



**LAND MANAGEMENT  
REVIEWS**  
Northeast District



**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

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# 2017 Land Management Review Team Report for Big Shoals State Park

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In case where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Big Shoals State Park

**Managed by:** Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Division of Recreation and Parks

**Acres:** 1,681

**County:** Hamilton and Columbia

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** P2000/CARL

**Original Acquisition Date:** 11/19/86

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 2/11/05

**Review Date:** 12/6/17

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Manuel Perez, Park Manager
- Stephanie McDonald

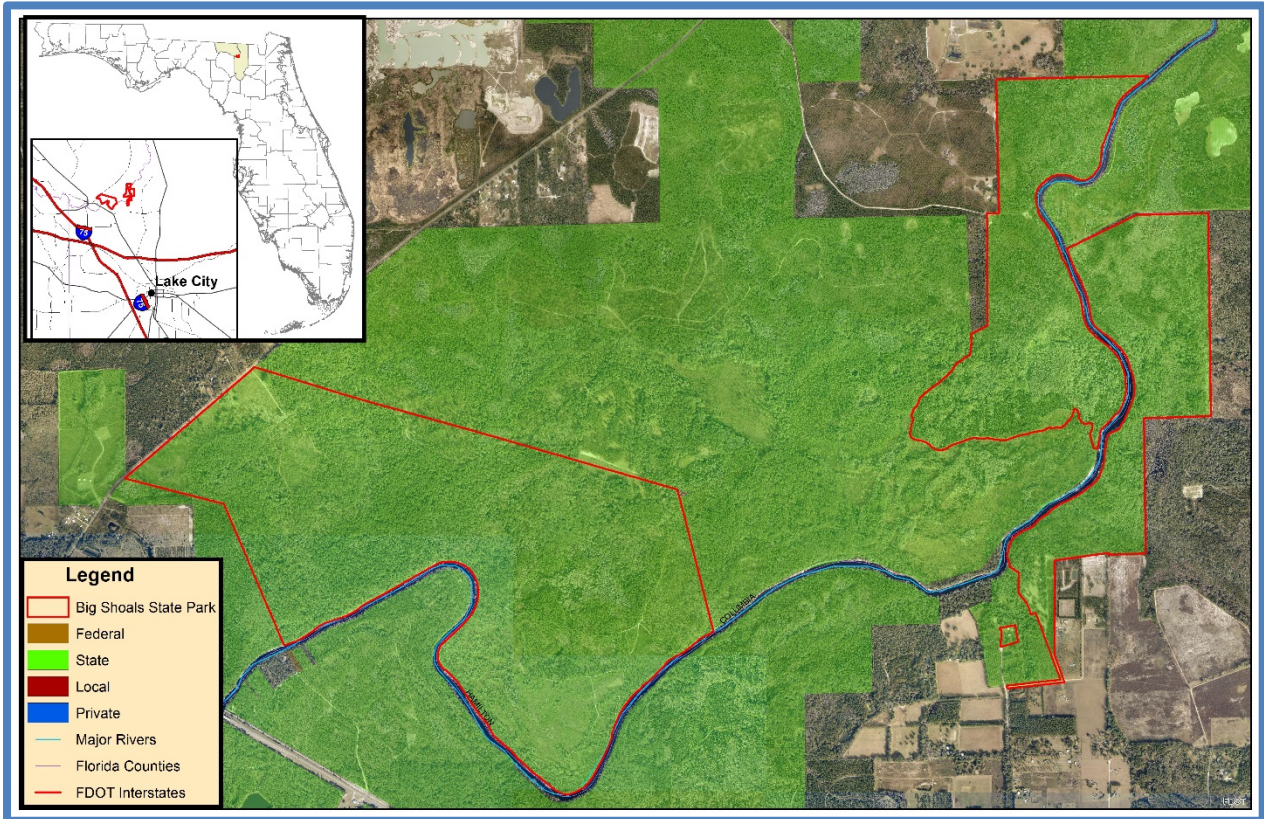
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- Anne Barkdoll, DRP District
- Bill Korn, FFS
- Anni Mitchell, FWC
- Conservation Org. None
- Edwin McCook, SRWMD
- Private Land Manager, None
- Keri Armstrong, DEP District
- Local Government, None

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- James Parker, DEP/DSL
- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

## 1.2 Property Map



### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 5, No = 0*

**Table 1: Results at a glance.**

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

*Yes = 5, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.12	4.24
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	1.93	3.10
Hydrology	3.93	3.60
Imperiled Species	3.37	3.67
Exotic / Invasive Species	5.00	4.40
Cultural Resources	4.40	4.60
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.28	4.31
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.10	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

#### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for their survey and control of invasive exotic plants. (5+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for their removal of feral hogs from the park. (5+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for the erosion control measures and improvements to the path down to the canoe launch that has greatly improved access and safety for park guests and a positive impact on stormwater erosion from sheetflow. (5+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS for completing a timber inventory and assessment for each management unit in the park. (5+, 0-)
5. The team commends the FPS for the use of volunteers for trail and structure maintenance to aid park staff. (5+, 0-)
6. The team commends the FPS for efforts to improve training focus for employees to achieve burn management certification. (5+, 0-)

#### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FPS increase resources and efforts necessary to meet established fire frequency goals. (5+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree.*

2. The team recommends that the FPS address longleaf reforestation needs in abandoned fields and cutover stands in the mesic flatwoods. (5+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. This will be addressed in the next Unit Management Plan.*

3. The team recommends that the FPS look at identifying pitcher plant populations and seek opportunities to focus fuel management and prescribed fire activities in these zones. (5+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. These populations occur within the mesic flatwoods which are a high priority for increasing fire frequency.*

4. The team recommends that the FPS seek funding to establish multiple low water crossings and perimeter firebreaks to facilitate management road access to the Columbia County section of the park. (5+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree.*

5. The team recommends that the FPS consider upgrading the current Big Shoals SP park ranger position to a park services specialist dedicated to prescribed fire. (5+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Increasing fire frequency at Big Shoals State Park (BSSP) is a high priority for FPS. To this end the Park and FPS continue to ensure ongoing prescribed fire training for BSSP staff.*

6. The team recommends that the FPS seek funding to establish a management access road on the existing easement to the Columbia County portion of the state park. (5+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree.*

## **2. Field Review Details**

### **2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings**

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically upland hardwood forest/ mesic hammock, basin swamp, baygall, bottomland forest, dome, alluvial forest, floodplain swamp, blackwater stream, seepage stream**
2. **Natural resources survey/monitoring specifically invasive species survey/monitoring.**
3. **Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation**
4. **Forest Management, specifically Timber inventory/assessment**
5. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals and pest/pathogens.**
6. **Hydrologic/ Geologic function Hydro-Alteration specifically, roads/culverts**
7. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, and law enforcement presence.**



8. Public access, specifically roads, parking, boat access
9. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, Habitat management activities recreational opportunities, management of visitor impacts

## 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

1. *The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically mesic flatwoods, sandhill, and upland mixed woodland received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. Increasing the frequency and quality of prescribed fires in these habitats is a high priority for the park and district staff.*

2. *Resource Management, Prescribed Fire, specifically area being burned, and frequency, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, to what degree prescribed fire is accomplished according to the objectives for prescribed fire management. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% accomplished, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. Increasing the frequency of prescribed fires is a high priority for the park.*

3. *Management Resources, specifically staff, and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. However, Division funding for infrastructure is determined annually by the Florida Legislature and funds are allocated to the 175 state parks and trails according to priority needs. In addition, no new staff can be assigned to this or any other park unit unless they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units.*

## 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	

<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	2	2	2	2	2				2.00
Sandhill	I.A.2	1		1	1	1				1.00
Upland Hardwood Forest/ Mesic Hammock	I.A.4	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Upland Pine Forest	I.A.6	5	2	2	5	2				3.20
Basin Swamp	I.A.7	2	5	5	5	5				4.40
Baygall	I.A.8	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Bottomland Forest	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Dome	I.A.10	4	4	4	5	5				4.40
Alluvial Forest	I.A.11	5	4	5	4	5				4.60
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.12	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Blackwater Stream	I.A.13	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Seepage Stream	I.A.14	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.15	1	1	1	1	1				1.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										<b>3.85</b>
<b>Listed species:Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	3	4	4	4	3				3.60
Plants	I.B.2	3	4	4		3				3.50
Pitcher Plant	I.B.2.a	2	4	3	3	3				3.00
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										<b>3.37</b>
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	3	4	3	3	3				3.20
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	3	4	3	3	3				3.20
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	3		3	3	3				3.00
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	5	5	4	4				4.40
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	5	5	4	4				4.40
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										<b>4.40</b>
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A1	1	4	1	1	1				1.60
Frequency	III.A.2	1	4		1	1				1.75
Quality	III.A.3	3	4	4	4	2				3.40
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										<b>2.25</b>
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Abandoned Pastures	III.B.1	2	1	1	2	2				1.60
Sandhill	III.B.2	3	1	4	3	2				2.60
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										<b>1.60</b>
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory / Assessment	III.C.1	3	5	5	5	4				4.40
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										<b>4.40</b>

<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	4	5	4	5	3				4.20
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.20
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	3	5	4	3	4				3.80
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	3	5	4	3	4				3.80
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										3.80
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	3	5	4	3	4				3.80
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	3	5	4	3	4				3.80
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										3.80
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	3	5	5	5	5				4.60
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	3	3	5	4	3				3.60
Signage	III.F.3	3	5	4	3	3				3.60
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	4	5	5	5	4				4.60
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.10
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	3	4	4	4	3				3.60
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	3	4	3	5	3				3.60
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
Parking	IV.1.b	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
Boat Access	IV.1.c	3	5	5	4	5				4.40
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	3	5	3	5	5				4.20
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	3	5	5	5	5				4.60
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	3	5	3	5	5				4.20
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	3	5	3	5	3				3.80
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	5	4	5	5				4.60
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.47

Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	4	4	5	4	5				4.40
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	3	4	4	4	3				3.60
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Buildings	V.2.a	3	2	4	4	3				3.20
Equipment	V.2.b	3	2	4	3	3				3.00
Staff	V.3	2	1	3	4	3				2.60
Funding	V.4	2	1	2	3	1				1.80
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										<b>3.10</b>
Color Code:		Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor	Missing Vote		Insufficient Information		See Appendix A for detail

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. *Natural Communities, specifically sandhill, upland pine and upland mixed woodland received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address current or desired condition and/or future management actions to protect or restore.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. These natural communities will be addressed in more detail in the next Unit Management Plan.*

2. *Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The new Unit Management Plan format specifically includes monitoring and this will be addressed in the plan update.*

3. *Restoration, specifically Abandon pastures, sandhill received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address restoration.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The next plan update will address this.*

4. *Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. This will be addressed in the next Unit Management Plan.*

### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	4	4	5	4	2				3.80
Sandhill	I.A.2	3		4	3	1				2.75
Upland Hardwood Forest/ Mesic Hammock	I.A.4	4	5	5	1	5				4.00
Upland Pine Forest	I.A.6	1	2	5	3	2				2.60
Basin Swamp	I.A.7	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
Baygall	I.A.8	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
Bottomland Forest	I.A.9	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
Dome	I.A.10	2	4	5	5	5				4.20
Alluvial Forest	I.A.11	3	4	5	5	5				4.40
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.12	4	4	5	4	5				4.40
Blackwater Stream	I.A.13	4	4	5	4	5				4.40
Seepage Stream	I.A.14	4	4	5	4	5				4.40
Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.15	1	1	1	1	1				1.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										3.87
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	3	4	4	4	3				3.60
Plants	I.B.2	3	4	4	5	3				3.80
Pitcher Plant	I.B.2.a	4	4	4	3	3				3.60
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										3.67
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	2	4	3	2	2				2.60
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	3	4	4	3	2				3.20
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	3		3	2	2				2.50
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	3	5	5	4	4				4.20
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	5	5	4	4				4.40
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	2	4	5	4	3				3.60
Frequency	III.A.2	2	4	5	4	3				3.60
Quality	III.A.3	2	4	5	4	3				3.60
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										3.60

<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Abandoned Pastures	III.B.1	3	1	4	2	3				2.60
Sandhill	III.B.2	3	1	4	3	3				2.80
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										2.60
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory / Assessment	III.C.1	4	5	5	5	4				4.60
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	3	5	5	5	4				4.40
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	3	5	5	5	4				4.40
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	3	5	5	5	4				4.40
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	3	5	5	5	4				4.40
control - animals	III.D.2.b	3	5	5	5	4				4.40
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	3	5	5	5	4				4.40
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.40
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	2	5	5	3	3				3.60
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										3.60
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	3	5	4	3	3				3.60
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	3	5	4	3	3				3.60
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										3.60
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	3	5	4	3	3				3.60
Surface water quantity	III.E.3.b	3	5	4	3	3				3.60
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										3.60
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	3	5	5	5	4				4.40
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	3	3	5	5	4				4.00
Signage	III.F.3	3	5	5	4	4				4.20
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	3	5	5	5	4				4.40
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.25
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	3	4	4	3	3				3.40
Mining	III.G.1.b	3	4	4	3	3				3.40
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	3	4	5	5	3				4.00
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.G.3	3	1	2	1	1				1.60
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.G.4	3	4	5	5	5				4.40
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										

Public Access										
Roads	IV.1.a	4	5	5	5	4				4.60
Parking	IV.1.b	4	5	5	5	4				4.60
Boat Access	IV.1.c	4	5	5	4	4				4.40
Environmental Education & Outreach										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	3	5	4	4	4				4.00
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	3	5	5	5	4				4.40
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	3	5	4	5	4				4.20
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	3	5	4	5	4				4.20
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	4	5	5	5	4				4.60
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	5	5	4	4				4.40
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.38

Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)										
Existing Uses										
Canoeing/Kayaking	VI.A.1	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Fishing	VI.A.2	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Primitive Camping	VI.A.3	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Hiking	VI.A.4	5	5	5	4	5				4.80
Bicycling	VI.A.5	4	5	4	5	5				4.60
Horseback Riding	VI.A.6	4	5	4	4	5				4.40
Nature Appreciation	VI.A.7	5	5	5	5	5				5.00

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*



**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2018 Land Management Review Team Report for Big Talbot Island State Park / Little Talbot Island State Park / Amelia Island State Park

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In cases where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Big Talbot Island State Park / Little Talbot Island State Park / Amelia Island State Park

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 1,648, 2,643, and 230 (4,521 total)

**County:** Duval and Nassau

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** LWCF/LATF

**Original Acquisition Date:** 3/31/1966

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 6/13/2008

**Review Date:** 12/20/2018

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Michelle Waterman, Park Manager
- Allison Conboy, PSS
- Meghan Harris, Environmental Specialist

