

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF RECREATION AND PARKS
OFFICE OF PARK PLANNING**



**Big Lagoon State Park
Perdido Key State Park
Tarkiln Bayou Preserve State Park**

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS
AND COMMENTS**

Baxley, Demi

From: Larry Burch <larry.burch@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 17, 2018 11:33 AM
To: FLStateParkPlanning
Subject: Comment on plans Big Lagoon State Park

I've read your plans for improvements for Tarkiln Bayou, Big Lagoon and Perdido Key State Parks. I fully support the planned improvements.

I use Big Lagoon State Park 3 to 4 times a week. I jog or bike on the trails and jog along the road. I also launch my kayak from the sandy shore next to the boat ramp. Thank you for rebuilding the entrance road last year. I haven't seen any flooding since the improvements.

I occasionally use Tarkiln Park trails and fully support your plans to improve them. The new parking area was a big improvement last year.

Regards,

Larry Burch
2005 Peregrine Ct.
Pensacola, FL 32506
816-582-1904

Baxley, Demi

From: John <gulfbeach47@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 17, 2018 4:51 PM
To: FLStateParkPlanning
Subject: QUESTIONS for "Perdido Key State Parks Public Meeting" on June 19, 2018

Good afternoon,

I see that the meeting on Tuesday/June 19 will be at the Main Branch library in Pensacola, instead of the SW Branch Library that is across the street from the park, so I will probably be unable to attend.

1. Please address the lack of attendants at Perdido Key State Park (East & West).

I have bought a State Park Pass for the last 2 years. Perdido Key parking and beach access is getting much worse every year, so more people are going to the two Perdido Key Parks.

I normally use Perdido Key State Park (West), since Perdido Key State Park (East) is usually more crowded.

I usually go during weekdays. This year I have not seen an attendant at Perdido Key State Park (West). Last year there would be someone there on random days.

The problem is that the majority of people using the facility are ignoring the Honor System of paying the fee.

This is not fair for those of us that pay the \$64.50 annual fee for a pass.

I actually did OPS work one summer at Big Lagoon S.P. which included maintaining and collecting fees at Perdido Key State Park (West). This was before the attendant booths had air conditioning, plus the pay back then was only \$6.00 per hour.

Some days, I would have to check Perdido Key State Park (East). While I was gone, some vehicles would enter Perdido Key State Park (West) and skip the fee. I would record their vehicle/tag information and put one of the Fee Envelope's on their windshield wiper. I would also try to locate the vehicle's driver on the beach and politely explain the rules, plus collect the fees.

I hope that the park will hire full time OPS workers for both Perdido Key Parks soon.

2. We look forward to the renovation of the boardwalks (long overdue) and the observation/fishing platform on north side of park along the Old River.

3. Lifeguards at one or both of Perdido Key parks is needed.

Also, the Flag Warning System needs to be consistent. Last week, I noticed that the flags at Perdido Key State Parks (East & West) were not the same color as the flag by the Perdido Key Visitor Center. All 3 locations are within a mile of each other. It confuses beach goers, when 2 locations has a yellow flag and the other has a red flag, when all 3 are unmanned and are experiencing the same surf/weather conditions.

4. With the huge increase of tourism and residents, I would hope that the park will consider a third parking lot on the gulf side in the near future.

Please send a reply to let me know that my email was received and will be included in the comments.

Regards, John Hill

850-492-1537

PS... I am a local photographer and have many photos of Big Lagoon S.P. and Perdido Key S.P. Some are on the park website.

johnhillphotography