescribed management actions are monitored and reported as required by Chapters 253.034 and 259.037, Florida Statutes.

The goals, objectives and actions identified in this management plan will serve as the basis for developing annual work plans for the park. The ten-year management plan is based on conditions that exist at the time the plan is developed, and the annual work plans provide the flexibility needed to adapt to future conditions as they change during the ten-year management planning cycle. As the park's annual work plans are implemented through the ten-year cycle, it may become necessary to adjust the management plan's priority schedules and cost estimates to reflect these changing conditions.

Natural Resource Management

Hydrological Management

Goal: Protect water quality and quantity in the park, restore hydrology to the extent feasible and maintain the restored condition.

The natural hydrology of most state parks has been impaired prior to acquisition to one degree or another. Florida's native habitats are precisely adapted to natural drainage

patterns and seasonal water level fluctuations, and variations in these factors frequently determine the types of natural communities that occur on a particular site. Even minor changes to natural hydrology can result in the loss of plant and animal species from a landscape. Restoring state park lands to original natural conditions often depends on returning natural hydrological processes and conditions to the park. This is done primarily by filling or plugging ditches, removing obstructions to surface water “sheet flow,” installing culverts or low-water crossings on roads, and installing water control structures to manage water levels.

Objective: Restore natural hydrological conditions and functions to approximately 2.43 acres of blackwater stream natural community.

In order to alleviate the flooding issue of the Katie Wesley Branch south of the floodplain swamp as mentioned in the Hydrology section, the suspected beaver dam should be removed in order to restore the hydrology of the blackwater stream. The size and structural integrity of the obstruction as observed by park staff strongly suggested that beavers had originally constructed it as opposed to it simply being a chance accumulation of woody material. Since beavers have not been definitively observed in the park in recent times, it is not known whether this lack of sightings arises from infrequent human observation in the area or whether beavers are truly no longer present at this time. If a purposeful breach in the dam is repaired or the dam itself is rebuilt after removal, then the beavers may still be active in the area and it may be necessary to trap them in order to maintain a hydrological restoration effort. Restoration of the stream’s meandering course along its natural channel feature, as indicated in past aerial photographs, may provide habitat for future introduction of pitcher plants as determined by field inspection of subsequent conditions.

Natural Communities Management

Goal: Restore and maintain the natural communities/habitats of the park.

As discussed above, the DRP practices natural systems management. In most cases, this entails returning fire to its natural role in fire-dependent natural communities. Other methods to implement this goal include large-scale restoration projects as well as smaller scale natural community improvements. Following are the natural community management objectives and actions recommended for the state park.

Prescribed Fire Management: Prescribed fire is used to mimic natural lightning-set fires, which are one of the primary natural forces that shaped Florida’s ecosystem. Prescribed burning increases the abundance and health of many wildlife species. A large number of Florida’s imperiled species of plants and animals are dependent on periodic fire for their continued existence. Fire-dependent natural communities gradually accumulate flammable vegetation; therefore, prescribed fire reduces wildfire hazards by reducing these wild land fuels.

All prescribed burns in the Florida state park system are conducted with authorization from the FDACS, Division of Forestry (DOF). Wildfire suppression activities in the park are coordinated with the DOF.

Objective: Within ten years, have 15 acres of the park maintained within the optimum fire return interval.

Table 5 contains a list of all fire-dependent natural communities found within the park, their associated acreage and optimal fire return interval, and the annual average target for acres to be burned.

| Table 5: Prescribed Fire Management | | |
|--|--------------|---|
| Natural Community | Acres | Optimal Fire Return Interval (Years) |
| Mesic flatwoods | 29.0 | 3 - 8 |
| Scrub | 5.1 | 8 - 20 |
| Scrubby flatwoods | 17.7 | 4 - 10 |
| Wet flatwoods | 3.4 | 3 - 8 |
| | | |
| Annual Target Acreage | 6 - 16 | |

The park is partitioned into burn zones, and burn prescriptions are implemented on the prescribed burn cycle for each zone (see Management Zones Map). The park’s burn plan is updated annually because fire management is a dynamic process. To provide adaptive responses to changing conditions, fire management requires careful planning based on annual and very specific burn objectives. Each annual burn plan is developed to support and implement the broader objectives and actions outlined in this ten-year management plan.

There are four fire dependent natural communities in the western portion of the park: mesic flatwoods, wet flatwoods, scrub and scrubby flatwoods. All of these areas currently have exceedingly high amounts of standing biomass and extensive site preparation would be necessary to bring the zones into a condition sufficient for the safe exercise of prescribed burning. At that time, burning would benefit habitat quality of the natural communities and promote the growth of particular plant species adapted to pyric conditions, such as wiregrass and Curtis’ sand grass. Burning would also provide increased forage material for generalist herbivores and provide suitable habitats for gopher tortoises if they were eventually introduced to the park or its environs. In addition, reducing biomass would decrease the risk of wildfire in this area. Increased development and population densities in the surrounding neighborhoods will potentially contribute to urban interface issues into the future.

Labor and equipment necessary to establish a functional prescribed fire infrastructure

permitting pyric natural communities to be burned and eventually enter a maintenance condition is substantial. Furthermore, heavy fuel loads within the park will require 50-foot wide firelines to contain the risk of fire spread. The staff will implement prescribed burning at the park when funding for equipment becomes available and the infrastructure is complete. In order to track fire management activities, the DRP maintains a statewide burn database. The database allows staff to record various aspects of each park's fire management program including individual burn zone histories and fire return intervals, staff training/experience, backlog, whether burn objectives have been met, etc. The database is also used for annual burn planning, which allows the DRP to document fire management goals and objectives on an annual basis. Each quarter, the database is updated and reports are produced that track progress towards meeting annual burn objectives.

Natural Communities Restoration: In some cases, the reintroduction and maintenance of natural processes is not enough to reach the natural community desired future conditions in the park, and active restoration programs are required. Restoration of altered natural communities to healthy, fully functioning natural landscapes often requires substantial efforts that include mechanical treatment of vegetation or soils and reintroduction or augmentation of native plants and animals. For the purposes of this management plan, restoration is defined as the process of assisting the recovery and natural functioning of degraded natural communities to desired future condition, including the re-establishment of biodiversity, ecological processes, vegetation structure and physical characters.

Examples that would qualify as natural communities' restoration, requiring annual restoration plans, include large mitigation projects, large-scale hardwood removal and timbering activities, roller-chopping and other large-scale vegetative modifications. The key concept is that restoration projects will go beyond management activities routinely done as standard operating procedures such as routine mowing, the reintroduction of fire as a natural process, spot treatments of exotic plants, small-scale vegetation management and so forth.

Restoration activities of the park's natural communities are incorporated within the goals and objectives of the Hydrological Management, Prescribe Fire Management and Exotic Species Management sections of this plan. No natural communities have been identified for restoration at the park.

Natural Communities Improvement: Improvements are similar to restoration but on a smaller, less intense scale. This typically includes small-scale vegetative management activities or minor habitat manipulation. Following are the natural community/habitat improvement actions recommended at the park.

Objective: Conduct natural community/habitat improvement activities on 138 acres of communities.

A new boundary fence will improve the park's natural communities by protecting native plant and animal species from poaching and natural systems from illegal dumping. The park currently works with law enforcement agencies to protect remote areas of the park, but fencing would facilitate controlled access to 138 acres of the park's natural resources within mesic hammock, flatwoods lake, wet flatwoods, mesic flatwoods, scrubby flatwoods, xeric hammock, scrub, floodplain swamp, and blackwater stream communities. Approximately 17,000 feet of park fencing to enclose the park's boundary, appropriately spaced signage, and service gates are recommended for areas adjacent to residential development as well as more remote areas.

Imperiled Species Management

Goal: Maintain, improve or restore imperiled species populations and habitats in the park.

The DRP strives to maintain healthy populations of imperiled plant and animal species primarily by implementing effective management of natural systems. Single species management is appropriate in state parks when the maintenance, recovery or restoration of a species or population is complicated due to constraints 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.

In the preparation of this management plan, DRP staff consulted with staff of the FFWCC's Imperiled Species Management or that agency's Regional Biologist and other appropriate federal, state and local agencies for assistance in developing imperiled animal species management objectives and actions. Likewise, for imperiled plant species, DRP staff consulted with FDACS. Data collected by the USFWS, FFWCC, FDACS and FNAI as part of their ongoing research and monitoring programs will be reviewed by park staff periodically to inform management of decisions that may have an impact on imperiled species at the park.

Ongoing inventory and monitoring of imperiled species in the state park system is necessary to meet the DRP's mission. Long-term monitoring is also essential to ensure the effectiveness of resource management programs. Monitoring efforts must be prioritized so that the data collected provides information that can be used to improve or confirm the effectiveness of management actions on conservation priorities. Monitoring intensity must at least be at a level that provides the minimum data needed to make informed decisions to meet conservation goals. Not all imperiled species require intensive monitoring efforts on a regular interval. Priority must be given to those species that can provide valuable data to guide adaptive management practices.

Those species selected for specific management action and those that will provide management guidance through regular monitoring are addressed in the objectives below.

Objective: Develop and update baseline imperiled species occurrence inventory lists for plants and animals as needed.

Plant and animal species within the park have been observed on multiple occasions in preparation for the species lists included in this plan. However, there remains a need to survey the property for all species present throughout the annual cycle. Park and district staff will continue to update the baseline imperiled species occurrence inventory for plants and animals as resource management activities are conducted. Imperiled animal species will be monitored and documented at a Tier 1 (Non-Targeted Observation/Documentation) level as they are encountered at the park.

Objective: Monitor and document one selected imperiled plant species in the park.

Targeted monitoring of Curtis' sand grass (*Calamovilfa curtissii*) is necessary at the park and a methodology will be developed, particularly in light of eventual prescribed fire operations. Location and local abundance of individuals will be recorded from field observations both before and after initiation of burning with regular surveys conducted thereafter. It is expected that reintroduction of fire to portions of zones EG-05, 06, and 07 to flatwoods communities will increase the prevalence of this listed plant species. In addition, as mentioned above, individuals will be relocated as necessary in the event of any hydrological restoration or prescribed fire infrastructure improvements undertaken to the Butler Tract access road between zone EG-05 and 07. Consultation with district biologists should occur prior to initiating a monitoring program.

Exotic Species Management

Goal: Remove exotic and invasive plants and animals from the park and conduct needed maintenance control.

The DRP actively removes invasive exotic species from state parks, with priority being given to those causing the ecological damage. Removal techniques may include mechanical treatment, herbicides or biocontrol agents.

Objective: Continue to monitor for the presence of exotic plants in the park and treat as necessary.

Intensive treatment of exotic plants by DRP staff over the past few years has succeeded in significantly reducing infestations so that park property is now in a maintenance condition. Staff will continue to survey all acreage for exotic plants and apply herbicide as necessary. It is not possible at this time to definitively predict area treated in the future, but all known exotic plants will be treated every year.

Objective: Implement control measures on three exotic animal species in the park.

The park staff will continue to work with the local animal control office to remove feral cats or stray dogs from the park as they are encountered. Feral hogs will also be removed by USDA personnel or private contractors if they return to the park.

Special Management Considerations

Timber Management Analysis

A timber management analysis was not conducted for this park since its total acreage is below the 1,000-acre threshold established by statute. Timber management will be re-evaluated during the next revision of this management plan.

Arthropod Control Plan

All DRP lands are designated as “environmentally sensitive and biologically highly productive” in accordance with Ch. 388 and Ch. 388.4111 Florida Statutes. If a local mosquito control district proposes a treatment plan, DRP works with the local mosquito control district to achieve consensus. By policy of DEP since 1987, aerial adulticiding is not allowed, but larviciding and ground adulticiding (truck spraying in public use areas) is typically allowed. DRP does not authorize new physical alterations of marshes through ditching or water control structures. Mosquito control plans temporarily may be set aside under declared threats to public or animal health, or during a Governor’s Emergency Proclamation. An Arthropod Management Plan, drafted in 2008 in consultation with the South Walton County Mosquito Control District, is currently in effect for this park.

Cultural Resource Management

Cultural Resource Management

Cultural resources are individually unique, and collectively, very challenging for the public land manager whose goal is to preserve and protect them in perpetuity. The DRP is implementing the following goals, objectives and actions, as funding becomes available, to preserve the cultural resources found in Eden Gardens State Park.

Goal: Protect, preserve and maintain the cultural resources of the park.

The management of cultural resources is often complicated because these resources are irreplaceable and extremely vulnerable to disturbances. The advice of historical and archaeological experts is required in this effort. All activities related to land clearing, ground disturbing activities and major repairs or additions to historic structures listed

or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places must be submitted to the DHR for review and comment prior to undertaking the proposed project.

Recommendations may include, but are not limited to concurrence with the project as submitted, pre-testing of the project site by a certified archaeological monitor, cultural resource assessment survey by a qualified professional archaeologist, modifications to the proposed project to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effect. In addition, any demolition or substantial alteration to any historic structure or resource must be submitted to DHR for consultation and the DRP must demonstrate that there is no feasible alternative to removal and must provide a strategy for documentation or salvage of the resource. Florida law further requires that the DRP consider the reuse of historic buildings in the park in lieu of new construction and must undertake a cost comparison of new development versus rehabilitation of a building before electing to construct a new or replacement building. This comparison must be accomplished with the assistance of DHR.

Objective: Assess and evaluate five of five recorded cultural resources in the park.

Park staff will continue to monitor the condition of the Eden site (8WL0097), including the ornamental gardens and landscape features, the Wesley House, and the park's collections. Any proposed ground disturbing activity at the park would be coordinated with the Division of Historic Resources (DHR) beforehand in order to protect known and unknown archeological sites; a staff member trained in archaeological resource monitor procedures would oversee such excavations.

The Russ house and property (8WL2582) is in immediate need of formal documentation and analysis. An additional archaeological survey of the property should be undertaken in order to document whether other resources may be found in the site's vicinity. Prior to demolition of the deteriorated structures, BNCR would need to review and submit the appropriate documentation to DHR. The ground surface in the vicinity of the archaeological sites will be monitored in order to prevent damage to buried artifacts from erosion or looting excavations.

Objective: Compile reliable documentation for all recorded historic and archaeological resources.

The FMSF describes five archaeological/historical sites located on the park property. These files will be updated with new information as the various cultural resource assessments are completed. Since examination of historical aerial photography dating back to the 1940s revealed that some modern unpaved roads in the park already existed by that time, further research on these routes should be undertaken and the appropriate FMSF forms submitted. A predictive model for high, medium and low probability of locating archaeological sites within the park will be completed in the near future.

The original ornamental garden, as envisioned by the M. B. Greene and Emmitt Hill design, was altered prior to and after the park was classified as a State Garden. Changes and development of the garden over time should be documented.

The Scope of Collections statement needs to be revised by the park staff. Work was contracted and initiated for a general appraisal of the park's collection items over five years ago, though this effort was not fully completed. Park staff should use this information in order to arrange for a revision and update for a new, complete appraisal of the collection items.

Further research is recommended to evaluate the significance and National Register of Historic Places eligibility of prehistoric sites 8WL2267 and 8WL2269.

A survey of historical aerial photographs and associated GPS points would assist staff with recording, protecting, and interpreting the park's cultural sites. Photo points should be taken of cultural resources on a set schedule in order to document condition and prioritize maintenance needs as they arise.

A complete historical and photographic record of land ownership within the park is recommended. Additional historical research of the surrounding area would be useful toward providing historical context for the park. Additional archaeological studies and historical research on the mill workers' houses and their residents is also recommended.

Interviews with the following people would preserve information and develop further insight into the history of the Eden property and the development of the gardens: M. B. Greene and Emmitt Hill family members and associates, Ms. Maxon's acquaintances and former employees, Wesley family members, and founding families of the Point Washington community. A compilation of the park's administration history is also needed.

Objective: Bring one of five recorded cultural resources into good condition.

While the overall condition of the Eden site can be described as good, multiple management measures for the ornamental gardens and Wesley House are planned in order to bring specific contributing elements into a good and historically faithful condition. A cooperative effort of historians and landscape architects to develop a plan for continued management of the ornamental gardens and preservation of the mid-century design is recommended. Future restoration and development of the gardens would be primarily guided by three landscape plans produced over the years, including the original plan written by Greene-Hill Planners with additional reference as necessary to two later plans drafted by arrangement of the Friends of Eden Gardens CSO, the Britt Jimmerson plan and the more recent Chism Master Plan. A recently created garden segment should be relocated off the west side of the house to restore the original Green-

Hill Planners symmetry of the gardens. The park should continue its successful program of grounds maintenance with services provided by volunteers and staff.

The park staff will develop and implement a cyclical maintenance program for the ornamental gardens and the Wesley House. Maintenance of the mansion should include continued monitoring of the exterior paint with touch ups as needed, pruning of limbs on adjacent trees to avoid contact with the structure, and monitoring of the new roof's condition.