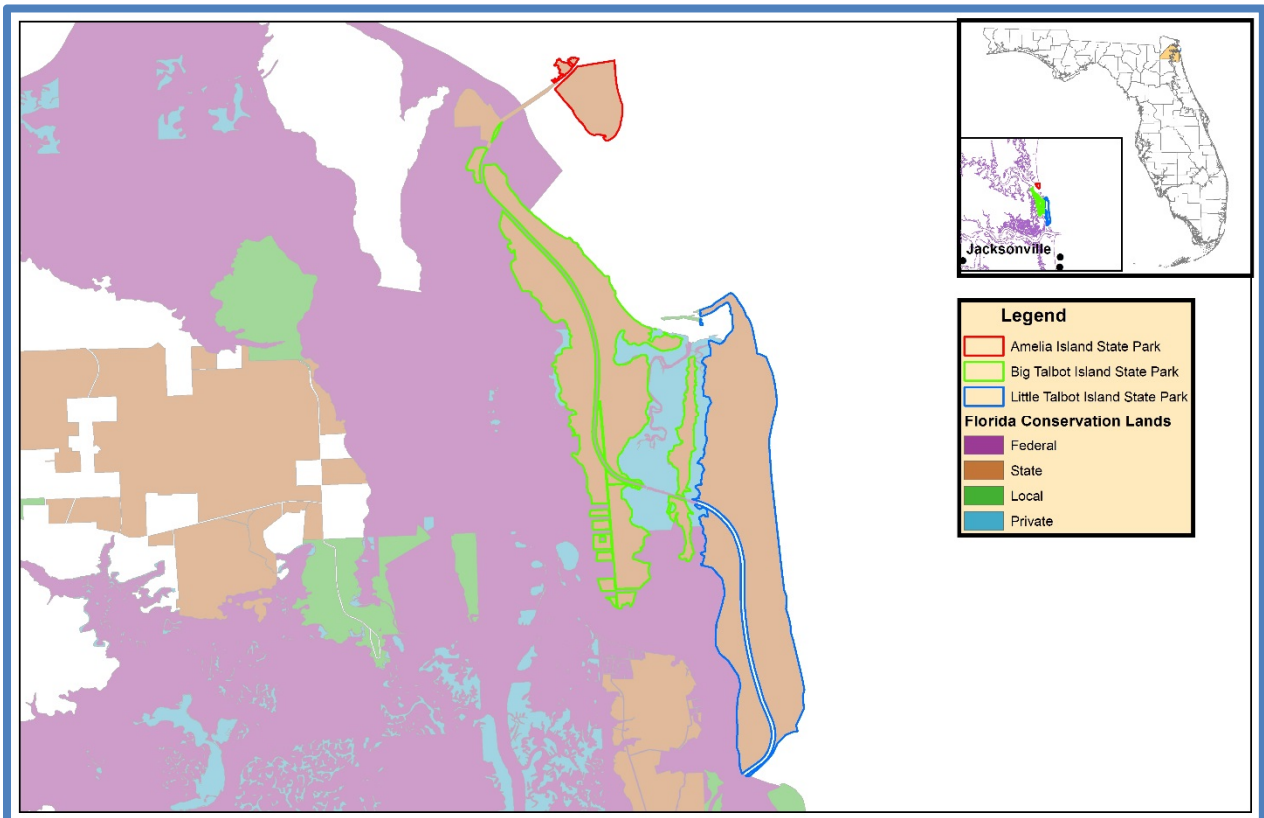
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- Dan Pearson, DRP District
- Christopher Winterman, Local Gov't.
- Jean Olbert, FWC
- Allison Cala, DEP District
- Jon Johnson, FFS
- WMD, None
- Walter Bryant, Cons. Organization
- Private Land Manager, None

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- James Tomazinis, DEP/FCO

## 1.2 Property Map



### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 6, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 6, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

#### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for excellent management of imperiled species, including marine turtles and shorebird monitoring programs. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for survey, monitoring, and protection of diamondback terrapins working with the North Florida Land Trust and other partners. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS on the use of volunteers to achieve park goals and engage community involvement. (6+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS on burning the Big Talbot scrubby flatwoods, which was a highly complex prescribed fire requiring multiple agency cooperation due to presence of A1A and other smoke sensitive areas. (6+, 0-)
5. The team commends the FPS for coordination and communication with FWC regarding stewarding and law enforcement trainings for shorebirds and excellent monitoring and posting of sites. (6+, 0-)
6. The team commends the FPS for increased predator monitoring at shorebird sites, and predator removal at terrapin nesting sites. (6+, 0-)

#### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FPS increase public access via kayak, canoe, and paddleboard use and work with aquatic preserve to determine the best/least detrimental sites of access. (6+, 0-)

Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.08	4.16
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.64	4.11
Hydrology	4.19	4.25
Imperiled Species	4.74	4.61
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.36	4.28
Cultural Resources	4.83	4.92
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.58	4.57
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.61	N/A

Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
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*Managing Agency Response: Agree.*

2. The team recommends that the predator monitoring continue and predator management occur at shorebird and seabird nesting sites. (6+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Park and District Staff will continue to work with FWC and other partners to identify and manage shorebird and seabird nest predators.*

3. The team recommends that the FPS continue to work with partners to determine sources of boat impacts on imperiled species and continue signage notifying boaters and users of possible impacts to imperiled species. (6+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree.*

## 2. Field Review Details

### 2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically beach dune, coastal strand, maritime hammock, scrubby flatwoods, coastal grassland, shell mound, coastal interdunal swale, estuarine composite substrate, estuarine tidal marsh and marine unconsolidated substrate.**
2. **Listed species, animals in general, and specifically marine turtles, nesting and migrating shorebirds, painted bunting, and gopher tortoise.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey/monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned.**
6. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory/assessment.**
7. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
8. **Hydrologic/geologic function Hydro alteration, specifically roads/culverts, ditches, hydro-period alteration, water level alteration.**
9. **Ground water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
10. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
11. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development, A1A, emergent shoals and inholdings/additions.**
12. **Public access, specifically roads and parking.**
13. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
14. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal and sanitary facilities.**

## 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

1. *Management Resources, specifically equipment, staff, and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Division funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature and funds are allocated to the 175 state parks and trails according to priority needs. Also, no new staff can be assigned to this or any other park unit unless they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is allocated at the Division and District levels in order to best meet annual operational and resource management needs. Any deemed increase in Division Budget/staffing will follow the established legislative budget request process.*

## 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Beach Dune	I.A.1	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
Coastal Strand	I.A.2	5	5	4	4	5	5			4.67
Maritime Hammock	I.A.3	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.4	5	5	3	5	5	4			4.50
Coastal Grasslands	I.A.5	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
Shell Mound	I.A.6	5	4	3	5	5	5			4.50
Coastal Interdunal Swale	I.A.7	4	5	4	5	5	5			4.67
Depression Marsh	I.A.8	4	3	4	3	x	3			3.40
Wet Flatwoods	I.A.9	4	3	3	3	3	3			3.17
Estuarine Composite Substrate	I.A.10	5	5	5	5	x	5			5.00
Estuarine Tidal Marsh	I.A.11	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
Marine Unconsolidated Substrate	I.A.12	5	5	4	5	4	5			4.67
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.49
<b>Listed species:Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	5	5	5	5		5			5.00
Marine Turtles	I.B.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Nesting Shorebirds	I.B.1.b	5	5	5	5	4	5			4.83
Migrating Shorebirds	I.B.1.c	5	5	5	5	4	5			4.83
Painted Bunting	I.B.1.d	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00

Gopher Tortoise	I.B.1.e	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Plants	I.B.2		3				4			3.50
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.74
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	4	5	4	4	4	5			4.33
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	4	4	4	4	5			4.17
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	4	4	4	5			4.50
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	3	5	5	5			4.67
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.83
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A1	4	4	4	3	4	5			4.00
Frequency	III.A.2	4	4	2	3	3	4			3.33
Quality	III.A.3	4	4	2		4	4			3.60
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										3.64
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	3	4	3	4	4	4			3.67
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										3.67
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	4	5	5	4	5			4.67
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	4	5	5	3	4			4.17
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	4	4	5	5	4	4			4.33
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	5	4	4	4	5			4.50
control - animals	III.D.2.b	3	5	4	4	4	5			4.17
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	4	5	4	5	4	4			4.33
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.36
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	5	5	4	5	4	4			4.50
Ditches	III.E.1.b	5	5	4	5	4	4			4.50
Hydro-period Alteration	III.E.1.c	4	5	4	5	3	4			4.17
Water Level Alteration	III.E.1.d	5	5	5	5	4	4			4.67
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.46
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	x	5	5	5	4	4			4.60
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	x	5	5	5	4	4			4.60
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										



Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	4	4	3	3	3	4			3.50
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	4	4	3	3	3	4			3.50
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										<b>3.50</b>
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	5	5	5	5	4	4			4.67
Signage	III.F.3	5	5	5	5	4	5			4.83
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	5	5	5	5	3	5			4.67
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										<b>4.79</b>
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	4	4	4	5	4	5			4.33
No-Wake Zone	III.G.1.b	4	3	4	3	4	4			3.67
A1A	III.G.1.c	5	5	4	5	3	4			4.33
Emergent Shoals	III.G.1.d	4	4	4	5	4	5			4.33
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	5	4	5	5		5			4.80
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	4	5	5	5	5	5			4.83
Parking	IV.1.b	4	5	4	5	5	5			4.67
Boat Access	IV.1.c	4	3	2	4	4	4			3.50
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	4	5	4	5	5	5			4.67
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	3	5	4	4	4	4			4.00
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	4	5	3	4	4	5			4.17
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	4	5	3	5	5	5			4.50
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	3	5	5	5			4.67
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	4	4	5	4	5			4.33
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										<b>4.37</b>
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	4	5	5	5	5	5			4.83
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Buildings	V.2.a	3	4	4	4	4	4			3.83
Equipment	V.2.b	2	2	4	2	2	3			2.50
Staff	V.3	3	2	4	2	2	3			2.67
Funding	V.4	3	2	4	2	3	3			2.83
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										<b>3.61</b>

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

- Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.*

*Managing Agency Response: Adjacent property concerns including discussion of potential surplus land determination will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

#### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Beach Dune	I.A.1	4	4	5	5	5	5			4.67
Coastal Strand	I.A.2	4	4	4	5	5	5			4.50
Maritime Hammock	I.A.3	4	4	5	5	5	5			4.67
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.4	4	4	4	5	5	5			4.50
Coastal Grasslands	I.A.5	4	4	5	5	5	5			4.67
Shell Mound	I.A.6	5	4	3	5	5	4			4.33
Coastal Interdunal Swale	I.A.7	4	4	5	5	5	4			4.50
Depression Marsh	I.A.8	4	3	4	5		4			4.00
Wet Flatwoods	I.A.9	4	3	4	5	4	4			4.00
Estuarine Composite Substrate	I.A.10	4	4	5	5		5			4.60
Estuarine Tidal Marsh	I.A.11	5	4	4	5	5	5			4.67
Marine Unconsolidated Substrate	I.A.12	5	4	4	5	5	5			4.67
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.48
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	5	4	5	5		5			4.80
Marine Turtles	I.B.1.a	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
Nesting Shorebirds	I.B.1.b	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83

Migrating Shorebirds	I.B.1.c	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
Painted Bunting	I.B.1.d	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
Gopher Tortoise	I.B.1.e	5	4	5	5	5	4			4.67
Plants	I.B.2		3				4			3.50
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.61
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	4	4	5	5	5			4.67
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	4	5	4	5	5			4.67
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	4	4	4	3	5	4			4.00
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	4	5	5	5	4			4.50
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	4	5	5	5	4			4.67
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.92
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	4	4	4	4	4			4.17
Frequency	III.A.2	4	4	3	4	5	4			4.00
Quality	III.A.3	5	4	3	4	5	4			4.17
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.11
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	3	4	3	5	4	4			3.83
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										3.83
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.E.1.a	4	4	5	5	4	4			4.33
prevention - animals	III.E.1.b	4	4	4	5	4	4			4.17
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.E.1.c	4	4	5	5	4	5			4.50
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.E.2.a	4	4	5	5	4	4			4.33
control - animals	III.E.2.b	4	4	4	4	4	4			4.00
control - pest/pathogens	III.E.2.c	4	4	5	4	4	5			4.33
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.28
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.F.1.a	5	4	5	5	4	5			4.67
Ditches	III.F.1.b	5	4	5	5	4	5			4.67
Hydro-period Alteration	III.F.1.c	4	4	4	5	4	5			4.33
Water Level Alteration	III.F.1.d	5	4	5	5	4	5			4.67
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.58
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.F.2.a	5	4	5	5	4	4			4.50

Ground water quantity	III.F.2.b	5	4	5	5	4	4			4.50
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.F.3.a	5	4	4	2	3	4			3.67
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	4	4	2	3	4			3.67
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										3.67
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.G.1	5	5	5	5	5	4			4.83
Gates & fencing	III.G.2	5	5	5	5	4	4			4.67
Signage	III.G.3	5	5	5	5	4	4			4.67
Law enforcement presence	III.G.4	5	5	5	5	4	4			4.67
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.71
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.H.1.a	4	4	4	5	4	5			4.33
No-Wake Zone	III.H.1.b	4	4	4	2	4	4			3.67
A1A	III.H.1.c	5	4	3	5	4	4			4.17
Emergent Shoals	III.H.1.d	5	4	4	5	4	4			4.33
Inholdings/additions	III.H.2	5	4	5	5	4	4			4.50
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.H.3	2	1	1	3	2	3			2.00
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.H.4	5	4	5	5	4	3			4.33
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	4	4	5	5	5	5			4.67
Parking	IV.1.b	4	4	4	5	5	5			4.50
Boat Access	IV.1.c	4	4	3	5	5	5			4.33
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	4	4	4	5	5	5			4.50
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	3	4	4	4	5	5			4.17
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	4	4	4	4	4	5			4.17
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	4	4	4	5	5	5			4.50
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	4	4	5	5	5			4.67
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	4	4	5	4	5			4.33
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.43
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Picnicking	VI.A.1	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
Camping	VI.A.2	5	5	4	5	3	5			4.50
Hiking	VI.A.3	5	5	3	5	5	5			4.67
Fishing	VI.A.4	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
Nature Study	VI.A.5	5	5	3	5	3	5			4.33
Canoeing/Kayaking	VI.A.6	4	5	2	5	3	5			4.00
Bicycling	VI.A.7	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00

Beach Use	VI.A.8	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
<b>Proposed Uses</b>										
Multi-Use Trail	VI.B.1	5	5	4	5	0	4			3.83
Primitive Camping	VI.B.2	4	5	4	5	0	4			3.67
Color Code:		Excellent		Above Average		Below Average		Poor		See Appendix A for detail
				Missing Vote		Insufficient Information				

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2018 Land Management Review Team Report for Cedar Key Scrub State Reserve

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In case where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Cedar Key Scrub State Reserve

**Managed by:** Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Division of Recreation and Parks

**Acres:** 6,734.81

**County:** Levy

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** EEL

**Original Acquisition Date:** 12/27/78

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 2/11/05

**Review Date:** 6/8/18

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Tommy Pavao, Reserve Manager

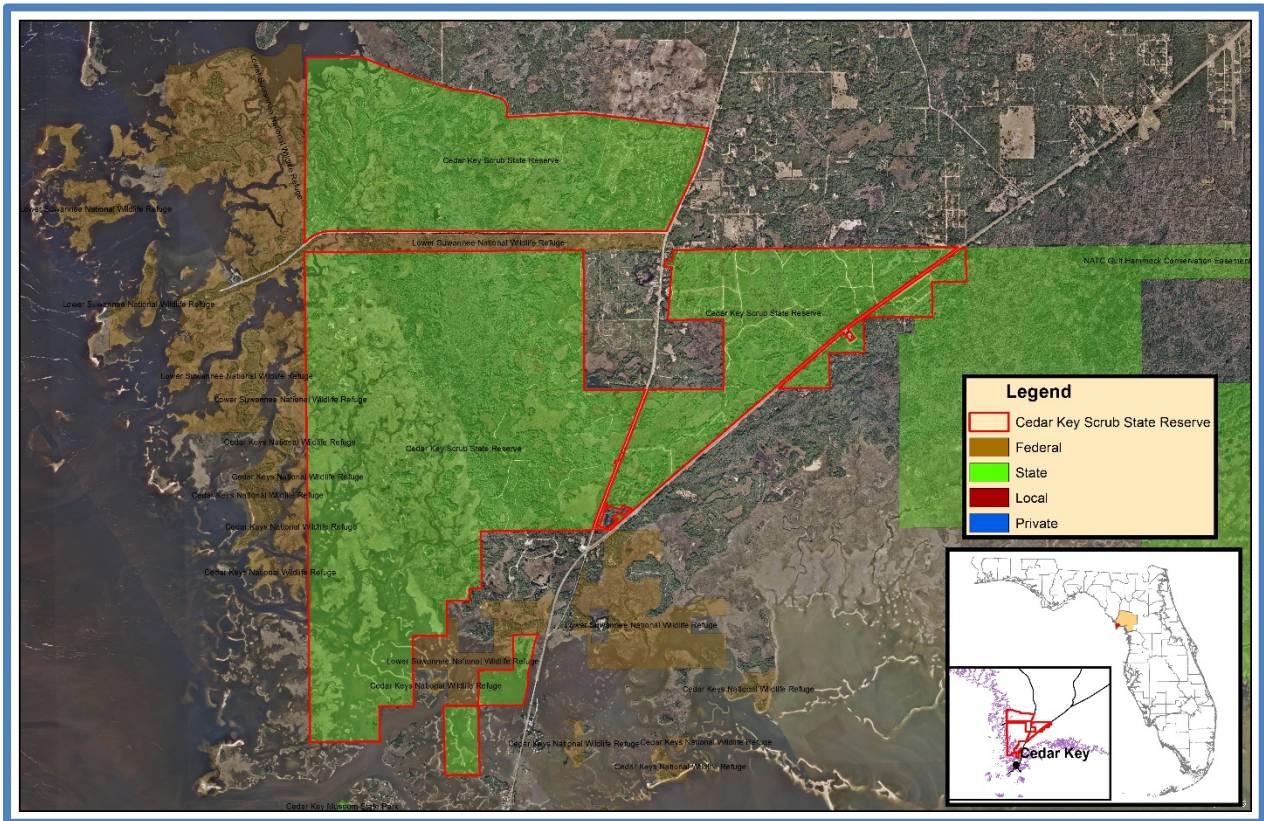
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- Jason Neumann, DEP District
- Carl Salafrio, Private Land Manager
- Dan Pearson, DRP District
- William Irby, WMD
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Scotland Talley, FWC
- Athena Philips, Conservation Org.
- Local Gov't., None

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- James Parker, DEP/DSL
- Keith Singleton, FDEP/DSL

## 1.2 Property Map



### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.28	3.60
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.17	4.15
Hydrology	3.83	3.38
Imperiled Species	3.97	3.82
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.91	3.37
Cultural Resources	3.93	3.50
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.69	3.40
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	2.93	N/A

Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
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#### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for excellent cooperation with partner agencies to achieve resource management goals and provide hunting and other recreation opportunities. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for excellent work on scrub restoration. Park manager is particularly good at coordinating his efforts with other State and Federal agencies, and adjacent large holdings and land owners. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for their work at improving fire implementation and removal of invasive hogs. (7+, 0-)

#### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the FPS aggressively pursue increased funding and staff to address backlog in resource management needs and to provide for more proactive management. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree. However, no new staff can be assigned to this or any other park unit unless they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. The updated unit management plan will address land management funding needs. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature and funds are allocated to the 175 state parks and trails according to priority needs.*

## 2. Field Review Details

### 2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically scrub, scrubby flatwoods, basin marsh, basin swamp, depression marsh, hydric hammock, estuarine composite substrate, and tidal marsh.**
2. **Listed species: Protection & Preservation, specifically gopher tortoise and Florida salt marsh vole.**
3. **Natural resources survey/monitoring, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, and invasive species survey/monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically scrub restoration.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory/assessment.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically control and prevention of plants and animals.**
9. **Hydrologic/geologic function Hydro alteration, specifically roads/low water crossings.**
10. **Adjacent property concerns, specifically inholdings/additions.**
11. **Public access and education, specifically boat access.**
12. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
13. **Management Resources, specifically waste disposal and sanitary facilities.**

### 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

1. *Non-native, Invasive and Problem species, specifically control of pest/pathogens received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether control efforts are adequate.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. Cedar Key Scrub does not currently have an Arthropod Control Plan because the local Mosquito Control District has not requested one be developed. Staff will continue to monitor the progress of laurel wilt disease.*

2. *Resource Protection, specifically law enforcement presence received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether resources are sufficient to protect the property.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. Park staff will continue to request assistance from Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) law enforcement and local law enforcement as needed.*

3. *Management Resources, specifically buildings, staff, and funding received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. However, no new staff can be assigned to this or any other park unit unless they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature and funds are allocated to the 175 state parks and trails according to priority needs.*

### 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	3	4	4	3	4	3	4		3.57
Sandhill	I.A.2	4	5	5	3	3	3	4		3.86
Scrub	I.A.3	4	5	5	4	3	3	4		4.00
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.4	4	4	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
Basin Marsh	I.A.5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4		4.43
Basin Swamp	I.A.6	5	5	5	4	5	5	5		4.86
Depression Marsh	I.A.7	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
Hydric Hammock	I.A.8	4	4	5	4	4	5	5		4.43
Estuarine Composite Substrate	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Estuarine Tidal Marsh	I.A.10	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.41
<b>Listed species:Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	4	4	x	4	4	3	4		3.83
Scrub jay	I.B.1.a	3	5	4	4	4	3	4		3.86
Gopher tortoise	I.B.1.b	4	4	5	5	4	3	4		4.14
Florida Salt Marsh Vole	I.B.1.c	4	4	5	5	4	3	4		4.14
Plants	I.B.2	4	4	4	5	3	3	4		3.86
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										3.97
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	3	5	4	4	5	4	4		4.14
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	3	4	5	5	5	3	4		4.14
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	4	4	5	4	3	4	4		4.00
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	4	4	4	4	3	4		3.86
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	3	5	5	4	4	4	4		4.14
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	3	5	4	4	4	4	4		4.00

Protection and preservation	II.B	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		3.86
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>											3.93
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>											
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	4	4	4	2	3	3			3.57
Frequency	III.A.2	5	4	5	4	3	3	3			3.86
Quality	III.A.3	5	4	5	5	4	3	4			4.29
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>											3.90
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>											
Scrub	III.B.1	4	5	5	5	4	4	4			4.43
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>											4.43
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>											
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	4	5	4	4	5	4	3			4.14
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>											4.14
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>											
<b>Prevention</b>											
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	5	5	4	4	4	4			4.43
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	4	5	4	3	4	4			4.00
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	4		5	4	1	4				3.60
<b>Control</b>											
control - plants	III.D.2.a	4	5	5	4	4	4	4			4.29
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	5	5	4	3	4	4			4.29
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	3	4	3	2	1	4	x			2.83
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>											3.91
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>											
Roads/Low water crossings	III.E.1.a	4	4	5	4	4	4	5			4.29
Ditches	III.E.1.b	3	4	3	4	4	4	4			3.71
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>											4.00
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>											
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	4	4	4	4	4	4	3			3.86
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	4	4	3	4	4	4	3			3.71
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>											3.79
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>											
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	4	4	4	4	4	3	3			3.71
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	4	4	4	4	4	3	3			3.71
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>											3.71
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>											
Boundary survey	III.F.1	4	4	4	4	4	4	3			3.86
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	3	4	4	3	4	4	3			3.57
Signage	III.F.3	4	4	4	3	4	4	3			3.71
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	3	3	2	1	1	4	3			2.43

Resource Protection Average Score										3.39
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	3	4	4	4	4	4	4		3.86
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		4.00
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	3	5	4	4	4	4	3		3.86
Parking	IV.1.b	3	4	4	4	4	4	3		3.71
Boat Access	IV.1.c	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		4.00
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	3	4	4	4	4	5	4		4.00
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	3	4	4	4	4	5	4		4.00
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	3	4	4	4	4	5	4		4.00
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	3	4	4	4	4	5	3		3.86
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	4	4	4	3	5	5	4		4.14
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	4	4	4	5	5	4		4.29
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										<b>3.98</b>
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	4	3	4	4	5	5	4		4.14
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	3	3	4	4	5	5	4		4.00
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Buildings	V.2.a	2	3	3	2	1	2	3		2.29
Equipment	V.2.b	3	4	3	4	5	4	3		3.71
Staff	V.3	2	2	2	2	1	1	2		1.71
Funding	V.4	2	3	1	2	1	1	2		1.71
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										<b>2.93</b>

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. *Non-native, Invasive and Problem Species, specifically control of pest/pathogens, received a below average score. This is an indication the management plan does not sufficiently address control of pest/pathogens.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The management plan does not currently have an Arthropod Control Plan because the local Mosquito Control District has not requested one be developed. The revised management plan will include information on laurel wilt disease and other pests and pathogens.*

2. *Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received a below average score. This is an indication the management plan does not sufficiently address surplus lands determination.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The Division will address the determination of surplus lands in the update of the management plan.*

### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	4	4	3	4	3	3	4		3.57
Sandhill	I.A.2	4	4	4	4	3	3	4		3.71
Scrub	I.A.3	4	4	5	5	4	3	4		4.14
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.4	4	4	5	4	4	3	4		4.00
Basin Marsh	I.A.5	4	4	5	4	3	3	4		3.86
Basin Swamp	I.A.6	4	4	5	4	3	3	4		3.86
Depression Marsh	I.A.7	4	4	5	5	3	3	4		4.00
Hydric Hammock	I.A.8	4	4	5	5	3	3	4		4.00
Estuarine Composite Substrate	I.A.9	4	4	5	5	3	3	4		4.00
Estuarine Tidal Marsh	I.A.10	4	4	5	5	3	3	4		4.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										3.91
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	4	4	X	4	3	3	4		3.67
Scrub jay	I.B.1.a	3	5	5	4	3	3	4		3.86
Gopher tortoise	I.B.1.b	4	4	5	4	3	3	4		3.86
Florida Salt Marsh Vole	I.B.1.c	4	4	4	5	3	3	4		3.86
Plants	I.B.2	4	4	4	5	3	3	4		3.86
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										3.82
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	3	4	4	4	3	3	4		3.57
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	3	4	4	4	3	3	4		3.57



Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	4	3	4	4	3	3	4		3.57
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	4	4	4	3	3	4		3.71
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	3	4	5	4	3	3	4		3.71
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	3	4	4	4	3	3	4		3.57
Protection and preservation	II.B	3	4	3	4	3	3	4		3.43
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										3.50
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	5	5	5	3	3	4		4.29
Frequency	III.A.2	5	5	4	4	3	3	4		4.00
Quality	III.A.3	5	5	X	5	3	3	4		4.17
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.15
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Scrub	III.B.1	4	5	4	5	4	3	4		4.14
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.14
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	4	4	4	4	1	3	3		3.29
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										3.29
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.E.1.a	5	4	4	4	3	3	4		3.86
prevention - animals	III.E.1.b	5	4	4	4	3	3	4		3.86
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.E.1.c	4	2	x	4	3	3			3.20
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.E.2.a	4	4	4	4	3	3	4		3.71
control - animals	III.E.2.b	5	4	4	4	3	3	4		3.86
control - pest/pathogens	III.E.2.c	2	2	1	2	3	1	1		1.71
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										3.37
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/Low water crossings	III.F.1.a	4	4	3	4	4	1	3		3.29
Ditches	III.F.1.b	4	4	3	4	4	1	3		3.29
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										3.29
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.F.2.a	4	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.43
Ground water quantity	III.F.2.b	4	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.43
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										3.43
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.F.3.a	4	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.43
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	4	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.43
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										3.43

<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.G.1	4	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.43
Gates & fencing	III.G.2	3	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.29
Signage	III.G.3	4	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.43
Law enforcement presence	III.G.4	3	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.29
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										<b>3.36</b>
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.H.1.a	3	5	3	4	4	3	3		3.57
Inholdings/additions	III.H.2	4	4	3	4	4	1	3		3.29
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.H.3	3	3	3	3	1	1	2		2.29
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.H.4	4	5	4	4	5	1	4		3.86
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	3	5	3	4	4	3	3		3.57
Parking	IV.1.b	3	5	3	4	4	3	3		3.57
Boat Access	IV.1.c	4	5	3	4	3	3	4		3.71
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	3	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.29
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	3	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.29
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	3	4	3	4	3	3	4		3.43
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	3	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.29
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	4	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.43
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.43
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										<b>3.44</b>
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Multi-use Trails	VI.A.1	5	5	5	4	5	5	4		4.71
Canoeing/Kayaking	VI.A.2	5	5	5	4	5	5	4		4.71
Hunting	VI.A.3	5	5	5	4	5	5	4		4.71
fishing	VI.A.4	5	5	5	4	5	5	4		4.71
Picnicking	VI.A.5	4	5	5	4	5	5	4		4.57
Wildlife Viewing	VI.A.6	5	5	4	4		5	4		4.50
<b>Proposed Uses</b>										

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant, Office of Environmental Services  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2021 Land Management Review Team Report for Crystal River Preserve State Park

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## **Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In cases where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Crystal River Preserve State Park

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 27,417

**County:** Citrus

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to conserve the natural landscape of this coast, protect the water quality of the spring runs and estuaries where endangered manatees congregate, preserve natural lands that link with conservation lands to the south, and provide scenic areas in which the public can enjoy fishing, hiking, or learning about the natural world of this coast.