It is recommended that the house's electrical wiring be assessed and evaluated and the system replaced if necessary. In order to protect the house interior and the collection items stored therein from severe weather, an appropriate system for protecting the windows would be installed in consultation with DHR, which may consist of storm shutters or ballistic fabric. The park currently has plywood panels ready to be deployed when the need arises.

Resource Management Schedule

A priority schedule for conducting all management activities that is based on the purposes for which these lands were acquired, and to enhance the resource values, is located in the Implementation Component of this management plan.

Land Management Review

Section 259.036, Florida Statutes, 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. Eden Gardens State Park was subject to a land management review on May 1, 2000. The review team made the following determinations:

1. The land is being managed for the purpose for which it was acquired.
2. The actual management practices, including public access, complied with the management plan for this site.

LAND USE COMPONENT

INTRODUCTION

Land use planning and park development decisions for the state park system are based on the dual responsibilities of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP). These responsibilities are to preserve representative examples of original natural Florida and its cultural resources, and to provide outdoor recreation opportunities for Florida's citizens and visitors.

The general planning and design process begins with an analysis of the natural and cultural resources of the unit, and then proceeds through the creation of a conceptual land use plan that culminates in the actual design and construction of park facilities. Input to the plan is provided by experts in environmental sciences, cultural resources, park operation and management, through public workshops, and environmental groups. With this approach, DRP objective is to provide quality development for resource-based recreation throughout the state with a high level of sensitivity to the natural and cultural resources at each park.

This component of the unit plan includes a brief inventory 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 then summarizes the current conceptual land use plan for the park, identifying the existing or proposed activities suited to the resource base of the park. Any new facilities needed to support the proposed activities are described and located in general terms.

EXTERNAL CONDITIONS

An assessment of the conditions that exist beyond the boundaries of the unit can identify any special development problems or opportunities that exist because of the unit'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

Eden Gardens State Park is located within the unincorporated town of Point Washington in Walton County, about 34 miles northwest of Panama City in the northwest part of the state. The northern tip of the park adjoins Tucker Bayou, an arm of the Choctawhatchee Bay. Point Washington State Forest is adjacent to the park's western boundary and contains approximately 15,000 acres that connect to Grayton Beach, Deer Lake and Topsail Hill State Parks.

There are approximately 575,788 acres of public and private conservation lands and waters located within 15 miles of the park, including Point Washington and Pine

Log state forests, Choctawhatchee River Delta Preserve (TNC), Choctawhatchee River Water Management Area (NFWMD), Eglin Air Force Base (USAF), Nokuse Plantation, Deer Lake State Park, Grayton Beach State Park, and Topsail Hill Preserve State Park. Most of these areas provide the public with recreational opportunities for viewing wildlife, seasonal hunting, multi-use/hiking and equestrian trails, fresh and saltwater fishing, and boating. Several of these lands provide overnight accommodations, including cabins and camping facilities for primitive, tent and recreation vehicles.

A system of paved multi-use trails and unpaved hiking trails was developed by the state and county to provide recreational connections between communities and public lands, including Point Washington State Forest, Grayton Beach State Park, Deer Lake State Park and Topsail Hill State Preserve. The trail system provides residents and visitors with a variety of surfaces, which support hiking, biking and equestrian interests and includes portions of the Walton Segment of Eglin Florida Trail and the Point Washington Forestry Trails. The Division of State Lands has included parcels adjacent to Point Washington State Forest's eastern boundary, located west of Eden Gardens State Park, within their Florida Forever land acquisition project boundary (DSL, 2012). If the State acquires these lands, DRP will work with the Florida Forest Service (FFS) to develop a connecting trail system that expands recreational opportunities at the park. The area's paddling trails provide residents and visitors with fresh and saltwater touring options via the Intracoastal Waterway Canoe Trail. The 26-mile trail connects the Choctawhatchee Bay to West Bay, Panama City and the Gulf of Mexico.

Existing Use of Adjacent Lands

The park and surrounding unincorporated lands of Point Washington and Santa Rosa Beach are identified in Walton County's Future Land Use Element (FLUE) and corresponding Future Land Use Map (FLUM) of the county's Comprehensive Plan. These adjacent residential lands have been designated as Conservation Residential (CR 2/1) and/or fall within Neighborhood Planning Areas (NPA). The county's NPAs surround most of the park and consist of mixed-use neighborhoods that will provide walkable communities within infill development, promote the use of traditional community design and provide for cooperative planning. NPA densities vary between 2 to 10 unit per acre based on location, available infrastructure, environmental resources and development type (Walton County, 1992).

Planned Use of Adjacent Lands

The Point Washington Neighborhood Plan is a NPA that encompasses lands east of the park and identifies Eden Gardens State Park's mansion and grounds as key amenities. The plan is intended to preserve the community's historical character and heritage features while permitting maximum densities of four units per acre.

As vacant lands surrounding the park are converted to more intensive uses, additional resource management challenges may occur including the need for increased exotic species treatments, limited opportunities for using prescribed fire and alterations in the existing patterns of hydrology and water quality within the park, Choctawhatchee Bay and Tucker Bayou. Increased traffic on Dick Saltsman Road, through the western portion of park, will affect planned recreation and wildlife corridors between conservation lands located east of the park. The DRP will monitor land use changes adjacent to the park and continue to work with the county and community to protect and preserve the park's resources for present and future use and enjoyment

PROPERTY ANALYSIS

Effective planning requires a thorough understanding of the unit's natural and cultural resources. This section describes the resource characteristics and existing uses of the property. The unit's 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.

Recreation Resource Elements

This section assesses the unit's recreation resource elements those physical qualities that, either singly or in certain combinations, supports 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

Eden Gardens State Park is located on the southeast corner of Tucker Bayou. The ornamental gardens and historic mansion (Wesley House) are located on the eastern boundary of the park and framed by natural communities of xeric hammock and floodplain swamp. The gardens provide visitors with canopies of moss-draped live oaks and under stories of camellias, azaleas and an expansive lawn; this is ideal for less intensive recreation, such as picnicking and nature walks, and public and private events. Park lands west of the gardens contain natural areas of xeric and mesic uplands and wetlands, ideal for future trail and interpretive development.

Water Area

Two seepage streams within the park, one known as the Katie Wesley Branch, are located through the center of the undeveloped area of the park, west of the gardens. The streams cut through rare Florida anise-lined seepage slopes before broadening into floodplain swamp and emptying into Tucker Bayou. These flowing waters will

enrich the trail experience for visitors seeking natural and more remote areas of the park.

Tucker Bayou is part of the adjacent Choctawhatchee Bay estuary, a 27-mile-long drowned river flowing east to west. The bayou is adjacent to the Choctawhatchee River, the primary fresh water source of the bay. Emergent swamp and marsh vegetation ring the mud-bottom bayou, providing excellent vistas from the gardens and wildlife habitat for fishing. The bayou's waters are shallow, requiring shallow draft boats, kayaks and canoes.

Natural Scenery

The park's ornamental gardens are as integral to the setting of Ms. Maxon's estate, as formal gardens were in the antebellum south. The design is geometric to complement the classical and formal lines of the house. Open spaces around the picturesque site feature sculptures, a pond with central fountain, and lush plantings of moss-draped oaks, flowering shrubs, and expansive lawns.

Most of the park's land to the west of the gardens consists of uplands, which support scrub, flatwoods and mixed hardwoods. These uplands are marbled with wetland communities of floodplain swamp that provide visitors with views that overlook the bay and bayou. The features present park trail users with a sensory experience, including the scents of bay, anise and alyssum, the sounds of songbirds and the picturesque wooded areas.

An undeveloped spoil island, locally known as Goat Island, is located on the northern edge of Tucker Bayou. This wooded island creates an offshore focal point from the gardens, while buffering the park's viewshed of developed areas.

Significant Wildlife Habitat

The park's natural communities support an abundance of wildlife, as previously detailed in the Resource Management Component of this plan. The profusion of bird life, in particular, enhances the garden experience for park visitors.

Archaeological and Historical Features

In 1963, Miss Lois Genevieve Maxon purchased the Wesley estate from a Florida real estate developer and later donated it to the State of Florida in 1968 in memory of her parents. Maxon named the estate "Eden" and renovated the Wesley House as a showplace for her collection of European antiques. Today, the public has access to approximately eight acres of manicured open space, including the formal gardens originally commissioned by Miss Maxon and designed by Greene-Hill Planners and Britt Jimmerson. Park visitors frequently utilize the gardens and mansion as backdrops for private weddings and special events.

Pilings, from a system of docks associated with the nineteenth-century Wesley Lumber Company are still visible from the shoreline. In the 1890s, William Henry

Wesley developed the Wesley homesite as a hub for his lumber company. Today, the Wesley House is the only surviving structure of the company holdings. Future development of facilities at Eden Gardens State Park should incorporate the interpretation of the lumber industry and its era, which harvested the forests of the Florida Gulf Coast for shipment from Pensacola to South America, Europe and distant regions of the United States, from 1890 until after World War I.

Assessment of Use

All legal boundaries, significant natural features, structures, facilities, roads and trails existing in the unit are delineated on the base map (see Base Map). Specific uses made of the unit are briefly described in the following sections.

Past Uses

Historic past uses of the park's lands included home sites and subsistence farming. Commercial enterprises also occurred and included logging and lumbering.

Future Land Use and Zoning

DRP works with local governments to establish designations that provide both consistency between comprehensive plans and zoning codes and permit typical state park uses and facilities necessary for the provision of resource-based recreation opportunities.

South Walton (County) Land Use designations for parcels within the park consist of Conservation and NPA. Most lands within the park are designated as Conservation (C) with permitted uses limited to recreation and parks, public access and uses necessary to manage such lands. These lands fall into the sub-district of State parks, State recreation areas, State preserves and ornamental gardens. No development will be allowed except for uses as identified in the approved State management plans (Walton County, 1992).

More recently acquired lands fall within NPA and include designations of Infill, Small Neighborhood and Traditional Neighborhood. A few parcels adjacent to the park's eastern boundary have Infill Projects (IF) and Small Neighborhood Projects (SN) that limit building densities and provide for public uses. Small Neighborhood designations also have conditional uses, including workplace and residential uses. Parcels adjacent to the park's western boundary are Traditional Neighborhood Projects (TND) and support public use or open space. The park will continue to work with area residents and the county in their efforts in developing the Point Washington Neighborhood Plan (Walton County, 1992).

Current Recreational Use and Visitor Programs

The primary use of the park's lands is interpretative tours of the beautifully renovated ornamental gardens and Wesley House and special events. The ornamental gardens are the park's main focal point with moderate visitation

occurring between October and May and peaking in March at the height of the camellia and azalea blooming season. Through the efforts of the Friends of Eden Gardens Citizen Support Organization (CSO), the park has become a popular setting for events such as weddings, reunions, concerts and heritage events. A large pavilion and designated areas of the grounds may be rented by the public for weddings and private gatherings during and after park hours. The CSO also staffs a small nursery, which generates additional funding and visitation by garden enthusiasts.

Other recreational activities at Eden Gardens State Park include picnicking, hiking, shoreline and dock fishing, and limited boating. Picnic facilities include four pavilions within a natural setting and a nearby canoe launch that provides visitors with paddling access to the adjacent bayou. A 1.75-mile shared-use trail connects the gardens to the park's picnic area while skirting natural areas east of the gardens.

In 2008, a new entrance and park road from County Road 395 was constructed. The new landscaped entrance features a decorative gate and half-mile drive to the ranger station and paved parking that accommodates 35 vehicles. The traditional east gate adjacent to the Wesley House is open as a pedestrian entrance for local school groups.

A new picnic and day use area overlooking Tucker Bayou west of the gardens was also constructed in 2008. From the ranger station, the new paved road continues an additional half-mile to the new picnic area that includes four small pavilions, restroom, canoe/kayak launch and paved parking for 13 vehicles. In FY 2010-2011 Eden Gardens State Park recorded approximately 64,000 visitors. By DRP estimates, the FY 2010/2011 the park contributed \$2.8 million in direct economic impact and the equivalent of 57 jobs to the local economy (Florida Department of Environmental Protection, 2011).

Other Uses

A road connection for non-park vehicular traffic is located across the southeastern corner of the park. The road has traditionally been used by local citizens as a connection between Gilmore Road and Eden Garden Road.

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 alteration 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

INSET



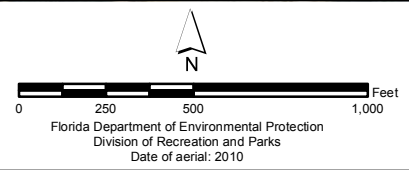
TUCKER BAYOU INSET



LEGEND

- Park Boundary
- County Road
- Park Road Paved
- Park Road Stabilized
- Park Road Unstabilized
- Parking Lots
- Structures

EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK



BASE MAP

the use of protected zones are made on a case-by-case basis after careful site planning and analysis.

At Eden Gardens State Park, the historic house and gardens have been designated as protected zones. The wetland communities are also designated as protected zones as delineated on the Conceptual Land Use Plan.

Existing Facilities

Recreation Facilities

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Existing Facilities | Wesley House |
| Recreation Facilities | Museum Stage |
| Ornamental Gardens Area (10 acres) | Enclosed pavilion and restroom |
| Ornamental Gardens: | Tent platform (pavilion overflow area) |
| Statue Garden | Nursery |
| Rose Garden | Fishing pier |
| Shade Garden | Restroom |
| Hidden Garden | Picnic Area |
| Butterfly Garden | Picnic pavilions (4) |
| Daylily Garden | Restroom |
| Camellia Garden | Hiking Trail (1.75 miles) |
| Reflecting pool | Canoe/kayak launch |

Support Facilities

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Ranger station (small) | Ranger residence |
| Honor box | Volunteer RV sites (2) |
| Paved Road (1 mile) | Shop building (2-bay) |
| Paved Parking: | Flammable storage shed |
| Gardens (51 spaces, 1 bus) | Storage building |
| Mansion (12 spaces) | Potting shed |
| Picnic area (13 spaces) | |

CONCEPTUAL LAND USE PLAN

The following narrative represents the current conceptual land use proposal for this park. The conceptual land use plan is the long-term, optimal development plan for the park, based on current conditions and knowledge of the park's resources, landscape and social setting (see Conceptual Land Use Plan). The conceptual land use plan will be reassessed during the next update of the park management plan. As new information is provided regarding the environment of the park, cultural resources, recreational use, and as new land is acquired, the conceptual land use plan may be amended to address the new conditions as needed. 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. During the development of the conceptual land use plan, DRP assessed the potential impacts of proposed uses or development on the park resources and applied that analysis to decisions for the future physical plan of the park as well as the scale and character of proposed development. Potential impacts are more thoroughly identified and assessed as part of the site planning process once funding is available for facility development. At that stage, design elements (such as existing topography and vegetation, sewage disposal and stormwater management) and design constraints (such as imperiled species or cultural site locations) are more thoroughly investigated. Municipal sewer connections, advanced wastewater treatment or best available technology systems are applied for on-site sewage disposal. Stormwater management systems are designed to minimize impervious surfaces to the greatest extent feasible, and all facilities are designed and constructed using best management practices to limit and avoid resource impacts. Federal, state and local permit and regulatory requirements are addressed during facility development. This includes the design of all new park facilities consistent with the universal access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). After new facilities are constructed, the park staff monitors conditions to ensure that impacts remain within acceptable levels.