**Acquisition Program(s):** EEL, CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 12/5/1984

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 10/19/2018

**Review Date:** 9/17/2021

### **Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Barbara Roberts, Manager
- Scott Matthewman, Env. Specialist

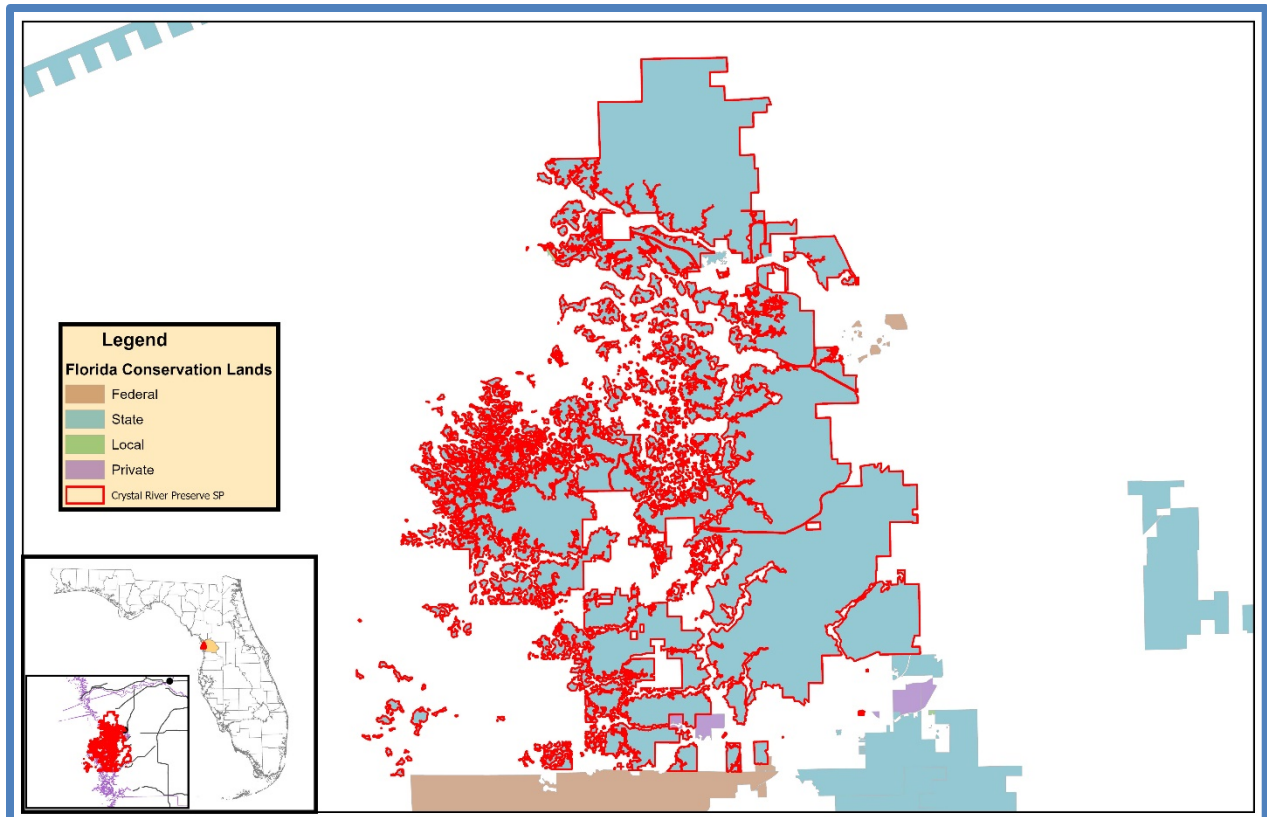
### **Review Team Members (voting)**

- Dan Pearson, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Scotland Talley, FWC
- DEP District, None
- Mike Edwards, FFS
- Chris McKendree, SWFWMD
- Conservation Org., None
- Kimberleigh Dinkins, Private Land Manager

### **Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

## Property Map



## Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 5, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 5, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.43	4.56
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.08	4.28
Hydrology	4.13	4.20
Imperiled Species	4.50	4.25
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.73	4.23
Cultural Resources	4.50	4.40
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.47	4.32
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.17	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

### Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

1. The team commends the park staff for partnering with FWC for treatment of Brazilian Pepper infestations, the use of internal funding for additional treatment, and the effective use of Americorps members at the park for exotic plant control. (5+, 0-)
2. The team commends park staff for partnering with SWFWMD in development of Redfish Hole hydrological restoration plan. (5+, 0-)
3. The team commends park staff for effective use of cooperative funding and staff to install low water crossings to improve hydrological conditions and provide access for prescribed fire operations. (5+, 0-)
4. The team commends park staff for the excellent historical and cultural resource protection, and their cooperation with Gulf Archaeological Research Institute and Florida Public Archaeology Network. (5+, 0-)
5. The team commends park staff for maximizing funding and staffing resources. (5+, 0-)
6. The team commends park staff for their prescribed burning efforts given the complexities of the wildland urban interface. (5+, 0-)

### Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:



1. The team recommends that park staff focus on reducing backlog of prescribed fire in the southern end of the preserve. (5+, 0-)  
Managing Agency Response: *Agree. Park staff have already began working towards increasing prescribed fire south of the Crystal River with additional mechanical treatments and fireline projects.*

## Field Review Details

### Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically basin swamp, mangrove swamp (estuarine tidal swamp), dome swamp, floodplain swamp, freshwater tidal swamp, salt marsh, basin marsh, hydric hammock, mesic hammock, depression marsh, and floodplain/freshwater tidal marsh.**
2. **Listed species, listed animal and plant species in general.**
3. **Natural resources survey/monitoring resources; specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Prescribed fire, specifically quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically sandhill, flatwoods, scrubby flatwoods, and coastal hydric hammock.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation and site preparation.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
9. **Hydro-alteration, specifically roads, culverts, and ditches.**
10. **Ground water monitoring, specifically quality.**
11. **Surface water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
12. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage and law enforcement presence.**
13. **Adjacent property concerns, specifically mining, invasive species, and inholdings and additions.**
14. **Public access, specifically roads, parking and boat access.**
15. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
16. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, and funding.**

### Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

*The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement actions in the field.*

## Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities (I.A)</b>										
Basin Swamp	I.A.1	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
Mangrove Swamp (Estuarine Tidal Swamp)	I.A.2	4	4	5	5	3				4.20
Dome Swamp	I.A.3	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.4	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
Freshwater Tidal Swamp	I.A.5	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
Salt Marsh	I.A.6	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
Basin Marsh	I.A.7	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Hydric Hammock	I.A.8	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Mesic Hammock	I.A.9	4	4	4	5	4				4.20
Mesic Flatwoods & Wet Flatwoods	I.A.10	4	3	4	4	4				3.80
Sandhill	I.A.11	4	2	4	4	4				3.60
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.12	4	2	4	3	4				3.40
Scrub	I.A.13	4	4	4	4	3				3.80
Depression Marsh	I.A.15	5	4		5					4.67
Floodplain/Freshwater Tidal Marsh	I.A.16	5	4	4	5					4.50
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.26
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation (I.B)</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	5	3		5	4				4.25
Plants	I.B.2	5	4		5	5				4.75
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	3	5	5	5				4.60
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	3	4	5	4				4.20
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	5	3	5	4	5				4.40
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	5	3	5	5	4				4.40
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B)</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
Protection and preservation	II.B	2	5	5	5	4				4.20
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	4	2	4	3	5				3.60
Frequency	III.A.2	4	2	4	4	4				3.60
Quality	III.A.3	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										3.87
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Sandhill	III.B.1	5	3	4	5	4				4.20

Flatwoods	III.B.2	5	3	4	5	4				4.20
Scrubby Flatwoods	III.B.3	5	3	4	5	4				4.20
Coastal Hydric Hammock	III.B.4	5	5	4	5	4				4.60
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.30
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3	5	3	5	5	5				4.60
Site Preparation	III.C.4	5	3	4	5	4				4.20
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	5	4	5	4				4.60
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	5	5	4	5	4				4.60
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	5	5	4	4	4				4.40
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
control - pests/pathogens	III.D.2.c	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.73
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	4	4	4	5	5				4.40
Ditches	III.E.1.b	4	4	4	5	5				4.40
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.40
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	3	4	4	5	4				4.00
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.00
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	3	4	4	5	4				4.00
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	3	4	4	5	4				4.00
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.00
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	4	4	5	5	5				4.60
Signage	III.F.3	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.45
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Mining	III.G.1.b	4	4	4	5	4				4.20
Invasive Species	III.G.1.c		4	4	5	4				4.25
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										

Roads	IV.1.a	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
Parking	IV.1.b	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
Boat Access	IV.1.c	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.49
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Buildings	V.2.a	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Equipment	V.2.b	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
Staff	V.3	5	3	4	3	4				3.80
Funding	V.4	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										4.17

Color Code:

Excellent

Above  
Average

Below  
Average

Poor

Missing  
Vote

Insufficient  
Information

See  
Appendix A  
for detail

## Land Management Plan Review Details

### Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

*The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvements in the management plan.*

### Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities (I.A)</b>										

Basin Swamp	I.A.1	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Mangrove Swamp (Estuarine Tidal Swamp)	I.A.2	5	4	5	5	3				4.40
Dome Swamp	I.A.3	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.4	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Freshwater Tidal Swamp	I.A.5	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Salt Marsh	I.A.6	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Basin Marsh	I.A.7	5	4	4	4	5				4.40
Hydric Hammock	I.A.8	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Mesic Hammock	I.A.9	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Mesic Flatwoods & Wet Flatwoods	I.A.10	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Sandhill	I.A.11	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.12	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Scrub	I.A.13	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Depression Marsh	I.A.15	5	4	4	5					4.50
Floodplain/Freshwater Tidal Marsh	I.A.16	5	4	5	5					4.75
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.72
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation (I.B)</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	4	4		5	4				4.25
Plants	I.B.2	4	4		5	4				4.25
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.25
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	4	4	4	4	4				4.00
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	4	4	5	4	5				4.40
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	4	5	4	4				4.20
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B)</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.40
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	4	4	4	5	4				4.20
Frequency	III.A.2	4	4	4	5	4				4.20
Quality	III.A.3	4	4	4	5	4				4.20
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.20
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Sandhill	III.B.1	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Flatwoods	III.B.2	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Scrubby Flatwoods	III.B.3	4	4	5	4	4				4.20
Coastal Hydric Hammock	III.B.4	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.35
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	4	4	5	5	4				4.40

Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Site Preparation	III.C.4	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.40
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	4	5	4	4				4.20
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	4	4	5	3	4				4.00
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
control - animals	III.D.2.b	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
control - pests/pathogens	III.D.2.c	4	4	5	3	4				4.00
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.23
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	4	4	4	5	4				4.20
Ditches	III.E.1.b	4	4	4	5	4				4.20
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.20
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	3	4	5	5	4				4.20
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.20
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	3	4	5	5	4				4.20
Surface water quantity	III.E.3.b	3	4	5	5	4				4.20
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.20
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	4	4	5	4	4				4.20
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	4	4	5	4	4				4.20
Signage	III.F.3	4	4	5	4	4				4.20
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	4	4	5	4	4				4.20
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.20
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Mining	III.G.1.b	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Invasive Species	III.G.1.c		4	5	5	4				4.50
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.G.3	5	3	4	4	3				3.80
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.G.4	5	5	5	4	4				4.60
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Parking	IV.1.b	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Boat Access	IV.1.c	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	4	5	4	4				4.40

Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	4	5	4	4				4.40
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	4	5	4	4				4.40
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	4	5	4	4				4.40
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.44
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Fishing	VI.A.1	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Hiking	VI.A.2	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Nature Study	VI.A.3	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Primitive Youth Camp	VI.A.4	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
Biking	VI.A.5	5	5	5	3	5				4.60
Interpretive Trails	VI.A.6	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Paddling	VI.A.7	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
<b>Proposed Uses</b>										
Campground	VI.B.1	5	5	4	3	5				4.40
Ranger Station	VI.B.2	5	5	5	4	5				4.80
Mullet Hole paddling launch improvements and group camp	VI.B.3	5	5	5	5	3				4.60

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*



**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Acting Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2017 Land Management Review Team Report for Ft. Clinch State Park

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In case where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Fort Clinch State Park

**Managed by:** Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Division of Recreation and Parks

**Acres:** 2,178

**County:** Nassau

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):**

**Original Acquisition Date:** 9/20/35

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 9/1/04

**Review Date:** 8/22/17

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Heath Alboher, Park Manager
- Brandon Volbrecht, FPS

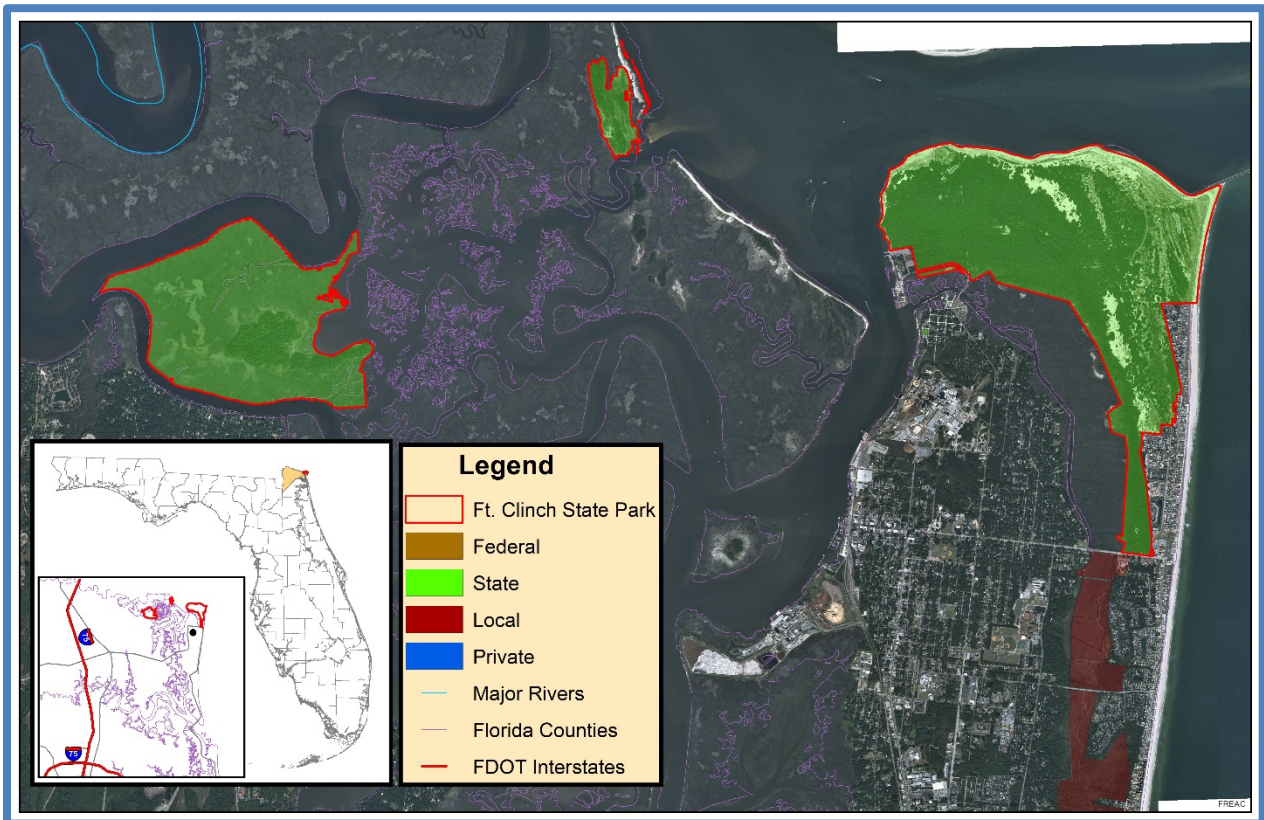
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- Dan Pearson, D2, FPS
- Local, None
- Megan Wallrichs, FWC
- Chrissy Sellers, FDEP-NED
- Bill Korn, FFS
- Sarah Tobing, SJRWMD
- Walter Bryant, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- James Parker, DEP/DSL
- Aric Larson, DEP/DSL
- Scotland Talley, FWC
- Cheryl Mannel, DEP/FCO

## 1.2 Property Map



### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 6, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 6, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

**Table 1: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.94	5.00	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	N/A	N/A	
Hydrology	4.47	4.78	
Imperiled Species	4.77	4.83	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.97	5.00	
Cultural Resources	5.00	5.00	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.84	4.81	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.42	N/A	
<b>Color Code</b> (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

#### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for their outstanding efforts to build a dynamic volunteer program in all facets of the public visitation program and natural resource management activities which now exceeds 20,000 hours each year. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for an excellent program protecting and interpreting the cultural resources at this park, including the Ft. Clinch facility. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for the continued efforts to identify and treat invasive plants at this park, which has effectively eradicated some populations or achieved a control maintenance condition for all other populations. (6+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS for a gret job mitigating soil erosion along the shared-use trails in steeply sloped areas of the maritime hammock using honeycombed paver blocks. (6+, 0-)
5. The team commends the park staff for the continued monitoring of imperiled shorebird species and active participation in Timucuan Shorebird Partnership and data submissions to the Florida shorebird database, including index nest beach and statewide nesting beach survey for nesting turtles. (6+, 0-)
6. The team commends the park staff for their excellent outreach and involvement with the local Fernandina community related to law enforcement support and a long list of public events. (6+, 0-)

### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FPS pursue development of the plan-defined hydrological study necessary to assess the value in restoring elements of the mosquito ditch system in the hammock and coastal grasslands. (6+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree.*

## 2. Field Review Details

### 2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. **Natural communities specifically; beach dune, coastal grassland, coastal strand, maritime hammock, coastal interdunal swale, salt marsh, salt flat, estuarine unconsolidated substrate, marine unconsolidated substrate.**
2. **Listed species protection and preservation, specifically: Animals (listed animal species in general) listed shorebirds spp, sea turtle, Plants (listed plant species in general), shell mound prickly pear.**
3. **Natural resources survey/monitoring specifically; listed species or their habitat monitoring, other habitat management effects, invasive species survey/monitoring**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals and pest/pathogens.**
7. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts, and ditches.**
8. **Ground water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
9. **Surface water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
10. **Resource protection, specifically; boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage and law enforcement presence.**
11. **Adjacent property concerns, specifically; inholdings/additions**
12. **Public Access, specifically; roads, and parking**
13. **Environmental education and outreach relating to wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities and management of visitor impacts:**
14. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff and funding.**

### 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

**\*\* The review team scores did identify items requiring improvement actions in the field. \*\***

### 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Beach Dune	I.A.1	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Coastal Grassland	I.A.2	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Coastal Strand	I.A.3	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Maritime Hammock	I.A.4	5	5		5	5				5.00
Coastal Interdunal Swale	I.A.5	5	5	4	4	4	5			4.50
Salt Marsh	I.A.6	5	5	X	5	5	5			5.00
Salt Flat (Var. of Salth Marsh)	I.A.7	X	5		5	5	5			5.00
Estuarine Unconsolidated Substrate	I.A.8	5	5	X	5	5	5			5.00
Marine Unconsolidated Substrate	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.94
<b>Listed species:Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Listed shorebird spp.	I.B.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Sea turtle spp.	I.B.1.b	5	5	5		5	5			5.00
Plants	I.B.2	X	5	4	5	5	4			4.60
Shell mound prickly pear (Opuntia stricta)	I.B.2.a	X	4	4	5		4			4.25
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.77
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	5	5	5	4	5			4.83
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	X	4	5	4	4	5			4.40
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	4			4.83
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00

prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.97
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
Ditches	III.E.1.b				4	4	4			4.00
Hydro-period Alteration	III.E.1.c	5	4	5						4.67
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	4	5	5	4	4			4.50
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	4	5	5	4	5			4.67
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.58
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	4	5	3	4	5			4.33
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	4	5	3	4	5			4.33
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.33
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	5	4	5	5	5	4			4.67
Signage	III.F.3	5	4	4	5	5	5			4.67
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	5	5		5	5	5			5.00
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.83
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a		4	5	5	5	5			4.80
Parking	IV.1.b	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	4	4	4	4	5			4.33
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.85
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00



Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00	
<b>Infrastructure</b>											
Buildings	V.2.a	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83	
Equipment	V.2.b	5	4	5	4	4	5			4.50	
Staff	V.3	3	3	4	4	2	4			3.33	
Funding	V.4	4	4	4	4	3	4			3.83	
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										4.42	
Color Code:		Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor						See Appendix A for detail
			Missing Vote	Insufficient Information							

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**\*\* The review team scores did identify items requiring improvement in the management plan\*\***

#### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Beach Dune	I.A.1	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Coastal Grassland	I.A.2	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Coastal Strand	I.A.3	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Maritime Hammock	I.A.4	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Coastal Interdunal Swale	I.A.5	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Salt Marsh	I.A.6	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Estuarine Unconsolidated Substrate	I.A.8	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Marine Unconsolidated Substrate	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Listed shorebird spp.	I.B.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Sea turtle spp.	I.B.1.b	5	5	5		5	5			5.00
Plants	I.B.2	5	5	4	4	5	5			4.67

Shell mound prickly pear ( <i>Opuntia stricta</i> )	I.B.2.a	5	5	4	3	5	5			4.50
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.83
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	5	5	5	4	5			4.83
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	4	5	4	4	5			4.33
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>5</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
Ditches	III.E.1.b	5	5	5	5	4	5			4.83
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.83
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	5	5	5	4	5			4.83
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	5	5	5	4	5			4.83
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.83
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	5	5	4	4	5			4.67
Surface water quantity	III.E.3.b	5	5	5	4	4	5			4.67
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.67
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
Signage	III.F.3	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	5	4		4	5	5			4.60

Resource Protection Average Score										4.78
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Tarpon Rd Residential (exotics)	III.G.1	5	4	5	4		5			4.60
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	5	4	5	5	5	5			4.83
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.G.3	5	4	5	4	5	5			4.67
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.G.4	5	4	5	4	5	5			4.67
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	4	5	4	4	5			4.50
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	4	5	4	5	5			4.67
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Public Access & Education Average Score										4.85
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Fishing	VI.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Camping	VI.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Picnicking	VI.A.3	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Interpretive programs	VI.A.4	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Special events	VI.A.5	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Wildlife observation	VI.A.6	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Multi-use trail (hiking/biking)	VI.A.7	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Proposed Uses</b>										
Atlantic Beach campground expansion	VI.B.1	5	4	5	4	5	5			4.67
Willow Pond trailhead parking area	VI.B.2	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2018 Land Management Review Team Report for Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In cases where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team. Accomplishment

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 2,383

**County:** Clay

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 2/15/36

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 4/16/10

**Review Date:** 8/28/18

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Kevin Patton, Park Manager
- Nick Brown
- Tracey Sleek

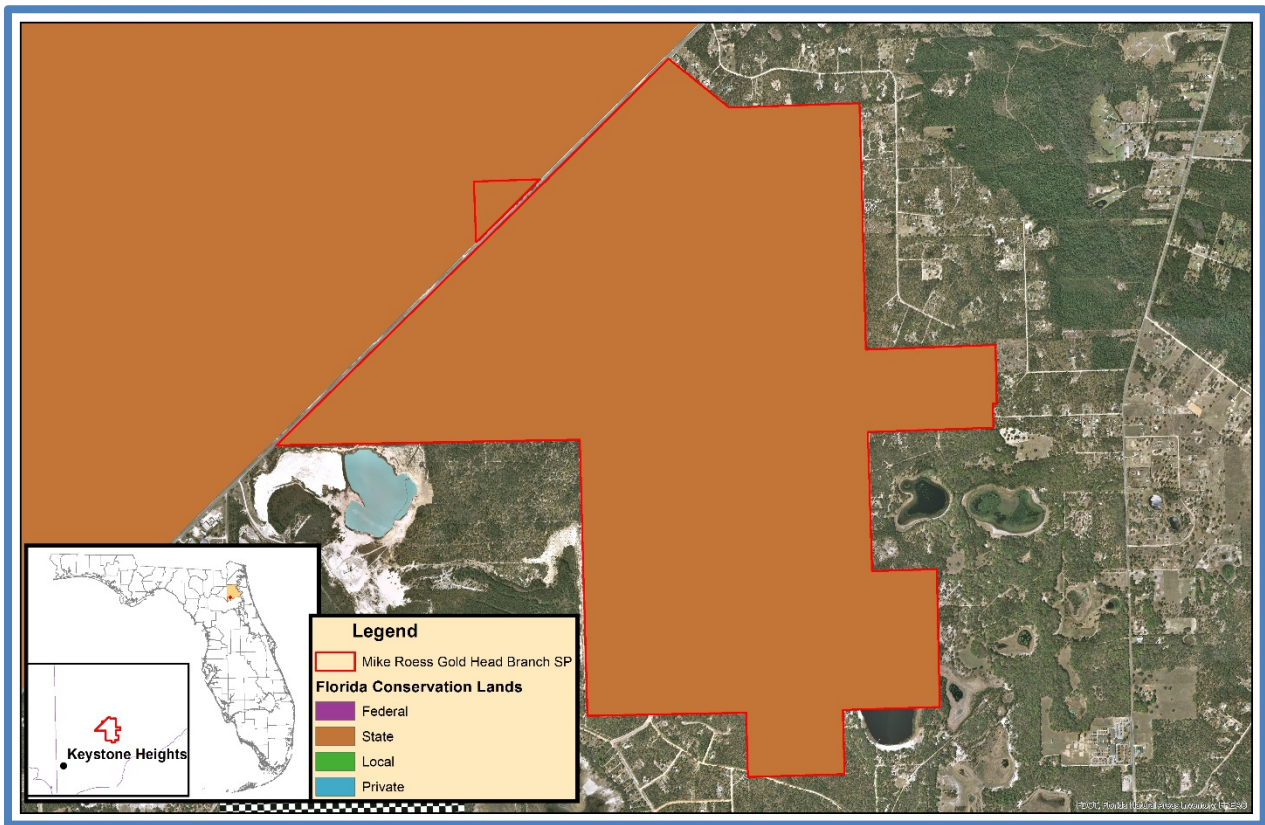
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- Dan Pearson, DRP District
- Ann Stodola, Local Gov't.
- Scotland Talley, FWC
- Keri Armstrong, DEP District
- Heather Schmiede, FFS
- Sarah Tobing, SJRWMD
- Grace Howell, Cons. Organization
- Private Land Manager, None

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

## 1.2 Property Map





### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

#### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for restoring native groundcover in roadway triangles. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for the excellent use of prescribed burning to meet natural fire return intervals. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for the installation of additional interpretive signage. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS for the effective use of volunteers to help meet resource management objectives and free up staff for projects. (7+, 0-)
5. The team commends the FPS for excellent cultural resource monitoring and interpretation. (7+, 0-)
6. The team commends the FPS for building and maintaining partnerships with Florida Forest Service, Camp Blanding, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, St. Johns River Water Management District, and others to maximize resource management and species monitoring. (7+, 0-)
7. The team commends the FPS for surveying and treating invasive plants, keeping natal grass managed and contained, despite active threat from surrounding properties and internal locations. (7+, 0-)
8. The team commends the FPS for building working relationships with adjacent private property owners, including Vulcan Materials, to maximize resource management activities in the wildland urban interface. (7+, 0-)
9. The team commends the FPS for building an effective fire training (burn boss) program that has resulted in several employees promoting to park managers and being dispatched statewide to assist other agencies/parks. (7+, 0-)

Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.51	4.43
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.95	4.95
Hydrology	4.76	4.57
Imperiled Species	4.61	4.58
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.62	4.52
Cultural Resources	5.00	4.79
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.88	4.88
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.93	N/A

Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
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### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FPS continue to seek resources to rebuild ravine stairs and boardwalk to protect seepage stream. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. This is an ongoing process, design consultants and engineers from the Bureau of Design and Construction have conducted site visits for the purpose of creating an efficient and accessible design while ensuring protection of the resources.*

2. The team recommends that the FPS add the two unrecorded sites to the Florida Master Site File . (6+, 0-, 1 abstained)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. One site is currently in the process of being added, and the second site will be submitted as soon as possible.*

3. The team recommends that the FPS continue efforts to establish corridors for ecosystem connectivity within the Ocala to Osceola wildlife corridor.. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. Park and District staff are working with the North Florida Land Trust to potentially acquire additional property adjacent to Gold Head within the optimum boundary through the Army Compatible Use Program at Camp Blanding. The 10-year update to the Unit Management Plan is currently up for review and will include additional lands identified in the optimum boundary for resource protection, additional recreational activities and connectivity purposes.*

## 2. Field Review Details

### 2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically mesic flatwoods, sandhill, scrub, slope forest, xeric hammock, basin marsh, baygall, depression marsh, seepage slope, sandhill upland lake, sinkhole lake, and seepage stream.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically kestrel, gopher tortoise, scrub jay red cockaded woodpecker and hooded pitcher plants.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically upland restoration.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory.**

8. Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.
9. Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts and ditches.
10. Ground water and surface water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.
11. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.
12. Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.
13. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.
14. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, and buildings.

## 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

1. *Management Resources, specifically staff, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. However, no new staff can be assigned to this or any other park unit unless they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature. Gold Head will continue to augment and assist staff with operations through the continuance of the park's volunteer program, partnerships with public and private entities, and community involvement.*

## 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Sandhill	I.A.2	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Scrub	I.A.3	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Slope Forest	I.A.4	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Xeric Hammock	I.A.5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Basin Marsh	I.A.6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Baygall	I.A.7	4	4	5	5	2	x	5		4.17
Bog	I.A.8	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Depression Marsh	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00

Seepage Slope	I.A.10	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Sandhill Upland Lake	I.A.11	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Sinkhole Lake	I.A.12	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Seepage Stream	I.A.13	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.88
<b>Listed species:Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	4	5	5	5	5	5			4.83
Kestrel	I.B.1.a	4	5	4	5	5	5	5		4.71
Gopher Tortoise	I.B.1.b	5	5	4	5	5	5	5		4.86
Scrub Jay	I.B.1.c	4	5	3	5	4	5	5		4.43
RCW	I.B.1.d	4	5	3	5	4	5	5		4.43
Plants	I.B.2		5	5	5	4	5	5		4.83
Hooded Pitcher Plants	I.B.2.a		5		4	4	5	3		4.20
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.61
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	4		4.86
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	5	4	5	4	5	4		4.57
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	5	4	5	5	4	5	5		4.71
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	5	5	5	3	5	5		4.57
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Frequency	III.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Quality	III.A.3	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.95
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	4	5	3	5	3	5	4		4.14
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.14
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	4	5	4	5	3	5	5		4.43
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	5	4	5	3	5	5		4.43
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	4	5	4	5	4	5	5		4.57
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	5	4	5	5	5	5		4.86
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	5	4	5	4	5	5		4.71
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	5	5	4	5	4	5	5		4.71
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.62

<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	4	5	5	5	4	5	4		4.57
Ditches	III.E.1.b	4	5	5	5	4	5	4		4.57
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.57
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	4	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.71
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	4	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.71
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.71
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Signage	III.F.3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	5	5	5	5	5	x	5		5.00
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a		5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Parking	IV.1.b		5	5	4	5	5	5		4.83
Boat Access	IV.1.c		5	5	4	4	5	5		4.67
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	3	5	5	4	5	5	5		4.57
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	3	5	5	4	5	5	5		4.57
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	4	5	5	4	5	5	5		4.71
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	5	5	4	5	5	5		4.86
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	5	5	4	5	4		4.71
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.77
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	5	4	5	4	5	5	5		4.71
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Buildings	V.2.a	5	5	5	4	5	5	5		4.86
Equipment	V.2.b	3	4	2	3	4	3	5		3.43
Staff	V.3	2	4	2	2	2	1	2		2.14

Funding	V.4	3	4	3	3	4	3	4		3.43	
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										<b>3.93</b>	
Color Code:		Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor						See Appendix A for detail
			Missing Vote	Insufficient Information							