Potential Uses

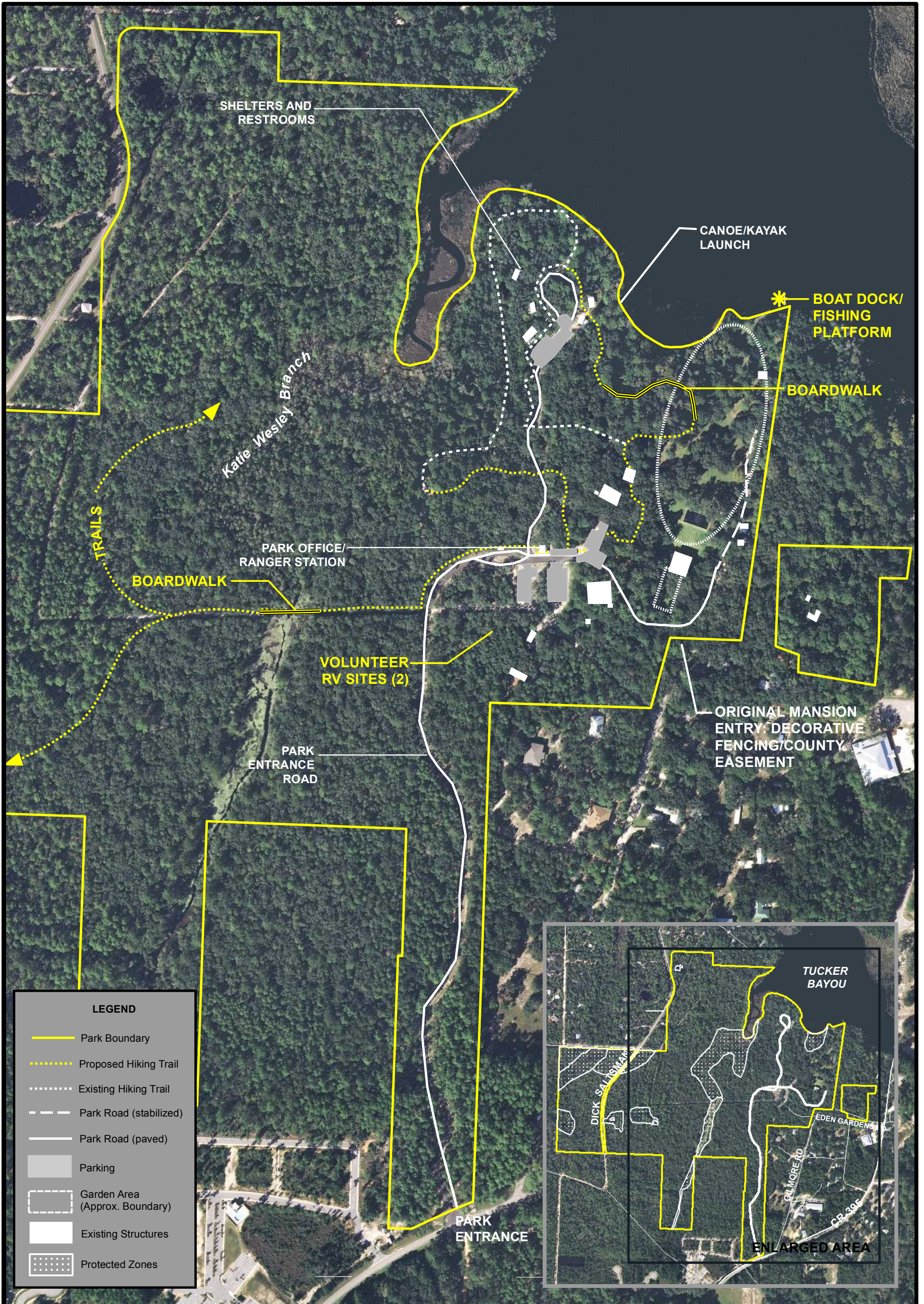
Public Access and Recreational Opportunities

Goal: Provide public access and recreational opportunities in the park.

The existing recreational activities and programs of this state park are appropriate to the natural and cultural resources contained in the park and should be continued. New and improved activities and programs are also recommended and discussed below.

Objective: Maintain the park's current recreational carrying capacity of 630 users per day.

Located on the Tucker Bayou, the park provides visitors with day-use activities, including tours of the ornamental gardens and the historic house that has been transformed into a museum. The ornamental gardens continue to develop as Ms. Maxon intended and provide visitors and volunteers with opportunities to enhance their landscape knowledge or enjoy the breath-taking gardens and vistas of the bayou. The mansion's collection is organized around Lois Maxon and tells the story of the park's benefactor and mid-20th century restoration efforts. Picnic and event facilities, water access for canoes and kayaks and shoreline fishing are also available at the park.



SHELTERS AND RESTROOMS

CANOE/KAYAK LAUNCH

BOAT DOCK/
FISHING PLATFORM

BOARDWALK

Katie Wesley Branch

TRAILS

BOARDWALK

PARK OFFICE/
RANGER STATION

VOLUNTEER
RV SITES (2)

PARK
ENTRANCE
ROAD

ORIGINAL MANSION
ENTRY: DECORATIVE
FENCING/COUNTY
EASEMENT

PARK
ENTRANCE

LEGEND

- Park Boundary
- ⋯ Proposed Hiking Trail
- ⋯ Existing Hiking Trail
- - - Park Road (stabilized)
- Park Road (paved)
- Parking
- Garden Area (Approx. Boundary)
- Existing Structures
- Protected Zones

TUCKER BAYOU

DICK SALTSMAN

EDEN GARDENS

GILMORE RD

CR 395

ENLARGED AREA

Objective: Expand the park's recreational carrying capacity by 118 users per day.

The anticipated development of a new trail system that connects the park's natural areas to the gardens and links regional hiking trails to park lands will expand the park's recreational venue for returning and new park visitors.

Objective: Continue to provide the current repertoire of six interpretive, educational and recreational programs on a regular basis.

The daily interpretive program covers 19th and 20th century ownerships of the historic ornamental gardens and house. The Camellia Fest and Heritage Day is an annual educational and an interpretive event. The care and propagation of camellias are held congruently with living history demonstrations showcasing traditional skills, including soap making, candle dipping, blacksmithing, turpentine, basket weaving, moonshine making, saw-milling, old-fashioned games, and other related activities.

Hobby gardening is the primary focus of recreational programming at the park. Enthusiasts are taught the fundamentals of horticulture and design at informal workshops and with hands-on experience by assisting staff and volunteers.

The interpretation of Maxon's life also displays her family's heirlooms and antiques, including a large collection of Louis XVI furniture. A DVD house tour is available to visitors who cannot access the upper portions of the house. The virtual tour provides views of the bedrooms and Maxon's collection located on the second story.

Educational programs are available to visitors, including the Literacy Days program that presents literacy events targeting kindergarten through second grade students at two local schools. The School of the Soldier program provides an annual historical interpretation of the civil war skirmish that took place in 1864 in the immediate Point Washington area.

Objective: Develop two new interpretive, educational and recreational programs.

The park will develop two new interpretive programs to provide visitors with interpretive and educational information regarding the park's natural communities and diverse bird groups, which share the park's natural resources and adjacent waters. The programs will utilize interpretive signage for self-guided tours on the park's existing and proposed recreational trail system.

Proposed Facilities

Capital Facilities and Infrastructure

Goal: Develop and maintain the capital facilities and infrastructure necessary to implement the recommendations of the management plan.

The existing facilities of this state park are appropriate to the natural and cultural resources contained in the park and should be maintained. New construction, as discussed further below, is recommended to improve the quality and safety of the recreational opportunities, to improve the protection of park resources, and to streamline the efficiency of park operations. The following is a summary of improved and new facilities needed to implement the conceptual land use plan for Eden Gardens State Park:

Objective: Maintain all public and support facilities in the park.

All capital facilities, trails and roads within the park will be kept in proper condition through the daily or regular work of park staff and/or contracted help.

Objective: Improve three existing facilities and 0.7 mile of trail.

Major repair projects for park facilities may be accomplished within the ten-year term of this management plan, if funding is made available. These include the modification of existing park facilities to bring them into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (a top priority for all facilities maintained by DRP). The following discussion of other recommended improvements and repairs are organized by use area within the park.

Ornamental Gardens. In general, the existing level of recreational activities provided on the historic grounds is appropriate and should be continued. It is recommended that the volunteers of the CSO continue the development and maintain the gardens as outlined in the Resource Management Component.

The existing boat dock to the north of the gardens needs to be replaced, but is currently used by park visitors for fishing and as an improvised mooring for boaters. A new dock designed to support boat tie-ups and a fishing platform is recommended to provide water access to the park from the bayou and to accommodate anglers.

Bayou Picnic Area. Recommended park amenities for the recently built picnic area include a 0.7-mile loop nature trail beginning northeast of the new parking area, continuing west along the Katie Wesley Branch to the overlook/launch trail then east to a proposed boardwalk leading to the gardens. The 420-foot boardwalk connects the picnic area to the gardens through the adjacent baygall community.

Interpretive signs are also proposed for this trail and will provide the public with natural and cultural resource information.

Support Facilities. Volunteers work to improve the park's enhancement efforts and play a key role in staff support, maintenance and special events. Two additional volunteer RV sites are recommended for the existing shop area to encourage ongoing volunteer support at the park.

As recommended in the Resource Management Component, adequate fencing and service gates are recommended to establish and secure the park's boundary. Fencing for more recently acquired parcels and eastern park boundary where fencing has deteriorated is needed to assist staff with unauthorized access and improve protection for recreation and support areas.

Objective: Construct 1 new facility and 1.5 miles of trail.

Trails. A 0.5-mile spur hiking trail to connect the park to the regional trail system is recommended for the park's natural areas west of the entrance road and gardens. The trail will feature a 270-foot boardwalk to provide visitors with access across wetlands.

An approximately 1-mile hiking trail and water crossings are recommended from the proposed spur trail. The trail will provide visitors with opportunities to explore the park's natural communities west of the Katie Wesley Branch. Trail alignment locations will be determined by DRP staff during trail development.

Interpretive and directional signs are recommended at locations throughout the proposed trail system to inform the public regarding resource management activities occurring at the park, and incorporating the larger preservation, stewardship, land use and cultural resource premises of this plan. The presence of many animal species, especially an abundance of wading and migratory birds, provides excellent opportunities for wildlife observation. Trailside rest areas at appropriate scenic locations are also recommended. Boundary fencing is recommended to control access and protect park amenities.

Kayaking. The park would like to establish a modular kiosk for kayak rentals. This would also include room for trailer parking and an area for a locking kayak storage rack. This facility will be placed at the most appropriate location in the park and will utilize the existing canoe/kayak launch.

Facilities Development

Preliminary cost estimates for these recommended facilities and improvements are provided in the Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates (Table 6) located in the Implementation Component of this plan. These cost estimates are

based on the most cost-effective construction standards available at this time. The preliminary estimates are provided to assist DRP in budgeting future park improvements, and may be revised as more information is collected through the planning and design processes. New facilities and improvements to existing facilities recommended by the plan include:

Recreation Facilities

Ornamental Gardens

Gardens expansion (ongoing) with interpretive signs (5)
Boat dock and fishing platform
Interpretive kiosk

Bayou Picnic Area

Boardwalk (420 feet)
Nature trail (0.7 mile)
Interpretive signs (4)
Kayak Rental Area

Trails

Hiking trail (1.5 mile)
Boardwalk (270 feet)
Interpretive kiosk
Interpretive signs (8)

Support Facilities

Volunteer RV sites (2)

Existing Use and Recreational Carrying Capacity

Carrying capacity is an estimate of the number of users a recreation resource or facility can accommodate and still provide a high quality recreational experience and preserve the natural values of the site. The carrying capacity of a unit is determined by identifying the land and water requirements for each recreation activity at the unit, and then applying these requirements to the unit's land and water base. Next, guidelines are applied which estimate the physical capacity of the unit's natural communities to withstand recreational uses without significant degradation. This analysis identifies a range within which the carrying capacity most appropriate to the specific activity, the activity site and the unit's classification is selected.

The recreational carrying capacity for this park is a preliminary estimate of the number of users the unit could accommodate after the current conceptual

development program has been implemented. When developed, the proposed new facilities would approximately increase the unit's carrying capacity as shown in Table 6.

Optimum Boundary

The optimum boundary map reflects lands that have been identified as desirable for direct management by DRP as part of the state park. These parcels may include public as well as privately owned lands that improve the continuity of existing parklands, provide the most efficient boundary configuration, improve access to the park, provide additional natural and cultural resource protection or allow for future expansion of recreational activities. The map also identifies lands that are potentially surplus to the management needs of DRP. 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.

Identification of parcels on the optimum boundary map is intended solely for planning purposes. It is not to be used in connection with any regulatory purposes. Any party or governmental entity should not use a property's identification on the optimum boundary map to reduce or restrict the lawful rights of private landowners. Identification on the map does not empower or suggest that any government entity should impose additional or more restrictive environmental land use or zoning regulations. Identification should not be used as the basis for permit denial or the imposition of permit conditions.

Parcels identified adjacent to the park's eastern boundary reflect viewshed protection from the historic ornamental gardens and the park's shoreline. Parcels identified adjacent to the park's southern boundary serve as a buffer from adjacent developed lands and create a contiguous boundary for management purposes.

Sovereign submerged lands identified on the optimum boundary map adjacent to the park's northern boundary provide a 100-foot buffer for the park's shoreline and allow enhanced public enjoyment of the park's existing canoe/kayak launch and proposed fishing platform areas. In addition, these lands facilitate improved natural resource management of the Katie Wesley Branch. If DRP acquires lands adjacent to the park's northeastern boundary, then the park would also like to extend the proposed submerged lands boundary to the eastern boundary of the newly acquired property.

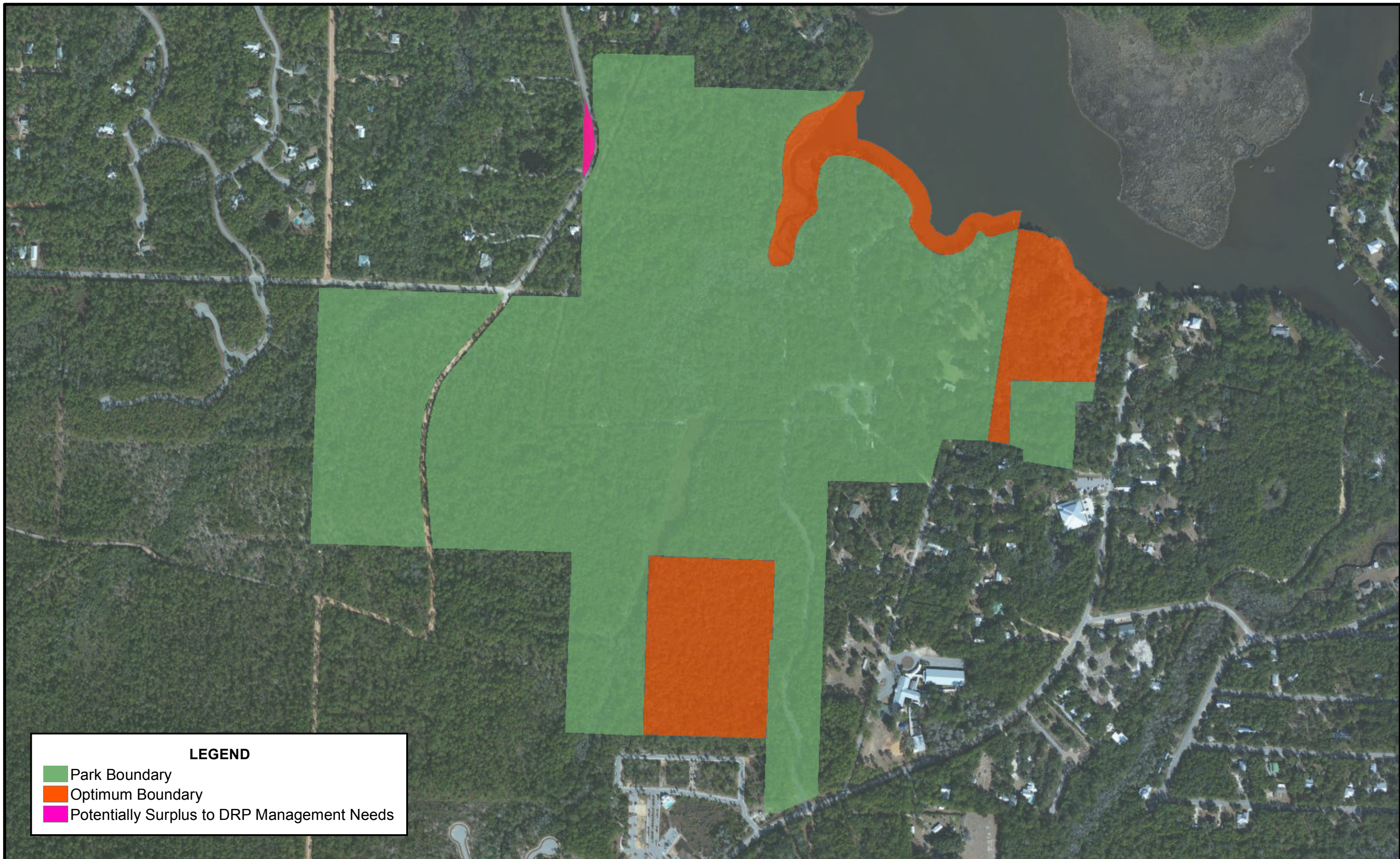
At this time, one parcel is being considered surplus to the management needs of the park. An approximately 0.4-acre parcel located west of the park's boundary is isolated from the park by Dick Saltsman Road and connects to an existing residential area.

Table 6: Existing Use and Recreational Carrying Capacity

| Activity/Facility | Existing Capacity* | | Proposed Additional Capacity | | Estimated Recreational Capacity | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|--------------|
| | One Time | Daily | One Time | Daily | One Time | Daily |
| House and Gardens | 275 | 550 | 0 | 0 | 275 | 550 |
| Shared-use trail | 0 | 0 | 17 | 68 | 17 | 68 |
| Picnicking | 40 | 80 | 0 | 0 | 40 | 80 |
| Canoe/kayaking | 0 | 0 | 25 | 50 | 25 | 50 |
| TOTAL | 315 | 630 | 42 | 118 | 357 | 748 |

*Existing capacity has been revised from the approved plan to better follow DRP carrying capacity guidelines and reflect newer development.

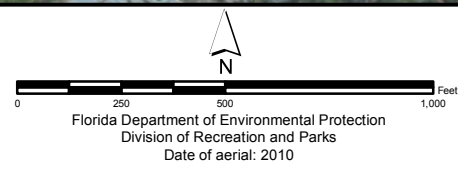
** The fishing facilities are assumed to serve the same recreational user base as the picnic area, therefore, no carrying capacity is determined for them.



LEGEND

- Park Boundary
- Optimum Boundary
- Potentially Surplus to DRP Management Needs

EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK



OPTIMUM BOUNDARY MAP

IMPLEMENTATION COMPONENT

The resource management and land use components of this management plan provide a thorough inventory of the park's natural, cultural and recreational resources. They outline the park's management needs and problems, and recommend both short and long-term objectives and actions to meet those needs. The implementation component addresses the administrative goal for the park and reports on the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) progress toward achieving resource management, operational and capital improvement goals and objectives since approval of the previous management plan for this park. This component also compiles the management goals, objectives and actions expressed in the separate parts of this management plan for easy review. 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.

MANAGEMENT PROGRESS

Since the approval of the last management plan for Eden Gardens State Park in 2001, significant work has been accomplished and progress made towards meeting the DRP's management objectives for the park. These accomplishments fall within three of the five general categories that encompass the mission of the park and the DRP.

Park Administration and Operations

- During the last ten years Friends of Eden, Inc., Citizen Support Organization (CSO), has contributed over 50,000 hours of volunteer service.
- The park's CSO has provided the park with:
 - funding to restore the columns on the historic Wesley House
 - a Partnership in Parks program funding to construct an enclosed pavilion with caterer's kitchen for special events
 - funding to construct a paved tent platform to facilitate pavilion overflow and special events
 - specialized equipment and new irrigation systems to maintain the ornamental gardens
 - new shell-surfaced garden paths
 - the restoration of arbor and plant specimens to the current Heritage Rose Garden

Resource Management

Natural Resources

- The park has treated over three acres of Category I and II invasive, exotic plant species.
- Staff continues to implement the removal of exotic and nuisance animals to protect the park's natural and cultural resources and wildlife.

Cultural Resources

- Staff and the CSO continue to develop the gardens as guided by the historic plans of Greene-Hill Planners and Britt Jimmerson and a recent plan by Doug Chism. Current development includes the installation of brick walkways and planters and plant materials.
- In 2002, the DRP contracted an architectural and historic report for the Wesley House.
- In 2006, a new roof was constructed for the Wesley House.
- In 2007, the DRP contracted a Phase I cultural resource survey of new park lands, known as the Butler Tract, to protect cultural resources during new park development.
- In 2008, the Heating, Ventilation, and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) system was replaced in the Wesley House.
- In 2008, the DRP contracted a Phase II archeological survey of prehistoric sites associated with Florida Master Site Files 8WL2267 and 8WL2269.
- In 2009, the park installed a new circulating pump to improve the water quality within the garden's pond. The park also installed a center fountain after removing later planter additions.
- In 2010, the park removed overhanging tree limbs to protect the Wesley House.
- In 2010, the CSO acquired a new remotely monitored fire and security system for the Wesley House.
- In 2011, the severely damaged mid-twentieth century columns of the Wesley House were restored.
- In 2011, a new meter and underground electrical utilities were installed at the Wesley House.

Recreation and Visitor Services

- In 2009, DRP constructed a new canoe and kayak launch at the park.
- In 2009, DRP constructed a new walking trail with observational overlooks adjacent to Tucker Bayou.
- The park expanded the Camellia Fest to include a Heritage Day Festival.

Park Facilities

- In 2009, DRP relocated and constructed a new park entrance on County Road 395. The project included a new road, ranger station, parking area and CSO funded custom gates.
- In 2010, DRP constructed a universally accessible ramp to the garden's Bayou Stage.

MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

This management plan is written for a timeframe of ten years, as required by Section 253.034 Florida Statutes. The Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates (**Table 7**) summarizes the management goals, objectives and actions that are

recommended for implementation over this period, and beyond. Measures are identified for assessing progress toward completing each objective and action. A time frame 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. Finally, all costs are consolidated under the following five standard land management categories: Resource Management, Administration and Support, Capital Improvements, Recreation Visitor Services and Law Enforcement.

Many of the actions identified in the plan can be implemented using existing staff and funding. However, a number of continuing activities and new activities with measurable quantity targets and projected completion dates are identified that cannot be completed during the life of this plan unless additional resources for these purposes are provided. The plan's recommended actions, time frames and cost estimates will guide the DRP's planning and budgeting activities over the period of this plan. It must be noted that these recommendations are based on the information that exists at the time the plan was prepared. A high degree of adaptability and flexibility must be built into this process to ensure that the DRP can adjust to changes in the availability of funds, improved understanding of the park's natural and cultural resources, and changes in statewide land management issues, priorities and policies.

Statewide priorities for all aspects of land management are evaluated each year as part of the process for developing the DRP's annual legislative budget requests. When preparing these annual requests, the DRP considers the needs and priorities of the entire state park system and the projected availability of funding from all sources during the upcoming fiscal year. In addition to annual legislative appropriations, the DRP pursues supplemental sources of funds and staff resources wherever possible, including grants, volunteers and partnerships with other entities. The DRP's ability to accomplish the specific actions identified in the plan will be determined largely by the availability of funds and staff for these purposes, which may vary from year to year. Consequently, the target schedules and estimated costs identified in **Table 7** may need to be adjusted during the ten-year management planning cycle.

Table 7
Eden Gardens Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates
Sheet 1 of 3

| NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES. | | | | |
|--|---|--|-----------------|---|
| Goal I: Provide administrative support for all park functions. | | | | |
| | | Measure | Planning Period | Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years) |
| Objective A | Continue day-to-day administrative support at current levels. | Administrative support ongoing | C | \$250,255 |
| Objective B | Expand administrative support as new lands are acquired, new facilities are developed, or as other needs arise. | Administrative support expanded | C | \$54,000 |
| Goal II: Protect water quality and quantity in the park, restore hydrology to the extent feasible, and maintain the restored condition. | | | | |
| | | Measure | Planning Period | Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years) |
| Objective A | Conduct/obtain an assessment of the park's hydrological needs. | Assessment conducted | UFN | \$15,000 |
| Goal III: Restore and maintain the natural communities/habitats of the park. | | | | |
| | | Measure | Planning Period | Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years) |
| Objective A | Within 10 years have 15 acres of the park maintained within optimal fire return interval. | # Acres within fire return interval target | LT | \$43,000 |
| Action 1 | Develop/update annual burn plan. | Plan updated | C | \$16,000 |
| Action 2 | Manage fire dependent communities for ecosystem function, structure and processes by burning between 6-16 acres annually, as identified by the annual burn plan. | Average # acres burned annually | C | \$7,000 |
| Action 3 | Establish 2.11 miles of new fire breaks. | # Miles established | LT | \$20,000 |
| Objective B | Conduct habitat/natural community improvement activities on 138 acres of mesic hammock, flatwoods lake, wet flatwoods, mesic flatwoods, scrubby flatwoods, xeric hammock, scrub, floodplain swamp, and blackwater stream communities. | # Acres improved or with improvements underway | LT | \$135,000 |
| Goal IV: Maintain, improve or restore imperiled species populations and habitats in the park. | | | | |
| | | Measure | Planning Period | Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years) |
| Objective A | Develop/ update baseline imperiled species occurrence inventory lists for plants and animals, as needed. | List updated | C | \$10,000 |
| Objective B | Monitor and document 1 selected imperiled plant species in the park. | # Species monitored | C | \$5,000 |
| Action 1 | Develop monitoring protocol for 1 selected imperiled plant species, Curtis' sand grass (<i>Calamovilfa curtissii</i>). | # Protocols developed | ST | \$1,000 |
| Action 2 | Implement monitoring protocols for 1 species described in Action 1 above. | # Species monitored | C | \$4,000 |

* 2012 Dollars
ST = actions within 2 years
LT = actions within 10 years
C = long term or short term actions that are continuous or cyclical
UFN = currently unfunded need

Table 7
Eden Gardens Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates
Sheet 2 of 3

| NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES. | | | | |
|--|---|--|-----------------|---|
| Goal V: Remove exotic and invasive plants and animals from the park and conduct needed maintenance-control. | | | | |
| | | Measure | Planning Period | Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years) |
| Objective A | Continue to monitor for the presence of exotic plants in the park and treat as necessary | # Acres treated | C | \$5,670 |
| Action 2 | Annually continue maintenance and follow-up treatments, as needed. | Plan implemented | | \$5,670 |
| Objective B | Implement control measures on 3 exotic animal species in the park. | # Species for which control measures implemented | C | \$5,000 |
| Goal VI: Protect, preserve and maintain the cultural resources of the park. | | | | |
| | | Measure | Planning Period | Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years) |
| Objective A | Assess and evaluate 5 of 5 recorded cultural resources in the park and prioritize preservation and stabilization | Documentation complete | LT | \$400 |
| Objective B | Compile reliable documentation for all recorded historic and archaeological resources. | Documentation complete | LT | \$22,100 |
| Action 1 | Ensure all known sites are recorded or updated in the Florida Master Site File. | # Sites recorded or updated | ST | \$500 |
| Action 2 | Complete a predictive model for high, medium and low probability of locating archaeological sites within the park. | Probability Map completed | ST | \$5,500 |
| Action 3 | Revise the existing Scope of Collections Statement. | Document completed | ST | \$2,300 |
| Action 4 | Conduct oral history interviews. | Interviews complete | LT | \$3,800 |
| Action 5 | Compile a park administrative history. | Report completed | ST | \$3,800 |
| Action 6 | Conduct additional research on five of seven recorded sites. | Report completed | ST | \$1,200 |
| Action 7 | Obtain new appraisal of collection items. | Report completed | ST | \$5,000 |
| Objective C | Bring 1 of 5 recorded cultural resources into good condition (Eden Site, 8WL97). | # Sites in good condition | LT | \$260,000 |
| Action 1 | Continue implementing regular monitoring programs for 5 cultural sites. | # Sites monitored | C | \$10,000 |
| Action 2 | Develop/implement a long-term repair and rehabilitation plan for the Wesley House to bring into good condition within 10 years. | Plan developed and implemented | C | \$250,000 |
| Goal VII: Provide public access and recreational opportunities in the park. | | | | |
| | | Measure | Planning Period | Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years) |
| Objective A | Maintain the park's current recreational carrying capacity of 630 users per day. | # Recreation/visitor | C | \$150,000 |
| Objective B | Expand the park's recreational carrying capacity by 68 users per day. | # Recreation/visitor | UFN | \$27,000 |
| Action 1 | Develop 1 new hiking opportunity. | # Recreation/visitor opportunities per day | UFN | \$27,000 |
| Objective C | Continue to provide the current repertoire of 6 interpretive, educational and recreational programs on a regular basis. | # Interpretive/education programs | C | \$75,000 |
| Objective D | Develop 2 new interpretive, educational and recreational programs. | # Interpretive programs | LT | \$10,000 |

* 2012 Dollars
ST = actions within 2 years
LT = actions within 10 years
C = long term or short term actions that are continuous or cyclical
UFN = currently unfunded need

Table 7
Eden Gardens Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates
 Sheet 3 of 3

| NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES. | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|--|---|
| Goal VIII: Develop and maintain the capital facilities and infrastructure necessary to meet the goals and objectives of this management plan. | | Measure | Planning Period | Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years) |
| Objective A | Maintain all public and support facilities in the park. | Facilities maintained | C | \$280,286 |
| Objective B | Improve 4 existing facilities and 0.7 mile of trail as identified in the Land Use Component. | # Facilities | UFN | \$380,000 |
| Objective C | Construct 1 new facility, and 1.5 miles of trail as identified in the Land Use Component. | # Miles of Trail | LT | \$150,000 |
| Objective D | Expand maintenance activities as existing facilities are improved and new facilities are developed. | Facilities maintained | C | \$30,200 |
| Summary of Estimated Costs | | | | |
| Management Categories | | | Total Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years) | |
| Resource Management | | | \$501,170 | |
| Administration and Support | | | \$304,255 | |
| Capital Improvements | | | \$840,486 | |
| Recreation Visitor Services | | | \$262,000 | |
| Law Enforcement Activities ¹ | | | | |
| | | | ¹ Law enforcement activities in Florida State Parks are conducted by the DEP Division of Law Enforcement and by local law enforcement agencies. | |

* 2012 Dollars
 ST = actions within 2 years
 LT = actions within 10 years
 C = long term or short term actions that are continuous or cyclical
 UFN = currently unfunded need

Addendum 1 – Acquisition History

Eden Gardens State Park Acquisition History

Purpose of Acquisition

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida (Trustees) acquired Eden Gardens State Park to use and maintain the property for Public Park and historical memorial purposes.

Sequence of Acquisition

On December 24, 1968, the Trustees obtained title to a 10.644-acre property constituting the initial area of Eden Gardens State Park. Lois G. Maxon donated the property to the Trustees. Since this initial donation, the Trustees has acquired several parcels under P2000/A and I, through the Murphy Act of 1939, donation, and transfer to add them to Eden Gardens State Park. Presently the park has approximately 161 acres.

Management Lease

On September 4, 1970, the Trustees leased Eden Gardens State Park to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), under Lease No. 2463. Lease No. 2463 is a ninety-nine (90)-year lease and it will expire on September 3, 2069.

According to Lease No. 2463, the DRP manages Eden Gardens State Park for the purpose of preserving, developing, improving, operating, maintaining and otherwise managing the property for public outdoor recreational, park, conservation and related purposes.

Title Interest

The Trustees hold fee simple title to Eden Gardens State Park.

Special Conditions on Use

Eden Gardens State Park is designated single-use to provide resource-based public outdoor recreation and other park related uses. Uses such as water resource development projects, water supply projects, storm-water management projects, and linear facilities and sustainable agriculture and forestry other than those forest management activities specifically identified in the management plan of the park are not consistent with this plan.

Outstanding Reservations

Following is a listing of outstanding rights, reservations and encumbrances that apply to Eden Gardens State Park.

Eden Gardens State Park Acquisition History

Type of Instrument: Amended Easement
Grantor:..... Trustees
Grantee: Margaret Sugar Crawford
Beginning Date:..... March 1, 1994
Ending Date: Perpetuity
Encumbrance:..... This non- exclusive easement allows Margaret Sugar Crawford the right to ingress and egress over a certain portion of Eden Gardens state park.

Type of Instrument: Agreement
Grantor:..... Lois G. Maxon
Grantee: Trustees
Beginning Date:..... December 24, 1968
Ending Date: Perpetuity
Encumbrance:..... According to this Agreement, If the Trustees discontinues the use of the property as public state park and historic memorial, the title to personal property subsequently conveyed to the Trustees will revert to the grantor or grantor's successor in interest.

Type of Instrument: Warranty Deed
Grantor: Lois G. Maxon
Grantee: Trustees
Beginning Date:..... December 24, 1968
Ending Date: Perpetuity
Encumbrance: According to this Warranty Deed, the property donated to the Trustees under this deed shall be solely used and maintained for public park and historical memorial purposes. If the property is not used for this expressed purpose for a year, title to the property shall revert to the grantor or the grantor's successor in interest.

Addendum 2 – Advisory Group Members and Report

**Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks**

Eden Gardens State Park
Draft Unit Management Plan
Advisory Group
May 9, 2012

Local Government Representatives

The Honorable Scott Brannon, Chair
Walton County Board of
County Commissioners, District 1
415 Highway 20
Freeport, Florida 32439

Melody Hughes, Office Manager
Walton County Soil and Water
Conservation District
District Conservationist
239 John Baldwin Road, Suite B
Defuniak Springs, Florida 32433-3804

Agency Representatives

Mebane Cory-Ogden, Park Manager
Camp Helen State Park
23937 Panama City Beach Parkway
Panama City Beach, Florida 32413

John Himes, Northwest Regional
Biologist
Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission
3911 Highway 2321
Panama City, Florida 32409

Represented by:
Jessica Grahams
Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission
3911 Highway 2321
Panama City, Florida 32409

Walter Bowers
Florida Forest Service
Point Washington State Forest
5865 East U.S. Highway 98
Santa Rosa Beach, Florida 32459

Mike Wisenbaker, Historic
Preservationist

Florida Division of Historical Resources
500 South Bronough Street
Mail Station 8
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

**Tourist Development Council
Representative**

Michele Ray, Director of Finance and
Administration
Walton County Tourist Development
Council
25777 U.S. Highway 331 South
Santa Rosa Beach, Florida 32459-1248

Represented by:
John Ervin
Walton County Tourist Development
Council
25777 U.S. Highway 331 South
Santa Rosa Beach, Florida 32459-1248

**Environmental and Conservation
Representatives**

Walter Spence, President
Choctawhatchee Audubon Society
1519 18th Street
Niceville, Florida 32578

Sarah Kalinoski, Grant Coordinator
Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance
109 Greenway Trail
Santa Rosa Beach, Florida 32459

Recreational User Representatives

Dr. Paul Kellum, Chair
Florida Trail Association
Choctawhatchee Chapter
985 Airport Road
Destin, Florida 32541

Jim Foley, President
Historic Point Washington Association

**Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks**

Eden Gardens State Park
Draft Unit Management Plan
Advisory Group
May 9, 2012

57 Fig Court
Santa Rosa Beach, Florida 32459

Adjacent Landowner

Katie M. Leudenburg
311 Gilmore Road
Santa Rosa, Florida 32459

**Citizen Support Organization
Representatives**

Mary Jo Morris, President
The Friends of Eden Gardens State Park
82 Terra Cotta Way
Miramar Beach, Florida 32550

Eden Gardens State Park
DEP Advisory Group Staff Report

The Advisory Group meeting to review the proposed land management plan for Eden Gardens State Park was held at the park on May 9, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

The Honorable Scott Brannon (Walton County Board of County Commissioner), Mike Wisenbaker (Division of Historical Resources), Dr. Paul Kellum (Florida Trails Association), and Mr. Walter Bowers (Florida Forest Service) were not in attendance. Jim Foley represented Mary Jo Morris (Friends of Eden Gardens) Ms. Grahams represented Mr. John Himes (Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission) and John Ervin represented Ms. Michele Ray (Walton County Tourist Development Council). All other appointed Advisory Group members were present. Attending staff were Danny Jones, Tony Tindell, Mebane Cory-Ogden, Arthur Stiles and Jill Owens.