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the management plan.**

#### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Sandhill	I.A.2	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Scrub	I.A.3	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Slope Forest	I.A.4	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Xeric Hammock	I.A.5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Basin Marsh	I.A.6	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Baygall	I.A.7	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Bog	I.A.8	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Depression Marsh	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Seepage Slope	I.A.10	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Sandhill Upland Lake	I.A.11	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Sinkhole Lake	I.A.12	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Seepage Stream	I.A.13	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										<b>4.86</b>
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	4	5	5	5	5	5			4.83
Kestrel	I.B.1.a	4	5	4	5	5	5	4		4.57
Gopher Tortoise	I.B.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5	4		4.86
Scrub Jay	I.B.1.c	3	5	4	5	5	5	4		4.43

RCW	I.B.1.d	3	5	4	5	4	5	4		4.29
Plants	I.B.2	4	5	5	5	4	5	4		4.57
Hooded Pitcher Plants	I.B.2.a	4	5		5	4	5	4		4.50
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.58
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	4	5	4	5	5	5	4		4.57
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3		5	4	5	4	5	4		4.50
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4		4	5	5	3	5	5		4.50
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5		5	4	5	3	5	5		4.50
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6		5	4	5	5	5	5		4.83
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B)</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	4	5	5	5		4.86
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	5	5	4	5	5	5		4.71
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.79
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Frequency	III.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Quality	III.A.3	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.95
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	4	4	5	5	3	5	2		4.00
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.00
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.E.1.a	4	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.71
prevention - animals	III.E.1.b	4	4	5	5	3	5	5		4.43
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.E.1.c	4	4	5	5	3	5	5		4.43
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.E.2.a	4	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.71
control - animals	III.E.2.b	4	4	5	5	3	5	5		4.43
control - pest/pathogens	III.E.2.c	4	4	5	5	3	5	5		4.43
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.52
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.F.1.a	3	5	5	5	3	5	4		4.29
Ditches	III.F.1.b	3	5	5	5	3	5	4		4.29
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.29
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.F.2.a	4	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.71
Ground water quantity	III.F.2.b	4	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.71
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.71
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										

Surface water quality	III.F.3.a	4	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.71
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	4	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.71
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.71
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.G.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Gates & fencing	III.G.2	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Signage	III.G.3	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Law enforcement presence	III.G.4	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.89
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.H.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Inholdings/additions	III.H.2	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.H.3	3	4	3	3	2	5	2		3.14
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.H.4	4	5	5	5	5	3	5		4.57
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	4	5	5	5	5	5	5		4.86
Parking	IV.1.b	4	5	5	5	5	5	5		4.86
Boat Access	IV.1.c		5	5	4	4	5	5		4.67
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a		5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Invasive Species	IV.2.b		5	5	4	5	5	5		4.83
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c		5	5	4	5	5	5		4.83
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3		5	5	4	5	5	5		4.83
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4		5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5		5	5	5	4	5	5		4.83
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.86
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Fishing	VI.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Hiking	VI.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Cabins	VI.A.3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Camping	VI.A.4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Picnicking/Swimming	VI.A.5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Canoeing	VI.A.6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Equestrian Trail	VI.A.7	5	4	5	5	3	5	5		4.57
Birding/Wildlife Viewing	VI.A.8	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail



## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Acting Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2017 Land Management Review Team Report for Ichetucknee Springs State Park

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In case where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Ichetucknee Springs State Park

**Managed by:** Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Division of Recreation and Parks

**Acres:** 2,518.49

**County:** Columbia, Suwannee

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** EEL, CARL/P2000

**Original Acquisition Date:**

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 10/17/00

**Review Date:** 10/18/17

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Bob Soderholm, Park Manager
- Dan Pearson, D2, FPS
- Craig Parenteau, D2, FPS
- Sam Cole, D2, FPS

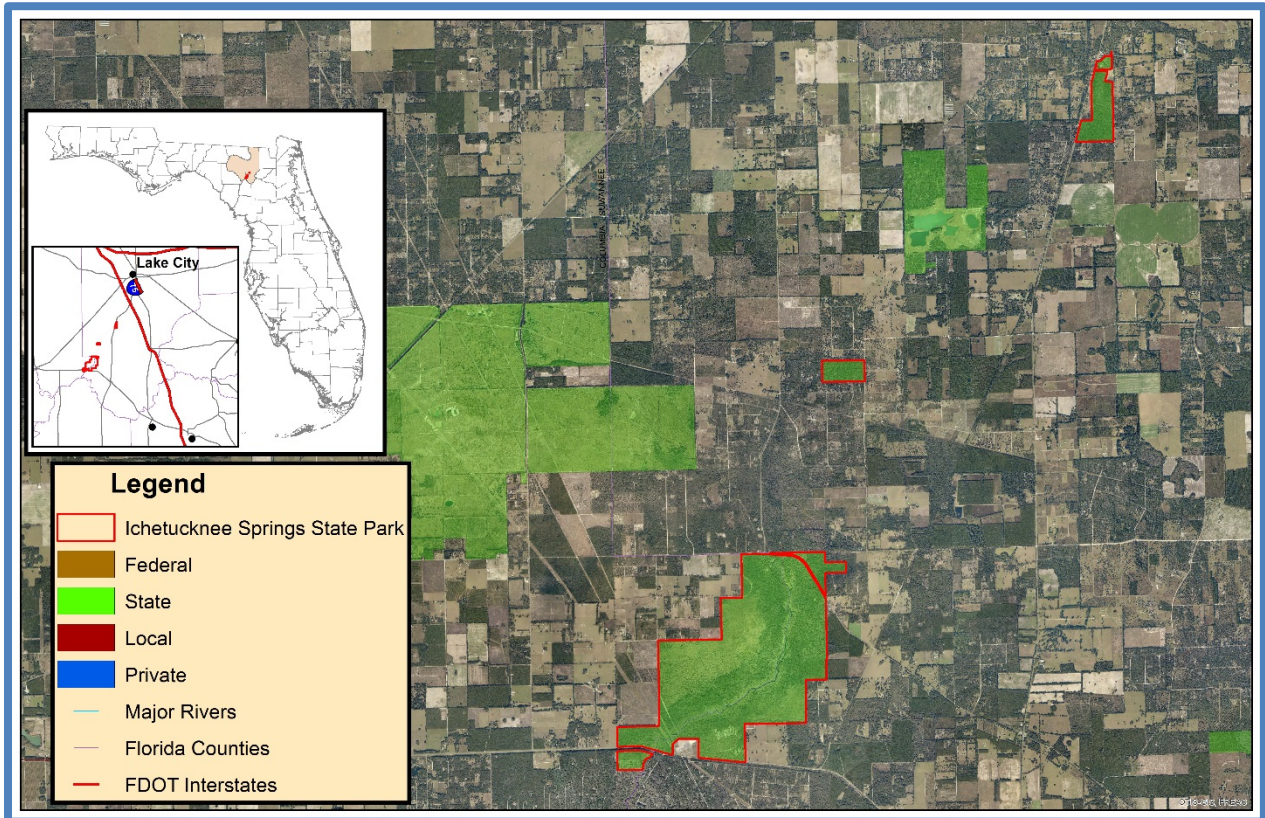
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- Rick Owen, D2, FPS
- Doug Longshore, FFS
- Jim Stevenson, Local
- Catherine Bowman, Conservation Org.
- Ginger Morgan, FWC
- Ronald Blair, Private Land Manager
- Jason Newman, FDEP-NED

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- James Parker, DEP/DSL
- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

## 1.2 Property Map



### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

**Table 1: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.49	4.66	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.74	4.44	
Hydrology	4.73	4.67	
Imperiled Species	4.86	5.00	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.29	4.60	
Cultural Resources	4.86	5.00	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.52	4.66	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.81	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

#### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the park staff for the great job with your “people management” and large numbers of park visitors. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends park staff for the great work in making river access wheel chair accessible. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for great work keeping invasive exotic species at maintenance levels. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS for their great ongoing work with fire frequency and hardwood reduction in the sandhill plant community. (7+, 0-)
5. The team commends the park staff for the great job increasing interpretive activities and events (cultural and environmental), especially the youth involvement, into the park’s operational calendar. (7+, 0-)
6. The team commends the park staff for the outstanding protection and interpretation of cultural and historical resources. (7+, 0-)
7. The team commends the FPS for the cooperation and innovative use of contracts with vendors for recreational opportunities while providing an orientation to the park operations. (7+, 0-)
8. The team commends DRP for for a thorough and well-written land management plan. (7+, 0-)

### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that DRP work with the (SRWMD) to help promote the highest level of spring flow protection for the Ichetucknee system, and all priority springs, including ensuring access for manatees, through the MFL process. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The Division will continue to coordinate and seek guidance from the SRWMD concerning Minimum Flows and Levels for the Ichetucknee River, and similarly coordinate with FWC concerning continued unfettered manatee access to this important warm water refuge.*

2. The team recommends that the FPS add appropriate fencing as needed at Rose Sink and McCormick tracts to protect the resources. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The Division will protect resources on the Rose and McCormick tracts with appropriate boundary fencing.*

3. The team recommends that the FPS coordinate with FWC and USFWS to define the status of the Ichetucknee as a manatee warm water refugia/sanctuary in light of increasing numbers of manatees using this system. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The Division will cooperate with and follow the guidance of FWC and USFWS concerning manatee warm water refugia/sanctuary status for the Ichetucknee River.*

4. The team recommends that the DRP consider reallocating the 750 tubers from upper launch to the mid-point launch in order to reduce the substantial impacts on vegetation, water clarity, and wildlife habitat in the sensitive upper river.. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. In accordance with longstanding spring monitoring protocols, the Division will consider modifications to carrying capacities at each Unit Plan Update.*

## 2. Field Review Details

### 2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically: Mesic Flatwoods, Mesic Hammock, Sandhill, Sinkhole / Sinkhole Lake, Upland Hardwood Forest, Upland Mixed Woodland/ Upland Pine, Dome Swamp, Alluvial Forest, Floodplain Marsh, Floodplain Swamp, Blackwater Stream, Spring-run Stream, Aquatic Cave**
2. **Listed species protection and preservation, specifically: Animals (listed animal species in general) Gopher Tortoise, Southeastern American Kestrel, Ichetucknee Siltsnail, Plants (listed plant species in general)**

3. **Natural Resources Survey/Management Listed species or their habitat monitoring, Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, Fire effects monitoring, Other habitat management effects monitoring, Invasive species survey / monitoring**
4. **Cultural Resources (Archeological & Historic sites) specifically: Cultural Res. Survey, Protection and preservation**
5. **Prescribed fire, specifically area being burned, frequency and quality:**
6. **Restoration, specifically; Upland Pine/ Upland Mixed Woodland**
7. **Forest Management; Timber Inventory/Assessment, Timber Haresting**
8. **Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species Prevention/Control, specifically Plants, Animals, pests/pathogens**
9. **Hydro-alteration, specifically roads and culverts.:**
10. **Ground water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity:**
11. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, and signage:**
12. **Public Access, specifically; roads, parking and boat access**
13. **Environmental education and outreach relating to wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities and management of visitor impacts:**
14. **Managed Areas, specifically; Swimming, Tubing, Snorkeling, SCUBA Diving, Canoeing / Kayaking, Picnicking, Nature Study, Hiking, Bicycling**

## 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

1. *The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically mesic flatwoods, and upland mixed woodland/ upland pine, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%..*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The Division will work towards increasing the acreage of these natural communities in maintenance condition.*

## 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	3		3	3	2		2		2.60
Mesic Hammock	I.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Sandhill	I.A.3	5	4	4	4	4	5	4		4.29
Sinkhole / Sinkhole Lake	I.A.4	5		4	5	5	5	5		4.83
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.5	5	5	5	3	5	5	5		4.71



Upland Mixed Woodland/ Upland Pine	I.A.6	2	2	2	2	2	5	2		2.43
Dome Swamp	I.A.8	5	4	4	4	4	4	4		4.14
Alluvial Forest	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Floodplain Marsh	I.A.10	5	5	5	4	5	5	5		4.86
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.11	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Blackwater Stream	I.A.12	5		5	4	5		5		4.80
Spring-run stream	I.A.13	4	5	5	5	4		3		4.33
Aquatic Cave	I.A.14	5		5	5	5	5	5		5.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.38
<b>Listed species:Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals (listed animal species in general)	I.B.1	5		5	5	4	5			4.80
Gopher Tortoise	I.B.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Southeastern American Kestrel	I.B.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5	4		4.86
Ichetucknee Siltsnail	I.B.1.c	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Plants (listed plant species in general)	I.B.2	5	4	5	5	4		5		4.67
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.86
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	4	5	5	5	2	5		4.43
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	4	4	4	5		5		4.50
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	5	4	5	5	5	4	4		4.57
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	5	4	5	4	5	4	5		4.57
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	5	5	3	5		4.71
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.86
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A1	4	4	5	5	5	4	5		4.57
Frequency	III.A.2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4		3.86
Quality	III.A.3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		4.00
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.14
Upland Pine / Upland Mixed Woodland	III.B.2	2	3	4	4	3		4		3.33
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										3.33
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory / Assessment	III.C.1	4		4	5	5		5		4.60
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	4		4	5	5		5		4.60
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	3	5	5	5	4	5	4		4.43
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	4	5	5	4	5	4		4.43

prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	4	3	5	5	4		3		4.00
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	4	5	5	4	3	4		4.29
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	4	5	5	4	3	4		4.29
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	5	3	5	5	4		4		4.33
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.29
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	5	4	5	4	4		4		4.33
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.33
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.86
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1			4	5	5	5	5		4.80
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	3	3	4	4	4		4		3.67
Signage	III.F.3		3	5	4	5		4		4.20
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4			4	4	5		5		4.50
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.29
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	5		4	4		4			4.25
Groundwater impacts	III.G.1.b	5	5	4	4	5	4			4.50
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4			4		4			4.00
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	5		5	4	5		5		4.80
Parking	IV.1.b	5		5	5	5		5		5.00
Boat Access	IV.1.c	5	3	4	4	3		5		4.00
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	5	5	5	5		3		4.67
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	5	5	4	5	2	5		4.29
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.75
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	3		4	4	5	3	4		3.83
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	3	5	5	5	4	3	4		4.14
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Buildings	V.2.a	4		4	4	5	3	5		4.17

Equipment	V.2.b	4		4	5	5	3	5		4.33
Staff	V.3	3		4	4	4	1			3.20
Funding	V.4	3		4	4	4	1	3		3.17
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										<b>3.81</b>

Color Code:	Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor	See Appendix A for detail
		Missing Vote	Insufficient Information		

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**\*\*The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement actions in the field. \*\***

#### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	5	4	5	5	5	3	5		4.57
Mesic Hammock	I.A.2	5	4	5	5	5		5		4.83
Sandhill	I.A.3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Sinkhole / Sinkhole Lake	I.A.4	5	5	4	5	5		5		4.83
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Upland Mixed Woodland/ Upland Pine	I.A.6	5	5	4	5	4	5	5		4.71
Dome Swamp	I.A.8	5	5	5	5	5	2	5		4.57
Alluvial Forest	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	5	3	5		4.71
Floodplain Marsh	I.A.10	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.11	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Blackwater Stream	I.A.12	5	5	4	5	5		5		4.83
Spring-run stream	I.A.13	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00
Aquatic Cave	I.A.14	5	5	4	5	5	5	5		4.86
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										<b>4.83</b>
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals (listed animal species in general)	I.B.1	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00
Gopher Tortoise	I.B.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Southeastern American Kestrel	I.B.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Ichetucknee Siltsnail	I.B.1.c	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Plants (listed plant species in general)	I.B.2	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										<b>5.00</b>