Ms. Owens began the meeting by explaining the purpose of the Advisory Group and reviewing the meeting agenda. She provided a brief overview of the Division's planning process and summarized public comments received during the previous evening's public workshop. Ms. Owens distributed recently revised pages of the Resource Management Component (RMC) that were not included in the initial draft. Mr. Stiles then reviewed these updates with the group. Ms. Owens asked if there were further comments or questions regarding the updates and then asked each member of the advisory group to comment on the management plan.

Summary of Advisory Group Comments

Ms. Katie M. Leudenburg (Adjacent Landowner) complimented staff for providing accommodations that make the park more accessible for senior visitors with a neighborhood entry point and a bench for resting. She would like to see the beaver dam dismantled to alleviate the flooding of the park's service road, return water flow to historic levels and restore native wetland species, which include pitcher plants. She expressed gratitude for having the park as a resource and would like annual park passes available to park visitors instead of requesting passes from Grayton Beach. Mr. Jones explained the park has historically been an "honor" park due to the limited personnel available to collect fees. He said the district would address the feasibility to make passes available on site for the benefit of the park. In conclusion, Ms. Leudenburg supported the plan, but the lack of funding for the park was of great concern.

Mr. Walter Spence (Choctawhatchee Audubon Society) said the plan was well done and that he supported its approval. He informed the group that Gary Parsons was the conservation chair and also reviewed the plan and understands that the primary attraction of the park is the garden. They support maintaining facility development in concert with the gardens. The society would like to encourage further development of bird habitat and nesting areas. He encouraged the staff to consider the addition of more native plants into the garden. He supported the expansion of the trail particularly along the Katie Wesley Branch to enhance birding opportunities. He said he was ambivalent about getting rid of beavers and did not want park funding used for beaver control because the animals return repeatedly. He added that in 1948, the species had been trapped out of the area. In reference to paddling opportunities, he said the park offered no place to pull out or beaches. Mr. Jones explained that the park's existing canoe/kayak launch is a pull out and that the location of the facility will be added to the plan's Conceptual Land Use Plan map. Mr. Spence suggested that the recently constructed launch could be marketed to the ecotourism industry. He concurred with the proposed optimum boundary and agreed with DRP decision to surplus the small isolated parcel. He requested more lands be purchased by the state to achieve a

Eden Gardens State Park
DEP Advisory Group Staff Report

connection to the state forest and create consorted opportunities for controlled burns. Mr. Spence stated that the Choctawhatchee Audubon Society supports the proposed plan.

Ms. Jessica Grahams (Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission) said she would like additional referenced resource analysis and management data in the plan. She inquired about general wording related to the boilerplate such as data that supports the phrase of “original conditions” as it relates to the restoration of natural communities. Mr. Stiles said the boilerplate contains mandated language that benchmarks “original conditions” to the period of European contact. She inquired about the lack of details with respect to exotic control treatments. Ms. Owens informed the members that references to detailed work plans are identified in the plan and available to the public on request. Mr. Stiles said that all unit management plans contain general information and that the District biologists work with staff to ensure appropriate treatments and applications are utilized. Mr. Jones stated that DRP follows multiple guidelines specified by OSHA, DRP’s Operations Manual, and manufacturers. He also said DRP provides personnel with professional level training. Mr. Jones explained that heavy infestations are priority areas. Ms. Grahams inquired about the conditions of the service road identified within the area of the Butler track and asked if problems with erosion and sediments entering the Katie Wesley Branch existed. Mr. Stiles explained that the park’s existing conditions of sedimentation were not a significant problem due to the established vegetative buffering. However, Mr. Stiles said future land is development outside of park might have more of an impact on creek system. Ms. Grahams said that the cultural conditions assessment seemed vulnerable to subjective shifting baselines. Mr. Stiles explained that assessments are qualitative and said if problems are significant and require expertise, BNCR will provide further guidance. Ms. Grahams supports DRP’s use of operational plans and project specified plans. She also stated that the plan was good and suggested no changes. Ms. Grahams informed staff that the Wildlife Legacy Initiative was a good source of funding for prescribed fires and that the commission would work with DRP to obtain available money. Mr. Stiles thanked Ms. Grahams for her assistance with obtaining funding and explained more preparation treatment was needed before prescribed fires could be initiated at the park.

Ms. Sarah Kalinoski (Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance) complimented staff on exotic plant control citing the eradication of Chinese tallow within the park. Ms. Kalinoski said the alliance would assist the park in the development of a sea wall that creates living shorelines using oyster reefs. She stated that a potential partnership between the alliance and DRP could provide resources that assist the park in achieve goals identified in the management plan, including habitat restoration and in-depth water quality assessments of the Katie Wesley Branch. Ms. Kalinoski stated her support for the proposed management plan.

Ms. Melody Hughes (Walton County Soil and Water Conservation Commission) expressed appreciation for the Florida park system and its accomplishments. She said the plan is well done and contains comprehensive natural and archeological preservation strategies. She also commented that the soils map was well done. She noted strong community support for the park and its efficient use of tax money in return for the high quality property management. Ms. Hughes supports the approval of the management plan.

Mr. John Ervin (Walton County Tourist Development Council) said he appreciated reading about the park’s ongoing and future work in resource management. He stated his support for canoeing access and that paddling opportunities at the park benefit the county. He said he would

Eden Gardens State Park
DEP Advisory Group Staff Report

initiate public awareness of the park and its recreational resources. He said the park offers a perspective of community values. He noted that DRP provided a good level of expertise and asked that staff utilize the assistance of the county's council. Mr. Ervin stated that he has a biological background and looks forward to exploring possibilities to assist in the stewardship of the park's resources. He identified the park as an asset and the need for more visitors to experience it. He said the plan made him more informed and supported its approval.

Mr. Jim Foley (Friends of Eden Gardens, CSO and Historic Point Washington Association) stated his support for the plan. He noted that funds generated by the wedding pavilion were a good source of revenue for the park and expressed concerns about the lack of funding available to the park and its ability to meet the CSO's current amount of matching funds. Mr. Jones informed the group that funding would probably not improve in the near future, project priorities are determined by the central office, and that the current operating budget is limited to emergency repairs. Mr. Jones further explained the importance of identifying resource and facility needs in the plan, because if funding becomes available through earmarks or other currently unknown sources, the park can fund the approved needs. Mr. Jones informed the group that the district inspects park facilities annually and sets priorities for the park at the beginning of each new fiscal year. Although the meeting pavilion provides revenue for the park, Mr. Foley said he would like to report to the CSO board that DRP would have contributing funds. He said he would discuss funding for the identified dock repair with the CSO board members. Mr. Jones stated that the CSO is different for every park, but Eden Gardens State Park's CSO was unique, because they provide maintenance funding for the garden. He acknowledged their efforts and said that DRP would like to contribute more funding and will continue to seek all available money. Regarding the county's mosquito control plans, Mr. Foley expressed concern on its affects on the salamander and frogs populations. He suggested the CSO construct martin houses on the historic pilings for mosquito control adjacent to the park and in the bay. Mr. Tindell said that because the pilings are located outside of the park's boundary and that DRP would contact Division of State Lands the feasibility of the project. Mr. Jones also informed the group that DRP is accustomed to addressing and limiting mosquito control and monitors its affects on natural resources, but he said a balance must be achieved to allow for recreation. On behalf of the historic association, Mr. Foley stated his support for DRP's policy of not identifying the location of archaeological resources. He said an interpretive kiosk that addresses historic lumbering and identifies catface scaring on trees was needed. Mr. Foley said that the CSO and the historic association support the approval of the management plan.

Summary of Written Comments

Mike Wisenbaker (Division of Historical Resources) provided written comments and recommendations. Mr. Wisenbaker encourages DRP to go forward with its recommendation to nominate the Eden Site to the National Register of Historic Places and evaluate the two archaeological sites (WL2267 and WL2269) to see if they are eligible for listing in the National Register. He also requested that corrections be made to the Florida Master Site File (FMSF) with respect to existing map coordinates for the Russ Tract (WL2582) site.

Staff Recommendations

The staff recommends approval of the proposed management plans for Eden Gardens State Park as presented, with the following changes: The location of the canoe/kayak launch will be added

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to the Conceptual Land Use Plan map. The FMSF will be updated to include the corrected mapping coordinates for the Russ Tract (WL2582) site.

Notes on Composition of the Advisory Group

Florida Statutes Chapter 259.032 Paragraph 10(b) establishes a requirement that all state land management plans for properties greater than 160 acres will be reviewed by an advisory group:

“Individual management plans required by s. 253.034(5), for parcels over 160 acres, shall be developed with input from an advisory group. Members of this advisory group shall include, at a minimum, representatives of the lead land managing agency, co-managing entities, local private property owners, the appropriate soil and water conservation district, a local conservation organization, and a local elected official.”

Advisory groups that are composed in compliance with these requirements complete the review of State park management plans. Additional members may be appointed to the groups, such as a representative of the park’s Citizen Support Organization (if one exists), representatives of the recreational activities that exist in or are planned for the park, or representatives of any agency with an ownership interest in the property. Special issues or conditions that require a broader representation for adequate review of the management plan may require the appointment of additional members. The Division’s intent in making these appointments is to create a group that represents a balanced cross-section of the park’s stakeholders. Decisions on appointments are made on a case-by-case basis by Division of Recreation and Parks staff.

Addendum 3 – References Cited

Eden Gardens State Park References Cited

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Eden Gardens State Park References Cited

Addendum 4 – Soil Descriptions

Eden Gardens State Soils Descriptions

Dorovan-Pamlico Series, 0 to 1 percent slopes. The Pamlico series consists of deep, very poorly drained, moderately permeable soils. These soils formed from the decomposition of woody and herbaceous plant remains on broad, nearly level flood plains of major streams and large hardwood swamps. The high water table is at or above the surface for long durations. Slope is less than 1 percent. Soils of the Pamlico series are sandy or sandy-skeletal, siliceous, dysic, thermic Terric Medisaprists.

Pamlico soils are associated with Chipley, Dorovan, Kinston, Maurepas, and Rutlege soils. Chipley, Kinston and Rutlege soils are mineral soils. Dorovan and Maurepas soils are organic to a depth of at least 51 inches.

Typical pedon of Pamlico muck, in an area of Dorovan-Pamlico association, frequently flooded; in a swamp, 1,500 feet south and 1,350 feet east of the southwest corner of sec. 6, T. 2 N., R. 21 W.

Foxworth sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes. This soil is moderately well drained and nearly level to gently sloping. It is on uplands and in elevated areas on flatwoods. Individual areas of this soil range mostly from 10 to more than 200 acres; some areas are as small as 5 acres. Slopes are mostly smooth to convex but are concave in places.

Typically, this soil is sand throughout. The surface layer is about 7 inches thick. It is grayish brown to a depth of 3 inches and brown below that. The underlying material is yellowish brown to a depth of 18 inches, brownish yellow to a depth of 44 inches, yellow to a depth of 54 inches, very pale brown to a depth of 69 inches, and light gray to a depth of at least 80 inches.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Albany, Blanton, Chipley, Lakeland, and Troup soils. Also included are soils similar to Foxworth soil except they have slopes of 5 to 8 percent. Included are areas of soils that have a slight increase in clay content just above a dark color subsoil. The included soils make up less than 15 percent of the map unit.

This Foxworth soil has a high water table that fluctuates between depths of 40 to 72 inches for 1 to 3 months during most years and between 30 and 40 inches for less than 1 month in some years. The available water capacity is low, and permeability is very rapid throughout. The organic matter content is low. Rainfall is rapidly absorbed, and there is little runoff.

The natural vegetation is mostly slash pine, loblolly pine, longleaf pine, live oak, post oak, bluejack oak, turkey oak, laurel oak, red oak, water oak, huckleberry, gallberry, and dogwood. Pineland threeawn (wiregrass) the most common native grass.

Eden Gardens State Soils Descriptions

Leon sand. This soil is poorly drained and nearly level. It is on flatwoods. Individual areas of this soil range from 5 to 90 acres. Slope is smooth to convex and ranges from 0 to 2 percent.

Typically, the surface layer is very dark gray sand 9 inches thick. The subsurface layer is gray sand to a depth of 18 inches. The subsoil is dark reddish brown sand to a depth of 22 inches, black loamy sand to a depth of 27 inches, and yellowish brown sand to a depth of 31 inches. Below that is white sand to a depth of 67 inches and very dark gray sand to a depth of at least 80 inches.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Chipley, Hurricane, Mandarin, and Rutlege soils. Rutlege soils are the most common inclusion. Also included are a few areas of soils similar to Leon soil except they have a surface layer that is thicker, have a Bh horizon that is more than 30 inches below the surface, or more than half of the dark color subsoil is weakly cemented. The included soils make up less than 15 percent of the map unit.

This Leon soil has a high water table at a depth of 10 to 40 inches for periods of more than 9 months during most years. The high water table is at a depth of less than 10 inches for 1 to 4 months during periods of high rainfall and recedes to a depth of more than 40 inches during very dry seasons. The available water capacity is very low in the surface and subsurface layers and low in the subsoil. Permeability is rapid in the surface and subsurface layers, moderate to moderately rapid in the subsoil, and very rapid below that. The organic matter content is low to moderate.

The natural vegetation is mostly longleaf pine, loblolly pine, slash pine, water oaks, and myrtle. The understory is sawpalmetto, running oak, fetterbush, and gallberry. The most common native grass is pineland threeawn (wiregrass). Other grasses are creeping and chalky bluestem, hairy panicum, lopsided indiagrass, panicum, and smooth cordgrass.

Rutlege fine sand. This soil is very poorly drained and nearly level. It is in shallow depressions (sometimes called ponds, bays, or sinks) and on stream or creek flood plains and upland flats. Individual areas of this soil range from 5 to 80 acres. Slopes are smooth to concave and are less than 2 percent.

Typically, the surface layer is black fine sand 17 inches thick. The underlying material is fine sand to a depth of at least 80 inches. It is grayish brown to a depth of 22 inches, light brownish gray to a depth of 60 inches, and light gray below that.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Chipley, Hurricane, Leon, Pamlico, and Pickney soils. Also commonly included are soils similar to this

Eden Gardens State Soils Descriptions

Rutlege soil except they have a dark color surface layer less than 10 inches thick, have a dark color subsoil below a depth of 50 inches, have a loamy subsoil that is mixed or stratified below a depth of 60 inches, or have a loamy sand surface layer. The included soils make up less than 30 percent of the map unit.

This Rutlege soil has a high water table at or near the surface for long periods of the year. Shallow ponding is common. Brief flooding is common in areas adjacent to creeks and streams. The available water capacity is high in the surface layer and low in the underlying material. Permeability is rapid throughout. However, internal drainage is slow when impeded by the high water table. Response to artificial drainage is rapid. The organic matter content is high or very high.

The natural vegetation is mostly hardwoods and pond pines or slash and loblolly pines. The understory is huckleberry, myrtle, greenbriers, pineland threeawn (wiregrass), and sedges. Some areas do not have pine trees.

Mandarin sand. This soil is somewhat poorly drained and nearly level. It is in slightly elevated areas on flatwoods. Individual areas of this soil range from 3 to 50 acres. Slopes are smooth to concave.