<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	5	4	4	5	4	5		4.57
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	5	5	5	4	5	4	5		4.71
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	4	5	5		5	5		4.83
Frequency	III.A.2	5	5	4	4		3	5		4.33
Quality	III.A.3	5	3	4	4		4	4		4.00
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.39
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Upland Pine / Upland Mixed Woodland	III.B.2	5	5	4	4	4		5		4.50
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory / Assessment	III.C.1	5	5	4	4	5	3	5		4.43
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	5	5	4	5	5	3	5		4.57
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	4	5	5	4	5	5		4.71
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	5	4	5	5	4	5	5		4.71
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	5	4	5	5	4		5		4.67
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	4	5	5	4	3	5		4.43
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	4	5	5	4	3	5		4.43
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	5	4	5	5	4		5		4.67
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	5	4	4	5	5	1	5		4.14
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.14
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.86
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00

Surface water quantity	III.E.3.b	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	4	5	5	5	5	5		4.86
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	4	4	5	5	5		5		4.67
Signage	III.F.3		3	5	5	5		4		4.40
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4		3	5	5	5		5		4.60
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.63
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	5	4	4	5		2			4.00
Groundwater impacts	III.G.1.b	5	5	4	5	5	4			4.67
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	5	4	4						4.33
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.G.3	5	3	3	5	3	4	3		3.71
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.G.4	3	4	5	4	4	1	5		3.71
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	5		5	4	5		5		4.80
Parking	IV.1.b	5		5	5	5		5		5.00
Boat Access	IV.1.c	5	3	4	4	3		3		3.67
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	3	5	5	5		5		4.67
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	3	5	5	5		5		4.67
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	3	5	5	5		5		4.67
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	4	5	5	5		5		4.83
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	5	5		5		5.00
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.68
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Swimming	VI.A.1	5	4	4	5	5	3	4		4.29
Tubing	VI.A.2	5	3	4	3	3	3	3		3.43
Snorkeling	VI.A.3	5	4	4	4	5	3	4		4.14
SCUBA Diving	VI.A.4	5	4	4	5	5	3	4		4.29
Canoeing / Kayaking	VI.A.5	5	5	4	5	5	5	5		4.86
Picnicking	VI.A.6	5	5	5	5	5	5	4		4.86
Nature Study	VI.A.7	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Hiking	VI.A.8	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Bicycling	VI.A.9	5	5	5	5	5	3	3		4.43
<b>Proposed Uses</b>										

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2018 Land Management Review Team Report for Manatee Springs State Park

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In cases where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Manatee Springs State Park

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 2,192

**County:** Levy

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** LATF/P2000

**Original Acquisition Date:** 1/6/49

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 6/25/13

**Review Date:** 8/10/18

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Mark Abrizenzki, Park Manager
- Joleen Dudley, Assistant Park Manager

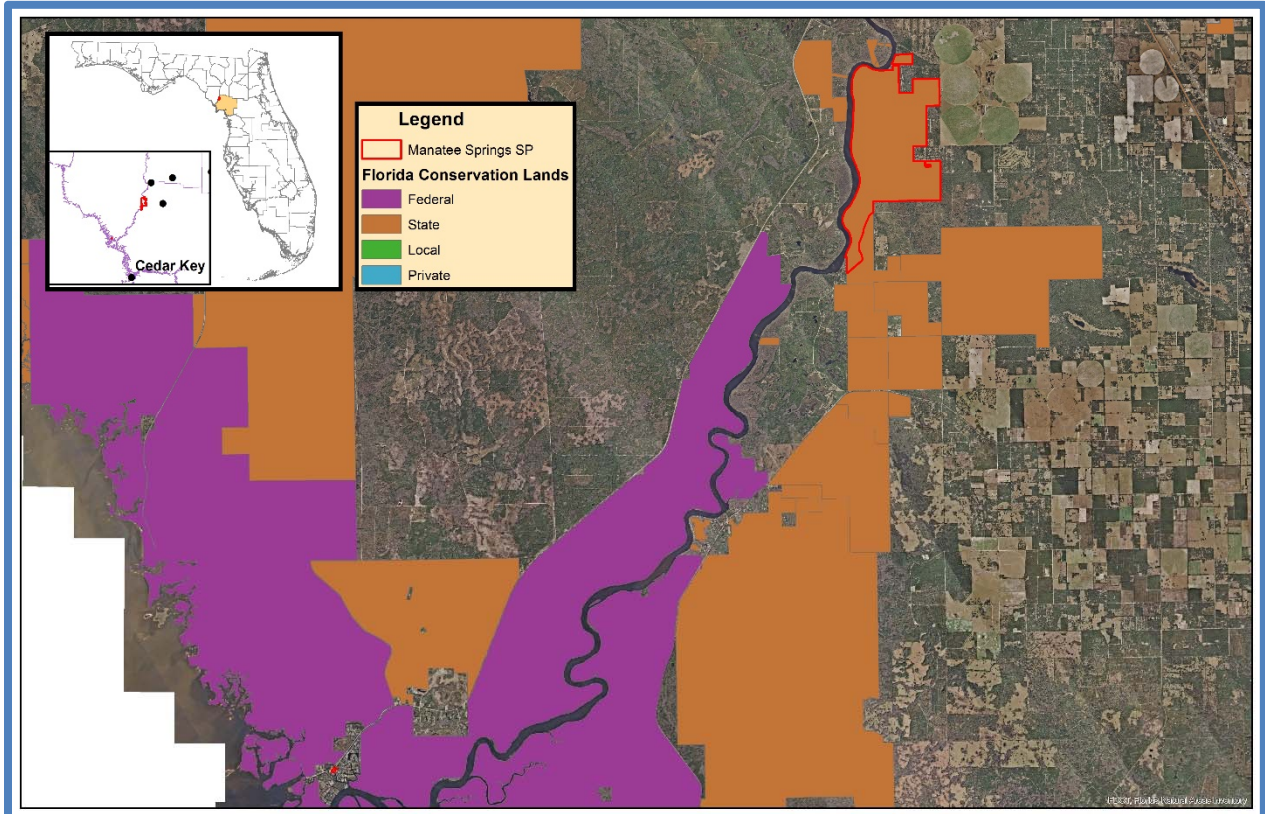
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- Anne Barkdoll, DRP District
- Steven Keith, Local Gov't.
- Jess Rodriguez, FWC
- Linda Oliva, DEP District
- Doug Longshore, FFS
- Wri Irby, SRWMD
- Jaya Milam, Cons. Organization
- Private Land Manager, None

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Glenda Schrimper, FNPS

## 1.2 Property Map



### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.15	3.20
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.32	3.87
Hydrology	4.32	4.06
Imperiled Species	4.17	3.81
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.37	3.98
Cultural Resources	4.21	4.07
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.17	3.89
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.19	N/A

Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
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#### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for the great work with prescribed burning and meeting their burn goals. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for the restoration of the scrubby flatwoods. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for actively monitoring and protecting cultural resources. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS for overall improvements of the waterfront areas, visual appearance and renovation of the concession area. (7+, 0-)
5. The team commends the FPS for increasing visitation at the park through outreach. (7+, 0-)
6. The team commends the park manager and staff for the outstanding interpretive programs at the park. (7+, 0-)
7. The team commends the FPS for their management of the park visitors and visitor experience. (7+, 0-)
8. The team commends the FPS on the control of feral hogs and control of invasive exotic plants. (7+, 0-)

#### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FPS take additional steps to deter littering to preserve the natural environment. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The park will search for additional methods to reduce littering that occurs at the boat ramp including the use of a “leave no trace” approach.*

2. The team recommends that the FPS conduct some maintenance improvements to the north end trail system (mowing the trail). (6+, 1-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The park has implemented a maintenance disking schedule for the north end trail system to maintain burn preparedness.*

3. The team recommends that the Manatee Springs SP attempt to utilize more growing season prescribed fire, now that all burn acres are out of backlog. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The park has already conducted a growing season burn and will strive to conduct more growing season burns at Manatee Springs. However, it will balance this with the need to maintain the natural communities within their optimal fire return interval. This will likely result in fires occurring in a mixture of seasons.*

4. The team recommends that the FPS consider using hardwood chipping as one of the management tools to habitat restoration. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. DRP staff evaluate a wide range of hardwood management techniques including chipping when planning habitat restoration projects. Techniques are selected based on several considerations including the site conditions, the habitat needs and concerns of the particular project and the economics of the project.*

## **2. Field Review Details**

### **2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings**

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically sandhill, scrubby flatwoods, scrub, xeric hammock, basin swamp, bottomland forest, depression marsh, alluvial forest, floodplain swamp, sinkhole lake, swamp lake, spring run stream and aquatic cave.**
2. **Listed species, plants in general, and specifically manatee.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically upland restoration.**
7. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
8. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically erosion.**
9. **Ground water and surface water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**

10. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, and signage.
11. Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.
12. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.
13. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff, and funding.

## 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the field**

## 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Sandhill	I.A.1	5	x	4	4	4	4	4		4.17
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.2	5	4	4	5	5	4	4		4.43
Sinkhole	I.A.3	5	4	4	5	5	4	4		4.43
Upland Pine Forest/Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.5	3	3	3	3	4	4	3		3.29
Xeric Hammock	I.A.6	5	3	3	4	4	5	4		4.00
Basin Swamp	I.A.7	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Bottomland Forest	I.A.8	5	5	4	5	4	5	5		4.71
Depression Marsh	I.A.9	5	5	4	3	4	4	4		4.14
Alluvial Forest	I.A.10	5	5	5	3	5	5	5		4.71
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.11	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Sinkhole Lake	I.A.12	5	5	4	5	4	5	5		4.71
Swamp Lake	I.A.13	5	5	4	4	5	5	5		4.71
Spring Run Stream	I.A.14	5	5	3	4	5	3	5		4.29
Aquatic Cave	I.A.15	5	5	x	5	5	4	5		4.83
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.45
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	4		4	4	4	3	4		3.83
Manatee	I.B.1.a	5		5	4	4	3	5		4.33
Plants	I.B.2	5		4	5	4	4	4		4.33
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.17
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources (I.C)</b>										

Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	4	3	5	4	4	4		4.14
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	4	3	5	4	3	4		4.00
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	5	4	4	4	5	4	4		4.29
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	5	4	3	5	4	3	4		4.00
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	4	5	4	3	4		4.29
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	5	2	5	4	4	5		4.14
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	5	4	4	5	4	4		4.29
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.21
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	4		4.86
Frequency	III.A.2	5	4	5	5	5	4	4		4.57
Quality	III.A.3	4	4	5	5	5	4	4		4.43
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.62
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Springs Restoration	III.B.1	4	4	4	4	4	3	4		3.86
Upland Restoration	III.B.2	5		4	4	4	4	4		4.17
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.01
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	4	3	4	5	5	3	3		3.86
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										3.86
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	4	4	5	4	4	4		4.29
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	5	5	4	5	4	4	5		4.57
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	4	4	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	4	4	5	4	4	4		4.29
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	5	5	5	4	4	4		4.57
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	5	4	4	5	4	4			4.33
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.37
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	4	4	3	5	4	4	3		3.86
Erosion	III.E.1.f			4	5	4	4	4		4.20
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.03
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	5	4	5	5	4	4		4.57
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	5	4	5	5	4	4		4.57
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.57
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	4	4	5	5	4	4		4.43
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	4	4	4	5	5	4	4		4.29

Surface Water Monitoring Average Score										4.36
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5		4	5	4	4	3		4.17
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	5		3	5	4	4	3		4.00
Signage	III.F.3	5	3	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	4	3	4	5	4	4	3		3.86
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.04
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	3	4	x	5	4	3	3		3.67
Nutrients from Adjacent Lands	III.G.1.b	3	4	x	5	3	3	3		3.50
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	3	4	x	4	4	3	4		3.67
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	5	5	4	5	4	3	4		4.29
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	4	5	4	4	4		4.43
Boat Access	IV.1.c	5	5	4	5	4	3	4		4.29
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	4	4	3	5	4	4	4		4.00
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	4	4	3	5	4	4	4		4.00
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	4	4	3	5	4	4	4		4.00
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	5	4	5	4	4	4		4.43
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	5	5	4	4		4.71
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	4	5	5	4	4		4.57
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.30
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	5	4	4	4	4	4	4		4.14
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	5	4	4	4	5	4	4		4.29
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Buildings	V.2.a	5	4	4	5	5	4	4		4.43
Equipment	V.2.b	4	4	4	5	5	4	4		4.29
Staff	V.3	4	4	3	5	5	4	3		4.00
Funding	V.4	4	5	3	5	4	4	3		4.00
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										4.19

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. *Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address a timber inventory.*

*Managing Agency Response: This will be addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C. when it was approved by ARC.*

2. *Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, and surplus land identified received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property and/or surplus lands.*

*Managing Agency Response: Adjacent property concerns including discussion of potential surplus land determination will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C. when ARC approved it.*

#### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Sandhill	I.A.1	5	3	4	4	4	4	4		4.00
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.2	5	4	4	5	3	4	4		4.14
Sinkhole	I.A.3	5	3	4	5	5	4	4		4.29
Upland Pine Forest/Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.5	3	3	3	1	4	4	3		3.00
Xeric Hammock	I.A.6	5	3	4	4	4	4	4		4.00
Basin Swamp	I.A.7	5	3	4	5	3	4	4		4.00
Bottomland Forest	I.A.8	5	3	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
Depression Marsh	I.A.9	5	3	4	4	3	4	4		3.86
Alluvial Forest	I.A.10	5	3	4	3	4	4	4		3.86
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.11	5	3	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
Sinkhole Lake	I.A.12	5	3	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
Swamp Lake	I.A.13	5	3	4	4	4	4	4		4.00



Spring Run Stream	I.A.14	5	3	4	4	5	4	4		4.14
Aquatic Cave	I.A.15	5	4	4	2	5	4	4		4.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										3.98
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	4	3	4	4	3	3	4		3.57
Manatee	I.B.1.a	5	4	5	4	4	3	4		4.14
Plants	I.B.2	4	3	4	4	3	4	4		3.71
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										3.81
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	4	4	4	5	3	4	4		4.00
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	4	3	4	5	3	3	4		3.71
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	2	1	3	5	3	4	4		3.14
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	3	3	3	4	4	4	4		3.57
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	3	4	4	5	4	3	4		3.86
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	3	4	5	4	4	4		4.00
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	5	4	4	4	4	4		4.14
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.07
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	4	2	4	5	5	5	4		4.14
Frequency	III.A.2	4	2	4	5	4	4	4		3.86
Quality	III.A.3	4	2	4	5	4	4	4		3.86
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										3.95
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Springs Restoration	III.B.1	4	3	4	4	4	3	4		3.71
Upland Restoration	III.B.2	4	3	4	4	4	4	4		3.86
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										3.79
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	3	1	3	1	2	4	3		2.43
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										2.43
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.E.1.a	4	4	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
prevention - animals	III.E.1.b	4	4	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.E.1.c	3	1	4	4	4	4	3		3.29
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.E.2.a	4	4	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
control - animals	III.E.2.b	4	4	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
control - pest/pathogens	III.E.2.c	4	4	4	5	4	4	3		4.00
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										3.98