Typically, the surface layer is gray sand and about 8 inches thick. The subsurface layer is light gray sand to a depth of about 21 inches. The subsoil extends to a depth of 60 inches. It is black sand to a depth of 23 inches, very dark gray fine sand to a depth of 25 inches, dark reddish brown sand to a depth of 38 inches, and yellowish brown sand below that. The substratum is white sand to a depth of at least 80 inches.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Chipley, Foxworth, Hurricane, Leon, Resota, and Rutlege soils. Also included are small areas of soils similar to Mandarin soil except they have a dark color subsoil that is lighter in color than is typical for the Mandarin series. Small areas of similar soils that have a dark color subsoil at a depth of more than 30 inches are also included. The included soils make up less than 20 percent of the map unit.

This Mandarin soil has a high water table at a depth of 20 to 40 inches for 4 to 6 months during most years and below a depth of 40 inches for 6 to 8 months. The high water table is at a depth of 10 to 20 inches for up to 2 weeks after periods of heavy rainfall in some years. The available water capacity is very low or low in the surface and subsurface layers and moderate or low in the subsoil. Permeability is rapid in the surface and subsurface layers, moderate in the upper part of the subsoil, and rapid in the lower part. The organic matter content is very low to moderate.

Eden Gardens State Soils Descriptions

The natural vegetation is mostly longleaf pine, loblolly pine, slash pine, and scrub oaks. The understory is sawpalmetto, running oak, and fetterbush. The most common native grass is pineland threeawn (wiregrass). Other grasses are creeping bluestem and panicum.

Hurricane Series, 0 to 5 percent slopes. The Hurricane series consists of somewhat poorly drained, moderately rapid to very rapidly permeable soils. These soils formed in thick beds of sandy marine sediment in nearly level to gently sloping, slightly elevated areas on flatwoods. A high water table fluctuates between depths of 20 and 40 inches for 3 to 6 months during most years and is below a depth of 40 inches for the rest of the year. Slope ranges from 0 to 5 percent. Soils from the Hurricane series are sandy, siliceous, thermic Grossarenic Entic Haplohumods.

Hurricane soils are associated with the Chipley, Eglin, Foxworth, Leon, Mandarin, and Rutlege soils. Chipley, Foxworth, and Rutlege soils do not have spodic horizons within a depth of 30 inches. Eglin soils are better drained than Hurricane soils.

Typical pedon of Hurricane sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes; 2,300 feet east and 1,800 feet north of the southwest corner of sec. 32, T. 2 S., R. 19 W.

Resota sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes. This soil is moderately well drained and nearly level to gently sloping. It is on moderately elevated ridges on flatwoods. Individual areas of this soil range mostly from 10 to more than 50 acres; some areas are as small as 5 acres. Slopes are mostly smooth to convex but are concave in places.

Typically, the surface layer is gray sand 3 inches thick. The subsurface is light gray sand 10 inches thick. The subsoil is sand to a depth of 53 inches. To a depth of 19 inches, it is yellowish brown with light gray tongues, and to a depth of 31 inches, it is yellowish brown. It is brown below that. The substratum is white sand to a depth of at least 80 inches.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Foxworth, Kureb, and Mandarin soils. Also included are soils similar to Resota soil except they have slopes of more than 5 percent. The included soils make up less than 15 percent of the map unit.

The Resota soil has a high water table at a depth of 40 to 60 inches for up to 4 months in most years and at a depth of 60 to 80 inches in dry seasons. The available water capacity is very low, and permeability is very rapid throughout. The organic matter content is low or very low. Rainfall is rapidly absorbed, and there is little runoff.

Eden Gardens State Soils Descriptions

The natural vegetation is mostly sand pine, longleaf pine, slash pine, and live oak. The understory is sawpalmetto, woody goldenrod, sand heath, and panicum. Pineland threeawn (wiregrass) is the most common native grass.

Pamlico muck. This soil is poorly drained and nearly level. It is in depressional areas of the flatwoods. Individual areas of this soil range from 3 to 100 acres. Slopes are smooth to convex and are less than 2 percent.

Typically, the surface layer is black muck 25 inches thick. The underlying material is sand to a depth of at least 60 inches. It is black to a depth of 28 inches, very dark gray to a depth of 35 inches, dark gray to a depth of 42 inches, and gray below that.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Dorovan, Leon, Pickney, and Rutlege soils. The included soils make up less than 20 percent of the map unit.

The Pamlico soil has a water table up to 2 feet above the surface for 6 months in most years. Permeability is moderate or moderately rapid, and the available water capacity is very high. The organic matter content is very high. The internal drainage is slow because of the high water table.

The natural vegetation is mostly swamp cyrilla, greenbrier, baldcypress, pond pine, and sweetbay.

Eden Gardens State Soils Descriptions

Addendum 5-Plant and Animal List

Eden Gardens State Park Plants

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species) |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Japanese maple ^{1,2} | <i>Acer palmatum</i> | |
| Red maple | <i>Acer rubrum</i> | |
| Red buckeye | <i>Aesculus pavia</i> | |
| Holly hocks ^{1,2} | <i>Alcea rosea</i> | |
| Mimosa ¹ | <i>Albizia julibrissin</i> | |
| False indigo | <i>Amorpha fruticosa</i> | |
| Broomsedge | <i>Andropogon</i> sp. | |
| Dogfennel | <i>Anthemus cotula</i> | |
| Devil's walkingstick | <i>Aralia spinosa</i> | |
| Wiregrass | <i>Aristida stricta</i> | |
| Butterfly weed ^{1,2} | <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | |
| Cast-iron plant | <i>Aspidistra elatior</i> | |
| Eastern baccharis | <i>Baccharis halimifolia</i> | |
| Wild indigo | <i>Baptisia simplicifolia</i> | |
| Spanish needles; Beggar-ticks | <i>Bidens alba</i> var. <i>radiata</i> | |
| Crossvine | <i>Bignonia capreolata</i> | |
| Bog hemp | <i>Boehmeria cylindrica</i> | |
| Watershield | <i>Brasenia schreberi</i> | |
| Bulbine plant ^{1,2} | <i>Bulbine frutescens</i> | |
| Boxwood ^{1,2} | <i>Buxus microphylla</i> | |
| Curtis' sand grass | <i>Calamovilfa curtissii</i> | MF, SCF |
| American beautyberry | <i>Callicarpa americana</i> | |
| Camellia ^{1,2} | <i>Camellia</i> sp. | |
| Trumpet creeper | <i>Campsis radicans</i> | |
| Chaffhead | <i>Carphephorus</i> sp. | |
| Pignut hickory | <i>Carya glabra</i> | |
| Mockernut hickory | <i>Carya tomentosa</i> | |
| Butterfly bush ^{1,2} | <i>Cassia bicapsularis</i> | |
| Sickle-pod | <i>Cassia obtusifolia</i> | |
| Chinquapin | <i>Castanea pumila</i> | |
| Butterfly-pea | <i>Centrosema virginianum</i> | |
| Buttonbush | <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> | |
| Eastern-redbud | <i>Cercis canadensis</i> | |
| Partridge pea; Sleeping plant | <i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i> | |
| Spurge; Sandmat | <i>Chamaesyce</i> sp. | |
| Slender woodoats | <i>Chasmanthium laxum</i> | |
| Fringetree | <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> | |
| Camphor tree ¹ | <i>Cinnamomum camphora</i> | |

¹ Non-native Species

² Ornamental Garden Species

Eden Gardens State Park Plants

| Common Name | <i>Scientific Name</i> | Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species) |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Bull thistle | <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> | |
| Sawgrass | <i>Cladium jamaicense</i> | |
| Deer lichen..... | <i>Cladina</i> sp. | |
| Deer lichen..... | <i>Cladonia</i> sp. | |
| Leather-flower | <i>Clematis crispa</i> | |
| Black titi | <i>Cliftonia monophylla</i> | |
| Scarlet calamint | <i>Clinopodium coccineum</i> | |
| Finger rot | <i>Cnidoscopus stimulosus</i> | |
| Dayflower | <i>Commelina diffusa</i> | |
| Flowering dogwood | <i>Cornus florida</i> | |
| Pampas grass ^{1,2} | <i>Cortaderia selloana</i> | |
| Coastal croton | <i>Croton punctatus</i> | |
| Japanese cedar ^{1,2} | <i>Cryptomeria japonica</i> | |
| Chinese fir ^{1,2} | <i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i> | |
| Dodder vine | <i>Cuscuta</i> sp. | |
| Sago palm ^{1,2} | <i>Cycas revoluta</i> | |
| Swamp titi..... | <i>Cyrilla racemiflora</i> | |
| Winter daphne ^{1,2} | <i>Daphne odora</i> | |
| Rosette grass | <i>Dichantheium</i> sp. | |
| White-topped sedge | <i>Dichromena latifolia</i> | |
| Air potato ¹ | <i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i> | |
| Persimmon | <i>Diospyros virginiana</i> | |
| Elephant's foot | <i>Elephantopus</i> sp. | |
| Daisy fleabane | <i>Erigeron</i> sp. | |
| Hatpins | <i>Eriocaulon compressum</i> | |
| Southeastern coral bean; Cherokee bean; Cardinal-spear.... | <i>Erythrina herbacea</i> | |
| Fig ^{1,2} | <i>Ficus carica</i> | |
| Sweet Fennel ^{1,2} | <i>Foeniculum vulgare</i> | |
| Yellowtops | <i>Flaveria</i> sp. | |
| Ornamental gardenia ^{1,2} | <i>Gardenia</i> sp. | |
| Huckleberry..... | <i>Gaylussacia</i> sp. | |
| Yellow Jessamine..... | <i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i> | |
| Carolina cranesbill | <i>Geranium carolinianum</i> | |
| Water locust..... | <i>Gleditsia aquatica</i> | |
| Maidenhair tree ^{1,2} | <i>Ginkgo biloba</i> | |
| Scarlet bush ² | <i>Hamelia patens</i> | |
| Witch hazel | <i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> | |
| English ivy ¹ | <i>Hedera helix</i> | |

¹ Non-native Species

² Ornamental Garden Species

Eden Gardens State Park Plants

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species) |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Ginger lily plant ^{1,2} | <i>Hedychium</i> sp. | |
| Bitterweed | <i>Helenium amarum</i> | |
| Daylily ^{1,2} | <i>Heemerocallis</i> sp. | |
| Camphorweed | <i>Heterotheca subaxillaris</i> | |
| Spider lily | <i>Hymenocallis rotata</i> | |
| Oak-leaf hydrangea ^{1,2} | <i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i> | |
| Ornamental hydrangea ^{1,2} | <i>Hydrangea</i> sp. | |
| Dahoon holly | <i>Ilex cassine</i> | |
| Tall gallberry | <i>Ilex coriacea</i> | |
| Gallberry | <i>Ilex glabra</i> | |
| American holly | <i>Ilex opaca</i> | |
| Ornamental holly ^{1,2} | <i>Ilex</i> sp. | |
| Yaupon holly | <i>Ilex vomitoria</i> | |
| Florida anise | <i>Illicium floridana</i> | |
| Iris ^{1,2} | <i>Iris</i> sp. | |
| Roemer's rush | <i>Juncus roemerianus</i> | |
| Southern red cedar | <i>Juniperus silicicola</i> | |
| Shrimp plant ^{1,2} | <i>Justicia brandegeeana</i> | |
| Redroot | <i>Lachnanthese caroliniana</i> | |
| Crape myrtle ^{1,2} | <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> | |
| Henbit | <i>Lamium amplexicaule</i> | |
| Lantana ^{1,2} | <i>Lantana</i> sp. | |
| Gopher-apple | <i>Licania michauxii</i> | |
| Chinese privet ¹ | <i>Ligustrum sinense</i> | |
| Carolina sea-lavender | <i>Limonium carolinianum</i> | |
| Toadflax | <i>Linaria canadensis</i> | |
| Sweetgum | <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> | |
| Tulip tree | <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> | |
| Monkey grass ^{1,2} | <i>Liriope</i> sp. | |
| Cardinal flower | <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> | |
| Japanese honeysuckle ¹ | <i>Lonicera japonica</i> | |
| Rusty lyonia | <i>Lyonia ferruginea</i> | |
| Fetterbush | <i>Lyonia lucida</i> | |
| Southern Magnolia | <i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> | |
| Sweetbay | <i>Magnolia virginiana</i> | |
| Partridgeberry | <i>Mitchella repens</i> | |
| Red mulberry | <i>Morus rubra</i> | |
| Wax myrtle; Southern bayberry | <i>Myrica cerifera</i> | |
| Odorless wax-myrtle | <i>Myrica inodorata</i> | |

¹ Non-native Species

² Ornamental Garden Species

Eden Gardens State Park Plants

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species) |
|---|--|--|
| Heavenly bamboo ¹ | <i>Nandina domestica</i> | |
| Sword fern ^{1,2} | <i>Nephrolepis</i> sp. | |
| Water lily ² | <i>Nymphaea odorata</i> | |
| Blackgum | <i>Nyssa biflora</i> | |
| Daisy bush ^{1,2} | <i>Olearia</i> sp. | |
| Basket grass | <i>Oplismenus hirtellus</i> | |
| Prickly-pear cactus | <i>Opuntia humifusa</i> | |
| Golden club..... | <i>Orontium aquaticum</i> | |
| Wild olive..... | <i>Osmanthus americanus</i> | |
| Cinnamon fern..... | <i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i> | MEH |
| Royal fern..... | <i>Osmunda regalis</i> | MEH |
| Yellow woodsorrel | <i>Oxalis corniculata</i> | |
| Violet woodsorrel | <i>Oxalis corymbosa</i> | |
| Maidencane | <i>Panicum hemitomom</i> | |
| Torpedo grass ¹ | <i>Panicum repens</i> | |
| Switch grass; Wand-shape panicum | <i>Panicum virgatum</i> | |
| Virginia creeper; Woodbine | <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> | |
| Maypops, Passionflower | <i>Passiflora incarnata</i> | |
| Yellow passionflower | <i>Passiflora lutea</i> | |
| Green arrow arum..... | <i>Peltandra virginica</i> | |
| Egyptian starcluster ^{1,2} | <i>Pentas lanceolata</i> | |
| Redbay | <i>Persea borbonia</i> | |
| Parsley ^{1,2} | <i>Petroselinum crispum</i> | |
| Petunia ^{1,2} | <i>Petunia</i> sp. | |
| Common reed | <i>Phragmites australis</i> | |
| Pokeweed | <i>Phytolacca americana</i> | |
| Coastal ground-cherry | <i>Physalis angustifolia</i> | |
| Choctawhatchee sand pine | <i>Pinus clausa</i> var. <i>immuginata</i> | |
| Slash pine | <i>Pinus elliotii</i> | |
| Longleaf pine..... | <i>Pinus palustris</i> | |
| Blackseed speargrass | <i>Piptochaetium avenaceum</i> | |
| Sycamore | <i>Platanus occidentalis</i> | |
| Balloon flower ^{1,2} | <i>Platycodon grandiflorus</i> | |
| Yew plum pine ¹ | <i>Podocarpus macrophyllus</i> | |
| Bachelor's button | <i>Polygala</i> sp. | |
| Smart weed | <i>Polygonum</i> sp. | |
| Resurrection fern..... | <i>Polypodium polypodioides</i> | |
| Pickerelweed | <i>Pontedaria cordata</i> | |

¹ Non-native Species

² Ornamental Garden Species

Eden Gardens State Park Plants

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species) |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Wild plum | <i>Prunus americana</i> | |
| Black cherry | <i>Prunus serotina</i> | |
| Bracken fern | <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> | |
| Running oak | <i>Quercus elliotii</i> | |
| Sand live oak | <i>Quercus geminata</i> | |
| Laurel oak | <i>Quercus hemisphaerica</i> | |
| Turkey oak | <i>Quercus laevis</i> | |
| Myrtle oak..... | <i>Quercus myrtifolia</i> | |
| Water oak | <i>Quercus nigra</i> | |
| Live oak | <i>Quercus virginiana</i> | |
| Mexican hat coneflower ^{1,2} | <i>Ratibida columnifera</i> | |
| Meadow beauty | <i>Rhexia</i> sp. | |
| Wild azalea ² | <i>Rhododendron canescens</i> | |
| Ornamental azalea ^{1,2} | <i>Rhododendron formosa</i> | |
| Encore azalea ^{1,2} | <i>Rhododendron</i> sp. | |
| Swamp honeysuckle ² | <i>Rhododendron viscosum</i> | |
| Winged sumac | <i>Rhus copallina</i> | |
| Ornamental rose ^{1,2} | <i>Rosa</i> sp. | |
| Cabbage leaf coneflower ^{1,2} | <i>Rudbeckia maxima</i> | |
| Mexican petunia ^{1,2} | <i>Ruellia caerulea</i> | |
| Bluestem | <i>Sabal minor</i> | |
| Cabbage palm | <i>Sabal palmetto</i> | |
| Duck potato | <i>Sagittaria latifolia</i> | |
| Mexican salvia ^{1,2} | <i>Salvia leucantha</i> | |
| Lyre leaved sage | <i>Salvia lyrata</i> | |
| Lizard's tail | <i>Saururus cernuus</i> | |
| Saw palmetto | <i>Serenoa repens</i> | |
| Greenbrier; Catbrier | <i>Smilax</i> sp. | |
| Saltmeadow cord grass | <i>Spartina patens</i> | |
| Venus' looking glass | <i>Specularia perfoliata</i> | |
| Light-blue snakeweed ^{1,2} | <i>Stachytarpheta jamaicensis</i> | |
| Common chickweed | <i>Stellaria media</i> | |
| Mexican terragon ^{1,2} | <i>Tagetes lucida</i> | |
| Bald cypress | <i>Taxodium distichum</i> | |
| Japanese yew ^{1,2} | <i>Taxus cuspidata</i> | |
| Maiden fern | <i>Thelypteris</i> sp. | |
| Black eyed susan vine ^{1,2} | <i>Thunbergia alata</i> | |
| Spanish-moss | <i>Tillandsia usneoides</i> | |
| Poison ivy | <i>Toxicodendron radicans</i> | |

1 Non-native Species

2 Ornamental Garden Species

Eden Gardens State Park Plants

| Common Name | <i>Scientific Name</i> | Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species) |
|---|-----------------------------|--|
| Blue curls | <i>Trichostema setaceum</i> | |
| Sparkleberry | <i>Vaccinium arboreum</i> | |
| Highbush blueberry..... | <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i> | |
| Deer berry | <i>Vaccinium stamineum</i> | |
| Woody mullein ¹ | <i>Verbascum thapsus</i> | |
| Vervain ^{1,2} | <i>Verbena</i> sp. | |
| Ironweed | <i>Vernonia</i> sp. | |
| Possum haw | <i>Viburnum nudum</i> | |
| Periwinkle ^{1,2} | <i>Vinca</i> sp. | |
| Violet | <i>Viola repens</i> | |
| Lilac chastetree ^{1,2} | <i>Vitex agnus-castus</i> | |
| Muscadine | <i>Vitis rotundifolia</i> | |
| American wisteria | <i>Wisteria frutescens</i> | |
| Chinese wisteria ¹ | <i>Wisteria sinensis</i> | |
| Netted chain fern..... | <i>Woodwardia areolata</i> | |
| Florida arrowroot; Coontie ² | <i>Zamia floridana</i> | |

¹ Non-native Species

² Ornamental Garden Species

Eden Gardens State Park Animals

| Common Name | <i>Scientific Name</i> | Primary Habitat Codes (for all species) |
|-------------|------------------------|--|
|-------------|------------------------|--|

AMPHIBIANS

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----|
| Southern toad | <i>Bufo terrestris</i> | MTC |
| Green treefrog | <i>Hyla cinerea</i> | MTC |
| Squirrel treefrog | <i>Hyla squirella</i> | MTC |

REPTILES

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------|
| Eastern cottonmouth | <i>Agkistrodon piscivorus piscivorus</i> | FS |
| American alligator | <i>Alligator mississippiensis</i> | FS, BST |
| Green anole | <i>Anolis carolinensis carolinensis</i> | MTC |
| Six-lined racerunner | <i>Cnemidophorus sexlineatus sexlineatus</i> | MTC |
| Southern black racer | <i>Coluber constrictor priapus</i> | MTC |
| E. diamondback rattlesnake | <i>Crotalus adamanteus</i> | SCF, XH |
| Southern ringneck snake | <i>Diadophis punctatus punctatus</i> | SCF, XH |
| Yellow rat snake | <i>Elaphe obsoleta quadrivittata</i> | MTC |
| Southeastern five-lined skink | <i>Eumeces inexpectatus</i> | MTC |
| Broadhead skink | <i>Eumeces laticeps</i> | MTC |
| Eastern coachwhip | <i>Masticophis flagellum flagellum</i> | SCF, XH |
| Eastern glass lizard | <i>Ophisaurus ventralis</i> | MTC |
| Dusky pigmy rattlesnake | <i>Sistrurus miliarius barbouri</i> | SCF, XH |
| Box turtle | <i>Terrapene carolina</i> | MTC |

CRUSTACEANS

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Gulf marsh fiddler crab | <i>Uca longisignalis</i> | Shoreline |
| Gulf sand fiddler crab | <i>Uca panacea</i> | Shoreline |
| Long finger fiddler crab | <i>Uca speciosa</i> | Shoreline |

BIRDS (*many species seen only during migration times*)

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Cooper's hawk | <i>Accipiter cooperi</i> | Flyover |
| Sharp-shinned hawk | <i>Accipiter striatus</i> | Flyover |
| Spotted sandpiper | <i>Actitis macularia</i> | Shoreline |
| Red-winged blackbird | <i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i> | Shoreline |
| Pintail | <i>Anas acuta</i> | Shoreline |
| Green-winged teal | <i>Anas carolinensis</i> | Shoreline |
| Blue-winged teal | <i>Anas discors</i> | Shoreline |
| Anhinga | <i>Anhinga anhinga</i> | Shoreline |

1 Non-native Species

2 Ornamental Garden Species

Eden Gardens State Park Animals

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Primary Habitat Codes (for all species) |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Ruby throated hummingbird | <i>Archilocus colubris</i> | MTC |
| Great blue heron | <i>Ardea herodias</i> | Shoreline |
| Redhead | <i>Aythya americana</i> | Shoreline |
| Cedar waxwing | <i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i> | MTC |
| American bittern | <i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i> | Shoreline |
| Canada goose | <i>Branta canadensis</i> | Flyover |
| Great horned owl | <i>Bubo virginianus</i> | MTC |
| Cattle egret | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i> | Shoreline |
| Red-tailed hawk | <i>Buteo jamaicensis</i> | Flyover |
| Red-shouldered hawk..... | <i>Buteo lineatus</i> | Flyover |
| Green heron | <i>Butorides virescens</i> | Shoreline |
| Chuck will's-widow | <i>Caprimulgus carolinensis</i> | MTC |
| Whip-poor-will | <i>Caprimulgus vociferus</i> | MTC |
| Northern cardinal | <i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i> | MTC |
| American goldfinch..... | <i>Carduelis tristis</i> | MTC |
| Great egret | <i>Casmerodius albus</i> | Shoreline |
| Turkey vulture | <i>Cathartes aura</i> | MTC |
| Willet | <i>Catoptrophorus semipalmatus</i> | Shoreline |
| Common nighthawk | <i>Chordeiles minor</i> | Flyover |
| Northern harrier | <i>Circus cyaneus</i> | Flyover |
| Yellow-billed cuckoo | <i>Coccyzus americanus</i> | MTC |
| Northern flicker | <i>Colaptes auratus</i> | SCF |
| Northern bobwhite | <i>Colinus virginianus</i> | SCF, MF |
| Common ground-dove | <i>Columbina passerina</i> | MTC |
| Black vulture | <i>Coragyps atratus</i> | MTC |
| Common crow | <i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i> | MTC |
| Fish crow | <i>Corvus ossifragus</i> | MTC |
| Yellow rail | <i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i> | Shoreline |
| Blue jay | <i>Cyanocitta cristata</i> | MTC |
| Yellow-rumped warbler | <i>Dendroica coronata</i> | MTC |
| Prairie warbler | <i>Dendroica discolor</i> | MTC |
| Yellow-throated warbler | <i>Dendroica dominica</i> | MTC |
| Palm warbler | <i>Dendroica palmarum</i> | MTC |
| Blackpoll warbler | <i>Dendroica striata</i> | MTC |
| Pileated woodpecker | <i>Dryocopus pileatus</i> | MTC |
| Gray catbird | <i>Dumetella carolinensis</i> | MTC |
| Little blue heron | <i>Egretta caerulea</i> | Shoreline |
| Reddish egret | <i>Egretta rufescens</i> | Shoreline |
| Snowy egret..... | <i>Egretta thula</i> | Shoreline |

1 Non-native Species

2 Ornamental Garden Species

Eden Gardens State Park Animals

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Primary Habitat Codes (for all species) |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Tricolored heron | <i>Egretta tricolor</i> | Shoreline |
| Swallow-tailed kite | <i>Elanoides forficatus</i> | Shoreline |
| White ibis | <i>Eudocimus albus</i> | Flyover |
| Merlin | <i>Falco columbarius</i> | Flyover |
| Peregrine falcon | <i>Falco peregrinus</i> | Flyover |
| American kestrel | <i>Falco sparverius</i> | Flyover |
| American coot | <i>Fulica americana</i> | Shoreline |
| Gull-billed tern | <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i> | Shoreline |
| Common yellowthroat | <i>Geothlypis trichas</i> | MTC |
| Blue grosbeak | <i>Guiraca coerulea</i> | MTC |
| Southern bald eagle | <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> | Flyover |
| Barn swallow | <i>Hirundo rustica</i> | Flyover |
| Hermit thrush | <i>Hylocichla guttata</i> | MTC |
| Wood thrush | <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> | MTC |
| Northern oriole | <i>Icterus galbula</i> | MTC |
| Orchard oriole | <i>Icterus spurius</i> | MTC |
| Mississippi kite | <i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i> | Flyover |
| Least bittern | <i>Ixobrychus exilis</i> | Shoreline |
| Black rail | <i>Laterallus jamaicensis</i> | Shoreline |
| Belted kingfisher | <i>Megascops alcyon</i> | MTC |
| Red-bellied woodpecker | <i>Melanerpes carolinus</i> | MTC |
| Red-headed woodpecker | <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i> | MTC |
| Red-breasted merganser | <i>Mergus serrator</i> | Shoreline |
| Northern mockingbird | <i>Mimus polyglottos</i> | MTC |
| Black and white warbler | <i>Mniotilta varia</i> | MTC |
| Brownheaded cowbird | <i>Molothrus ater</i> | MTC |
| Great crested flycatcher | <i>Myiarchus crinitus</i> | MTC |
| Whimbrel | <i>Numenius phaeopus</i> | Shoreline |
| Yellow-crowned night heron | <i>Nycticorax violaceus</i> | Shoreline |
| Black-crowned night heron | <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i> | Flyover |
| Kentucky warbler | <i>Oporornis formosus</i> | MTC |
| Eastern screech-owl | <i>Otus asio</i> | MTC |
| Osprey | <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> | Flyover |
| Parula warbler | <i>Parula americana</i> | MTC |
| Tufted titmouse | <i>Parus bicolor</i> | MTC |
| Carolina Chickadee | <i>Parus carolinensis</i> | MTC |
| Painted bunting | <i>Passerina ciris</i> | MTC |
| Indigo bunting | <i>Passerina cyanea</i> | MTC |
| American white pelican | <i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i> | Shoreline |

1 Non-native Species

2 Ornamental Garden Species

Eden Gardens State Park Animals

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Primary Habitat Codes (for all species) |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Eastern brown pelican | <i>Pelecanus occidentalis carolinensis</i> | Shoreline |
| Double-crested cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i> | Shoreline |
| Downy woodpecker | <i>Picoides pubescens</i> | MTC |
| Rufous-sided towhee | <i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i> | MTC |
| Scarlet tanager | <i>Piranga olivacea</i> | MTC |
| Summer tanager | <i>Piranga rubra</i> | MTC |
| Glossy ibis | <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i> | Flyover |
| Black-bellied plover | <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> | Shoreline |
| Pied-billed grebe | <i>Podilymbus podiceps</i> | Shoreline |
| Blue-gray gnatcatcher | <i>Polioptila caerulea</i> | MTC |
| Purple gallinule | <i>Porphyryula martinica</i> | Shoreline |
| Purple martin | <i>Progne subis</i> | MTC |
| Prothonotary warbler | <i>Protonotaria citrea</i> | MTC |
| Boat-tailed grackle | <i>Quiscalus major</i> | MTC |
| Common grackle | <i>Quiscalus quiscula</i> | MTC |
| Ruby-crowned kinglet | <i>Regulus calendula</i> | MTC |
| Eastern phoebe | <i>Sayornis phoebe</i> | MTC |
| Ovenbird | <i>Seiurus aurocapillus</i> | MTC |
| American redstart | <i>Setophaga ruticilla ruticilla</i> | MTC |
| Eastern bluebird | <i>Sialia sialis</i> | MTC |
| Yellow-bellied sapsucker..... | <i>Sphyrapicus varius</i> | MTC |
| Chipping sparrow | <i>Spizella passerina</i> | MTC |
| Field sparrow | <i>Spizella pusilla</i> | MTC |
| Barred owl | <i>Strix varia</i> | MTC |
| European starling ¹ | <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> | MTC |
| Tree swallow | <i>Tachycineta bicolor</i> | Flyover |
| Carolina wren | <i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i> | MTC |
| Brown thrasher | <i>Toxostoma rufum</i> | MTC |
| House wren | <i>Troglodytes aedon</i> | MTC |
| Gray kingbird | <i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i> | MTC |
| Barn owl | <i>Tyto alba</i> | MTC |
| Tennessee warbler | <i>Vermivora peregrina</i> | MTC |
| Black-whiskered vireo | <i>Vireo altiloquus</i> | MTC |
| Yellow-throated vireo | <i>Vireo flavifrons</i> | MTC |
| White-eyed vireo | <i>Vireo griseus</i> | MTC |
| Solitary vireo | <i>Vireo solitarius</i> | MTC |
| Hooded warbler | <i>Wilsonia citrina</i> | MTC |
| Yellow headed blackbird | <i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i> | Shoreline |
| Mourning dove | <i>Zenaida macroura</i> | MTC |

¹ Non-native Species

² Ornamental Garden Species

Eden Gardens State Park Animals

| Common Name | <i>Scientific Name</i> | Primary Habitat Codes (for all species) |
|-------------|------------------------|--|
|-------------|------------------------|--|

MAMMALS

| | | |
|--|--|-----|
| Coyote ¹ | <i>Canis latrans</i> | MTC |
| Least shrew | <i>Cryptotis parva</i> | MTC |
| Nine-banded armadillo ¹ | <i>Dasyus novemcinctus</i> | MTC |
| Virginia opossum | <i>Didelphis virginiana</i> | MTC |
| Bobcat | <i>Felis rufus</i> | MTC |
| River otter | <i>Lutra canadensis</i> | MTC |
| House mouse ¹ | <i>Mus musculus</i> | MTC |
| Whitetail deer | <i>Odocoileus virginianus</i> | MTC |
| Cotton mouse | <i>Peromyscus gossypinus gossypinus</i> .. | MTC |
| Raccoon | <i>Procyon lotor</i> | MTC |
| Black rat ¹ | <i>Rattus rattus</i> | DEV |
| Norway rat ¹ | <i>Rattus norvegicus</i> | DEV |
| Gray squirrel | <i>Sciurus carolinensis</i> | MTC |
| Hispid cotton rat | <i>Sigmodon hispidus</i> | MTC |
| Marsh rabbit | <i>Sylvilagus palustris</i> | MTC |
| Eastern cottontail | <i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i> | MTC |
| Gray fox | <i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</i> | MTC |

¹ Non-native Species

² Ornamental Garden Species

Eden Gardens State Park Animals

| Common Name | <i>Scientific Name</i> | Primary Habitat Codes (for all species) |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|

1 *Non-native Species*

2 *Ornamental Garden Species*

A 5 - 12

Addendum 6 – Imperiled Species Ranking Definitions

Imperiled Species Ranking Definitions

The Nature Conservancy and the Natural Heritage Program Network (of which FNAI is a part) define an element as any exemplary or rare component of the natural environment, such as a species, natural community, bird rookery, spring, sinkhole, cave or other ecological feature. An element occurrence (EO) is a single extant habitat that sustains or otherwise contributes to the survival of a population or a distinct, self-sustaining example of a particular element.

Using a ranking system developed by The Nature Conservancy and the Natural Heritage Program Network, the Florida Natural Areas Inventory assigns two ranks to each element. The global rank is based on an element's worldwide status; the state rank is based on the status of the element in Florida. Element ranks are based on many factors, the most important ones being estimated number of Element occurrences, estimated abundance (number of individuals for species; area for natural communities), range, estimated adequately protected EOs, relative threat of destruction, and ecological fragility.

Federal and State status information is from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and the Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission (animals), and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (plants), respectively.

FNAI 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 fabricated 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 or local throughout its range (21-100 occurrences or less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or vulnerable to extinction of other factors.
- G4..... apparently secure globally (may be rare in parts of range)
- G5..... demonstrably secure globally
- GH of historical occurrence throughout its range may be rediscovered (e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker)
- GX..... believed to be extinct throughout range
- GXC extirpated from the wild but still known from captivity or cultivation
- 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)

Imperiled Species Ranking Definitions

- G#Qrank 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.
- GU.....due to lack of information, no rank or range can be assigned (e.g., GUT2).
- G?.....Not yet ranked (temporary)
- S1.....Critically imperiled in Florida 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.
- S2.....Imperiled in Florida 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.
- S3.....Either very rare or local throughout its range (21-100 occurrences or less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or vulnerable to extinction of other factors.
- S4.....apparently secure in Florida (may be rare in parts of range)
- S5.....demonstrably secure in Florida
- SHof historical occurrence throughout its range, may be rediscovered (e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker)
- SX.....believed to be extinct throughout range
- SAaccidental in Florida, i.e., not part of the established biota
- SEan exotic species established in Florida may be native elsewhere in North America
- SNregularly occurring but widely and unreliably distributed; sites for conservation hard to determine
- SUdue to lack of information, no rank or range can be assigned (e.g., SUT2).
- S?.....Not yet ranked (temporary)
- NNot currently listed, nor currently being considered for listing, by state or federal agencies.

LEGAL STATUS

FEDERAL

(Listed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service - USFWS)

- 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 that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
- 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 that is likely to become an endangered species within the near future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Imperiled Species Ranking Definitions

- PT.....Proposed for listing as Threatened Species.
CCandidate Species for addition to the list of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants. Defined as those species for which the USFWS currently has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threats to support proposing to list the species as endangered or threatened.
E(S/A)Endangered due to similarity of appearance.
T(S/A)Threatened due to similarity of appearance.

STATE

ANIMALS ..(Listed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission - FFWCC)

- STListed 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 therefore is destined or very likely to become an endangered species within the near future.
SSC.....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, environmental alteration, human disturbance or substantial human exploitation that, in the near future, may result in its becoming a threatened species.

PLANTS(Listed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services - FDACS)

- 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.
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.

Imperiled Species Ranking Definitions

Addendum 7 – Cultural Information

Management Procedures for Archaeological and Historical Sites and Properties on State-Owned or Controlled Properties (revised February 2007)

These procedures apply to state agencies, local governments and non-profits that manage state-owned properties.

A. General Discussion

Historic resources are both archaeological sites and historic structures. Per Chapter 267, Florida Statutes, "Historic property" or "historic resource" means any prehistoric district, site, building, object, or other real or personal property of historical, architectural or archaeological value, and folklife resources. These properties or resources may include, but are not limited to, monuments, memorials, Indian habitations, ceremonial sites, abandoned settlements, sunken or abandoned ships, engineering works, treasure trove, artifacts, or other objects with intrinsic historical or archaeological value, or any part thereof, relating to the history, government, and culture of the state."

B. Agency Responsibilities

Per State Policy relative to historic properties, state agencies of the executive branch must allow the Division of Historical Resources (Division) the opportunity to comment on any undertakings, whether these undertakings directly involve the state agency, i.e., land management responsibilities, or the state agency has indirect jurisdiction, i.e. permitting authority, grants, etc. No state funds should be expended on the undertaking until the Division has the opportunity to review and comment on the project, permit, grant, etc.

State agencies shall preserve the historic resources that are owned or controlled by the agency.

Regarding proposed demolition or substantial alterations of historic properties, consultation with the Division must occur, and alternatives to demolition must be considered.

State agencies must consult with Division to establish a program to location, inventory and evaluate all historic properties under ownership or controlled by the agency.

C. Statutory Authority

Statutory Authority and more in depth information can be found in the following:

Chapter 253, F.S. – State Lands

Chapter 267, F.S. – Historical Resources

Management Procedures for Archaeological and Historical Sites and Properties on State-Owned or Controlled Properties (revised February 2007)

Chapter 872, F.S. – Offenses Concerning Dead Bodies and Graves

Other helpful citations and references:

Chapter 1A-32, F.A.C. – Archaeological Research

Other helpful citations and references:

Chapter 1A-44, F.A.C. – Procedures for Reporting and Determining Jurisdiction Over Unmarked Human Burials

Chapter 1A-46, F.A.C. – Archaeological and Historical Report Standards and Guidelines

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

D. Management Implementation

Even though the Division sits on the Acquisition and Restoration Council and approves land management plans, these plans are conceptual. Specific information regarding individual projects must be submitted to the Division for review and recommendations.

Managers of state lands must coordinate any land clearing or ground disturbing activities with the Division to allow for review and comment on the proposed project. Recommendations may include, but are not limited to: approval of the project as submitted, pre-testing of the project site by a certified archaeological monitor, cultural resource assessment survey by a qualified professional archaeologist, modifications to the proposed project to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effects.

Projects such as additions, exterior alteration or related new construction regarding historic structures must also be submitted to the Division of Historical Resources for review and comment by the Division's architects. Projects involving structures fifty years of age or older, must be submitted to this agency for a significance determination. In rare cases, structures under fifty years of age may be deemed historically significant. These must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Adverse impacts to significant sites, either archaeological sites or historic buildings, must be avoided. Furthermore, managers of state property should prepare for locating and evaluating historic resources, both archaeological sites and historic structures.

**Management Procedures for Archaeological and Historical Sites and Properties on
State-Owned or Controlled Properties (revised February 2007)**

E. Minimum Review Documentation Requirements

In order to have a proposed project reviewed by the Division, the following information, at a minimum, must be submitted for comments and recommendations.

Project Description - A detailed description of the proposed project including all related activities. For land clearing or ground disturbing activities, the depth and extent of the disturbance, use of heavy equipment, location of lay down yard, etc. For historic structures, specific details regarding rehabilitation, demolition, etc.

Project Location - The exact location of the project indicated on a USGS Quadrangle map, is preferable. A management base map may be acceptable. Aerial photos indicating the exact project area as supplemental information are helpful.

Photographs - Photographs of the project area are always useful. Photographs of structures are required.

Description of Project Area - Note the acreage of the project; describe the present condition of project area, and any past land uses or disturbances.

Description of Structures - Describe the condition and setting of each building within project area if approximately fifty years of age or older.

Recorded Archaeological Sites or Historic Structures - Provide Florida Master Site File numbers for all recorded historic resources within or adjacent to the project area. This information should be in the current management plan; however, it can be obtained by contacting the Florida Master Site File at (850) 245-6440 or Suncom 205-6440.

Questions relating to the treatment of archaeological and historic resources on state lands should be directed to:

Susan M. Harp
Historic Preservation Planner
Division of Historical Resources
Bureau of Historic Preservation
Compliance and Review Section
R. A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Phone: (850) 245-6333
Fax: (850) 245-6438

Eligibility Criteria for National Register of Historic Places

The criteria to be used for evaluating eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places are as follows:

- 1) Districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects may be considered to have significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and/or culture if they possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:
 - a) are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; and/or
 - b) are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; and/or
 - c) embody the distinctive characteristics of type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; and/or
 - d) have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

- 2) Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures; properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes; structures that have been moved from their original locations; reconstructed historic buildings; properties primarily commemorative in nature; and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the *National Register*. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:
 - a) a religious property deriving its primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
 - b) a building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
 - c) a birthplace or grave of an historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building directly associated with his productive life; or
 - d) a cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, distinctive design features, or association with historic events; or

Eligibility Criteria for National Register of Historic Places

- e) a reconstructed building, when it is accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or a property primarily commemorative in intent, if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or
- f) a property achieving significance within the past 50 years, if it is of exceptional importance.

Preservation Treatments as Defined by Secretary of Interior's Standards and Guidelines

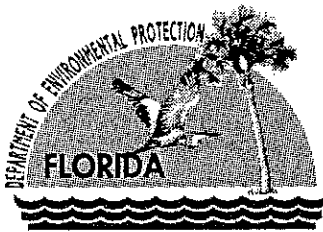
Restoration is defined as the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project.

Rehabilitation is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations and additions while preserving those portions or features that convey its historical, cultural or architectural values.

Stabilization is defined as the act or process of applying measures designed to reestablish a weather resistant enclosure and the structural stability of an unsafe or deteriorated property while maintaining the essential form as it exists at present.

Preservation is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.

Addendum 8 – Land Management Review



Jeb Bush
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection

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

David B. Struhs
Secretary

July 6, 2000

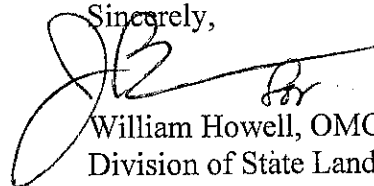
Ms. Fran Mainella
Division of Recreation and
Parks
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Mail Station 500/550
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1650

Dear Ms. Mainella:

On May 1, 2000 Eden State Gardens was the site of a land management review. Please find enclosed the final report including the manager's response (s) to the review teams' findings.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact John Barrow or myself at (850) 487-1750.

Sincerely,



William Howell, OMC Manager
Division of State Lands

BH/jb
Enclosure

Cc: Mike Bullock
Dana Bryan
Albert Gregory
Mickey Bryant
BryAnne White
Ed Higgins
John Bente
Eric Kiefer

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**Land Management Review of Eden State Gardens
Walton County (Lease No. 2463): May 1, 2000**

Prepared by Division of State Lands Staff

William Howell, OMC Manager
John Barrow, Environmental Specialist II

*for
the Eden State Gardens Site Management Review Team*

Final July 6, 2000

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Land Manager: | <u>DRP</u> |
| Area: | <u>15 acres</u> |
| County: | <u>Walton County</u> |
| Mngt. Plan Revised: | <u>12/18/97</u> |
| Mngt. Plan Update Due: | <u>12/18/02</u> |

Management Review Team Members

| Agency Represented | Team member Appointed | Team member in attendance |
|--|--|--|
| DEP/DRP | Mr. John Bente | Mr. John Bente |
| DEP South District | Mr. Randy Payne | Mr. Randy Payne |
| DACS/DOF | Mr. Wes Howell | Mr. Wes Howell |
| FWCC | Mr. Chris Kreh | Mr. Chris Kreh |
| Soil and Water Conservation County Commission | Mr. P.A. Butch Simmons Mr. Van Ness R. Butler | Mr. Charlie Rosborough Mr. Van Ness R. Butler |
| Conservation Organization | Ms. Celeste Cobena | |
| Private Land Manager | Mr. Tom Godbold | Mr. Tom Godbold |

Process for Implementing Regional Management Review Teams

Legislative Intent and Guidance:

Chapter 259.036, F. S. was enacted in 1997 to determine whether conservation, preservation, and recreation lands owned by the state Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (Board) are being managed properly. It directs the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to establish land management review teams to evaluate the extent to which the existing management plan provides sufficient protection to threatened or endangered species, unique or important natural or physical features, geological or hydrological functions, and archaeological features. The teams also evaluate the extent to which the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and the degree to which actual management practices, including public access, are in compliance with the adopted management plan. If a land management plan has not been adopted, the review shall consider the extent to which the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and the degree to which actual management practices are in compliance with the management policy statement and management prospectus for that property. If the land management review team determines that reviewed lands are not being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired or in compliance with the adopted land management plan, management policy statement, or management prospectus, DEP shall provide the review findings to the Board, and the managing agency must report to the Board its reasons for managing the lands as it has. A report of the review findings are given to the managing agency under review, the Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council (LAMAC), and to the Division of State Lands. Also, DEP shall report the annual review findings of its land management review teams to the Board no later than the second board meeting in October of each year.

Review Site

The management review of Eden State Gardens considered approximately 15 acres in Walton County that are managed by Division of Recreation and Parks. The team evaluated the extent to which current management actions are sufficient, whether the land is being managed for the purpose for which it was acquired, and whether actual management practices, including public access, are in compliance with the management plan. The Division of Recreation and Parks revised the management plan on December 18, 1997, and the management plan update is due on December 18, 2002.

Review Team Determination

Is the land being managed for the purpose for which it was acquired?

After completing the checklist, team members were asked to answer "yes" or "no" to this question. All team members agreed that Eden State Gardens is being managed for the purpose for which it was acquired.

Are actual management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?

After completing the checklist, team members were asked to answer "yes" or "no" to this question. All team members agreed that actual management practices, including public access, were in compliance with the management plan for this site.

Commendations to the Managing Agency

1. The team commends the manager, staff and volunteers for the improved condition of the gardens and house. (Vote 7+, 0-)

Exceptional Management Actions

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist (see Attachment 1), which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

- Natural Communities: protection and maintenance of the ruderal/developed community
- Hydrologic/Geologic Function: ground water quality monitoring
- Hydrologic/Geologic Function: ground water quantity monitoring
- Public Access and Education: recreational opportunities
- Public Access and Education: interpretive education/outreach

Recommendations and checklist findings

The management plan must include responses to the recommendations and checklist items that are identified below.

1. The team recommends that Division of Recreation and Parks evaluate placing Eden State Gardens on public utilities for expanded park usage and fire protection including a fire hydrant near the historic Wesley House. (Vote: 7+, 0-)

Manager's response: Agree. If they become available, the park will pursue connection to public utilities and fire protection including a hydrant near the Wesley House.

2. The team recommends that the Division of Recreation and Parks explore the application process for placing the historic Wesley House on the National Registry of Historic Structures. (Vote 7+, 0-)

Manager's Response: Agree. The park will pursue the application process to place the Wesley House on the National Registry of Historic Structures.

Checklist findings

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist (see Attachment 1), which indicates that management actions, in the field, were insufficient (*f*) or that the issue was not sufficiently addressed in the management plan (*p*). These items need to be addressed in the management plan update.

1. Inholdings/Additions (*p*)

Manager's Response: Agree. Inholdings and additions will be addressed in the new management plan.

ATTACHMENT I

The management review checklist was analyzed as follows: The checklist consisted of two parts: a plan review section that answered whether or not the management plan sufficiently addressed protection/restoration/ management needs for a series of items; and a field review section that scored to what extent sufficient management actions were being taken for a series of items. For each item in each section the scores for all team members were averaged. Some items received high scores (≥ 4.0) in the field review, which indicates that exceptional management actions are being taken. Some items received low scores (≤ 0.5 for plan review; ≤ 2.0 for field review), which indicates that they were not sufficiently addressed in the plan, or that management practices did not meet expectations. These items must be addressed in the management plan update.

| PLAN REVIEW | | | | | | | | | AVERAGE |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---------|
| Ruderal/Developed | I.A.1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Animals | I.B.1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Plants | I.B.2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Survey | II.A | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.71 |
| Protection and Preservation | II.B | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Animals | III.D.1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.86 |
| Plants | III.D.2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Shoreline Erosion | III.E.1.a | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0.86 |
| Ground Water Monitoring | III.E.2.a | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.57 |
| Ground Water Monitoring | III.E.2.b | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.57 |
| Surface Water Monitoring | III.E.3.a | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.57 |
| Surface Water Monitoring | III.E.3.b | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.57 |
| Boundary Survey | III.F.1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Gates & Fencing | III.F.2 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Signage | III.F.3 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Law Enforcement Presence | III.F.4 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.86 |
| Fire Protection (house) | III.F.5 | | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 0.86 |
| Theft Protection (house) | III.F.6 | | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 0.86 |
| Residential Development | III.G.1.a | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Inholdings/Additions | III.G.2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.42 |
| Roads | IV.1.A | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Parking | IV.1.B | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.86 |
| Water Access | IV.1.C | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.86 |
| Recreational Opportunities | IV.2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Interpretive Facilities and Signs | IV.3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Environmental Education/outreach | IV.4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.57 |
| Swimming | VI.A.1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Fishing | VI.A.2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Picnicking | VI.A.3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Boating | VI.A.4 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Nature Trails | VI.A.5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Overflow Parking Area | VI.B.1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 0 | 0.86 |
| Larger Bathroom Facility | VI.B.2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 |
| FIELD REVIEWS | | | | | | | | | |
| Ruderal/Developed | I.A.1 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4.14 |
| Animals | I.B.1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3.71 |
| Plants | I.B.2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 4 | | 3.66 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|
| Survey | II.A | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2.71 |
| Protection and Preservation | II.B | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 3.86 |
| Animals | III.D.1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3.29 |
| Plants | III.D.2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3.43 |
| Shoreline Erosion | III.E.1.a | 3 | 3 | 4 | | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3.66 |
| Ground Water Monitoring | III.E.2.a | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4.14 |
| Ground Water Monitoring | III.E.2.b | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4.14 |
| Surface Water Monitoring | III.E.3.a | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3.43 |
| Surface Water Monitoring | III.E.3.b | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3.43 |
| Boundary Survey | III.F.1 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3.86 |
| Gates & Fencing | III.F.2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3.86 |
| Signage | III.F.3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3.86 |
| Law Enforcement Presence | III.F.4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3.86 |
| Fire Protection (house) | III.F.5 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3.14 |
| Theft Protection (house) | III.F.6 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3.43 |
| Residential Development | III.G.1.a | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Inholdings/Additions | III.G.2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3.14 |
| Roads | IV.1.A | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 5 | | 3.66 |
| Parking | IV.1.B | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2.71 |
| Water Access | IV.1.C | 4 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3.14 |
| Recreational Opportunities | IV.2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4.14 |
| Interpretive Facilities and Signs | IV.3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4.14 |
| Environmental Education/outreach | IV.4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3.71 |
| Waste Disposal | V.1A | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3.29 |
| Sanitary Facilities | V.1B | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2.29 |
| Buildings | V.2A | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3.71 |
| Equipment | V.2B | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3.71 |
| Staff | V.3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2.43 |
| Funding | V.4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2.57 |