<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.F.1.a	3	2	4		4	4	4		3.50
Erosion	III.F.1.f			4	5	4	4	3		4.00
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										3.75
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.F.2.a	4	4	4	5	5	4	4		4.29
Ground water quantity	III.F.2.b	4	4	4	5	5	4	4		4.29
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.29
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.F.3.a	4	3	4	5	5	4	4		4.14
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	4	3	4	5	5	4	4		4.14
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.14
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.G.1	4	1	4	5	4	4	3		3.57
Gates & fencing	III.G.2	4	1	4	5	3	4	3		3.43
Signage	III.G.3	4	3	4	5	3	4	3		3.71
Law enforcement presence	III.G.4	4	3	4	5	4	4	3		3.86
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										3.64
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.H.1.a	3	3	4	5	4	3	3		3.57
Nutrients from Adjacent Lands	III.H.1.b	4	3	4	5	3	3	4		3.71
Inholdings/additions	III.H.2	4	3	4	4	4	3	4		3.71
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.H.3	3	3	2	2	2	3	3		2.57
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.H.4	4	3	3	1	3	3	2		2.71
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	4	4	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
Parking	IV.1.b	4	4	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
Boat Access	IV.1.c	4	4	4	5	4	3	4		4.00
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	4	4	3	5	3	4	4		3.86
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	4		4	5	3	4	4		4.00
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	4	4	4	5	4	4	4		4.14
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	4	4	4	5	3	4	4		4.00
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	5	4	4	4		4.57
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	4	5	4	4	4		4.43
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.14
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Recreational Trails/Hiking & Biking	VI.A.1	5	5	4	5	5	4	3		4.43
Swimming	VI.A.2	5	4	2	5	5	4	4		4.14

Nature Appreciation	VI.A.3	5	5	5	5	5	4	4		4.71
Fishing	VI.A.4	5	5	4	5	5	3	4		4.43
Camping	VI.A.5	5	5	4	5	5	5	5		4.86
Diving	VI.A.6	5	5	3	5	5	4	4		4.43
Canoeing	VI.A.7	5	5	3	5	5	4	4		4.43
Boating	VI.A.8	5	5	2	5	5	3	3		4.00

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor	See Appendix A for detail
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information		

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2017 Land Management Review Team Report for O’Leno/River Rise State Parks

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In case where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** O'Leno/River Rise State Parks

**Managed by:** Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Division of Recreation and Parks

**Acres:** 4,481

**County:** Alachua

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** EEL, CARL/P2000

**Original Acquisition Date:**

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 4/18/03

**Review Date:** 10/16/17

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Gabby Paxton, Manager
- Craig Parenteau, FPS
- Jason Vickery, Assist. Manager

### Review Team Members Present (voting)

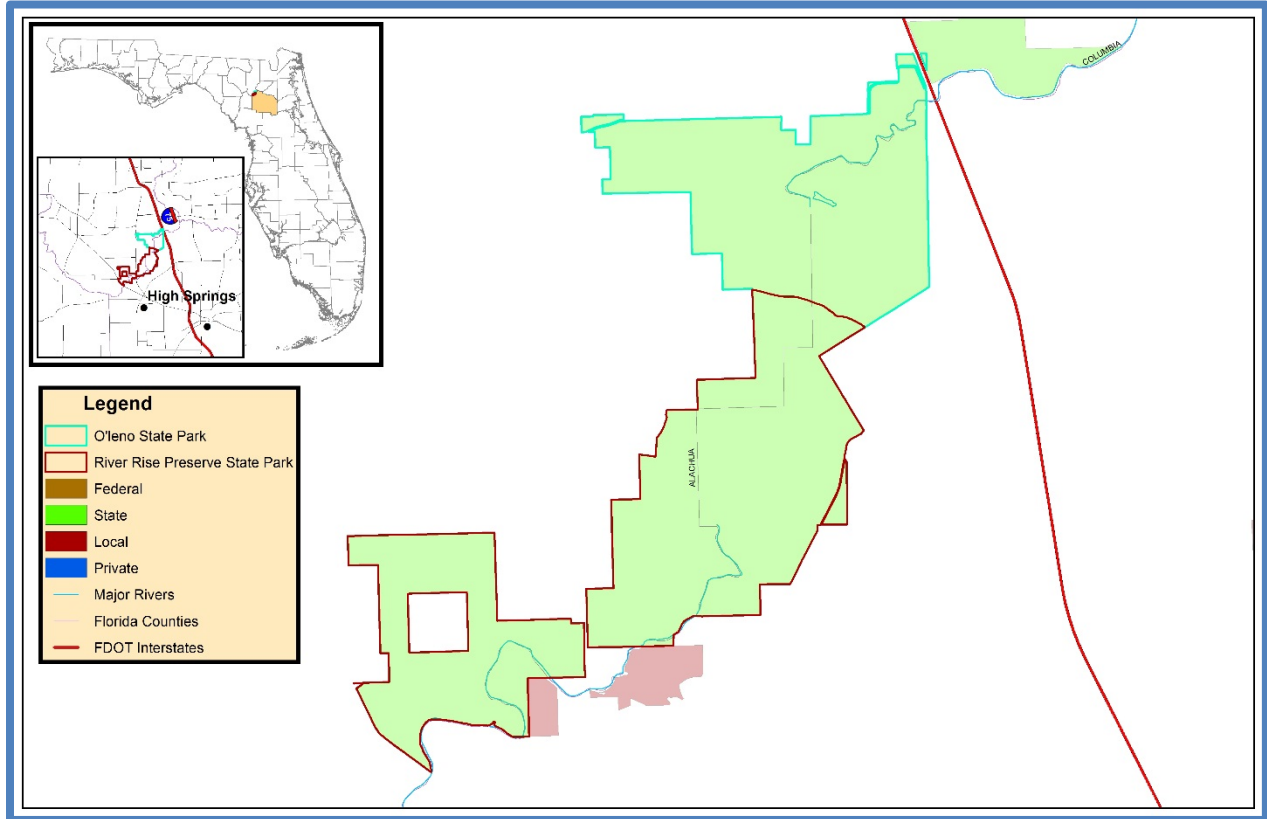
- Anne Barkdoll, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Ginger Morgan, FWC
- Kimberly Mann, DEP District
- Doug Longshore, FFS
- WMD, None
- Grace Howell, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- James Parker, DEP/DSL
- Linda King, FWC
- Ray Spalding, DSL/OES
- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL



## 1.2 Property Map



## 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed in accordance with the purposes for which it was acquired?*

*Yes = 5, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 5, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

**Table 1: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.91	4.15	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.52	4.58	
Hydrology	4.47	4.60	
Imperiled Species	4.88	4.90	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.68	4.57	
Cultural Resources	4.50	4.80	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.65	4.78	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.16	N/A	
<b>Color Code</b> (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the park staff for park maintenance in general, with a stretch workforce. (5+, 0-)
2. The team commends park staff for the outstanding work with cultural resource interpretation. (5+, 0-)
3. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for excellent prioritization and implementation of prescribed fire, resulting in high quality habitat and protection of a diversity of species in pyrogenic ecosystems. (5+, 0-)
4. The team commends FPS for managing and offering outstanding recreational opportunities at the park. (5+, 0-)

### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that FPS consider hardwood chipping as a restoration tool. The team also suggests trying this strategy on an experimental basis in order to provide a comparison of ground cover recovery, cost, etc. (3+, 2-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. During restoration planning a variety of methods are considered and the most appropriate is selected for each particular project.*

2. The team recommends that park staff move more of their good fire type habitat into growing season burns. (5+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree.*

## 2. Field Review Details

### 2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically: Mesic Flatwoods, Sandhill, Scrubby Flatwoods, Sinkhole, Upland Hardwood Forest, Upland Pine, Xeric Hammock, Basin Swamp, Bottomland Forest, Depression Marsh, Dome Swamp, Alluvial Forest, Floodplain Swamp, Sinkhole Lake, Swamp Lake, Blackwater Stream, Aquatic Cave, Terrestrial Cave, Limestone Outcropping, Mesic Hammock**
2. **Listed species protection and preservation, specifically: Animals and Plants**
3. **Natural Resources Survey/Management Listed species or their habitat monitoring, Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, Fire effects monitoring, Other habitat management effects monitoring, Invasive species survey / monitoring**
4. **Cultural Resources (Archeological & Historic sites) specifically: Cultural Res. Survey, Protection and preservation**
5. **Prescribed fire, specifically area being burned, frequency and quality:**
6. **Restoration, specifically; Upland Pine/ Bible CampRd./ Blackwater Stream, Magnolia Campground Upland Mixed**

7. Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species Prevention/Control specifically Plants, Animals, pests/pathogens
8. Hydro-alteration, specifically roads and culverts.:
9. Ground water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity:
10. Surface water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity:
11. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence:
12. Public Access, specifically; roads, parking and boat access
13. Environmental education and outreach relating to wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities and management of visitor impacts:
14. Managed Resources specifically; Maintenance: Waste disposal, Sanitary facilities, Buildings, and Equipment

## 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

**\*\* The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement actions in the field. \*\***

## 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	4	4	4	4	4				4.00
Sandhill	I.A.2	4	4	5	4	4				4.20
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.3	4	4	5	4	4				4.20
Sinkhole Lake	I.A.4	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Upland Hardwood forest	I.A.5	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.6	3	3	4	3	3				3.20
Upland Pine	I.A.7	4	4		4	4				4.00
Xeric Hammock	I.A.8	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
Basin Swamp	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
Bottomland Forest	I.A.10	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
Depression Marsh	I.A.11	4	4	4	5	4				4.20
Dome Swamp	I.A.12	4	4	4	5	5				4.40
Alluvial Forest	I.A.13	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.14	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
Sinkhole Lake	I.A.15	5	5		5	5				5.00
Swamp Lake	I.A.16	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Blackwater Stream	I.A.17	5	5	5	5	5				5.00

Aquatic Cave	I.A.18	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Terrestrial Cave	I.A.19	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Limestone Outcropping	I.A.20	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Mesic Hammock	I.A.21	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.62
<b>Listed species:Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	4	5	5	5					4.75
Plants	I.B.2		5	5	5					5.00
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.88
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	4	5	5	5	4				4.60
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	4	5	4				4.60
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A1	3	5	2	5	5				4.00
Frequency	III.A.2	4	5	4	5	5				4.60
Quality	III.A.3	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.33
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Pine Uplands @Mcleod Tract	III.B.2	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
Bible Camp Rd./Blackwater Stream	III.B.3	5	5	4		5				4.75
Magnolia Campground Upland Mixed Woodland	III.B.5	5	5		4	5				4.75
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.70
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory / Assessment	III.C.1	4	2	3	4	4				3.40
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2									
Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3				3					3.00
Site Preparation	III.C.4									
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										3.20
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	4	4	4	5				4.20
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	5	5		4	5				4.75
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	4	4	4	5				4.40

control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	5	5		4	5				4.75
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.68
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	4	5	4	4	4				4.20
Ditches	III.E.1.b	3	4	4	3	3				3.40
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										3.80
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.80
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.80
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	5	5	4	5				4.80
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	5	5	5	4	5				4.80
Signage	III.F.3	5	5	5	3	5				4.60
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.75
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	4		3	4	4				3.75
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4		3	4	4				3.75
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	5	5	5	4	4				4.60
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	5	4	5				4.80
Boat Access	IV.1.c	5	5	3	4	5				4.40
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	4	5	4	5	5				4.60
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	4	5	4	4	4				4.20
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	4	5	4	4	5				4.40
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	4	5	4	4	5				4.40
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.56
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	5	5	5	4	5				4.80
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	5	5	5	4	5				4.80
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Buildings	V.2.a	5	5	4	4	4				4.40
Equipment	V.2.b	4	5	4	4	4				4.20
Staff	V.3	2		3	4	4				3.25
Funding	V.4	3		3	4	4				3.50

<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>									<b>4.16</b>	
Color Code:	Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor						See Appendix A for detail
		Missing Vote	Insufficient Information							

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**\*\*The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement actions in the field. \*\***

#### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	5	5	5	4	5				4.80
Sandhill	I.A.2	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.3	5	5	5	4	5				4.80
Upland Hardwood forest	I.A.5	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.6	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Upland Pine	I.A.7	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
Xeric Hammock	I.A.8	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
Basin Swamp	I.A.9	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
Bottomland Forest	I.A.10	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Depression Marsh	I.A.11	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Dome Swamp	I.A.12	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Alluvial Forest	I.A.13	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.14	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Swamp Lake	I.A.16	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Blackwater Stream	I.A.17	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Aquatic Cave	I.A.18	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
Terrestrial Cave	I.A.19	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
Limestone Outcropping	I.A.20	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
Mesic Hammock	I.A.21	5	5	5	4	5				4.80
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										<b>4.80</b>
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
Plants	I.B.2		5	5	5					5.00
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										<b>4.90</b>

<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	4	5	4	5	5				4.60
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	4	5	5	5	4				4.60
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.80
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	5	2	5	5				4.40
Frequency	III.A.2	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Quality	III.A.3	5	5	4	5	4				4.60
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Pine Uplands @Mcleod Tract	III.B.2	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
Bible Camp Rd./Blackwater Stream	III.B.3	5	5	4		5				4.75
Magnolia Campground Upland Mixed Woodland	III.B.4	5			4	4				4.33
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.56
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory / Assessment	III.C.1	4	5	3	4	4				4.00
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2									
Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3				3					3.00
Site Preparation	III.C.4									
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										3.50
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	5	4	4	5				4.40
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
control - animals	III.D.2.b	4	5	4	4	5				4.40
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	4	5	4	4	5				4.40
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.57
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	5	5	4	4	4				4.40
Ditches	III.E.1.b	5	4	4	3	4				4.00
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.20
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	5	4	5	5				4.80

Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.80
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Surface water quantity	III.E.3.b	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.80
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	5		5	5				5.00
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	5	5		5	5				5.00
Signage	III.F.3	5	5		5	5				5.00
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	5	5		5	5				5.00
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	4	5	4	4	4				4.20
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.G.3	5	5	4	4					4.50
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.G.4	5	5	4	4					4.50
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	5	5	4	5	4				4.60
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Boat Access	IV.1.c	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	4	5	4	4	5				4.40
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	4	5	4	4	4				4.20
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	4	5	4	4	5				4.40
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	4	5	4	4	5				4.40
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.56
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Trails (hiking)	VI.A.1	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Camping	VI.A.2	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Picnicking	VI.A.3	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Fishing	VI.A.4	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Swimming	VI.A.5	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Canoeing/Kayaking	VI.A.6	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Equestrian Use	VI.A.7	4	3	5	4	4				4.00
Biking	VI.A.8	4	3	4	4	4				3.80
<b>Proposed Uses</b>										

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail



## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant, Office of Environmental Services  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

**Wes Howell** Digitally signed by Wes Howell  
Date: 2021.07.22 10:32:28  
-04'00'

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)  
Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2021 Land Management Review Team Report for Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park

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## **Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In cases where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 21,654.00

**County:** Alachua

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To protect the water resources and endangered and threatened species of the wet prairie/marsh ecosystem.

**Acquisition Program(s):** LATF, CARL/P2000, Florida Forever   **Original Acquisition Date:** 9/29/1970

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 12/18/2013

**Review Date:** 6/2/2021

### **Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Donald Forgione, Park Manager
- Heather Goston, Assistant Park Manager

- Keith Morin, Park Biologist

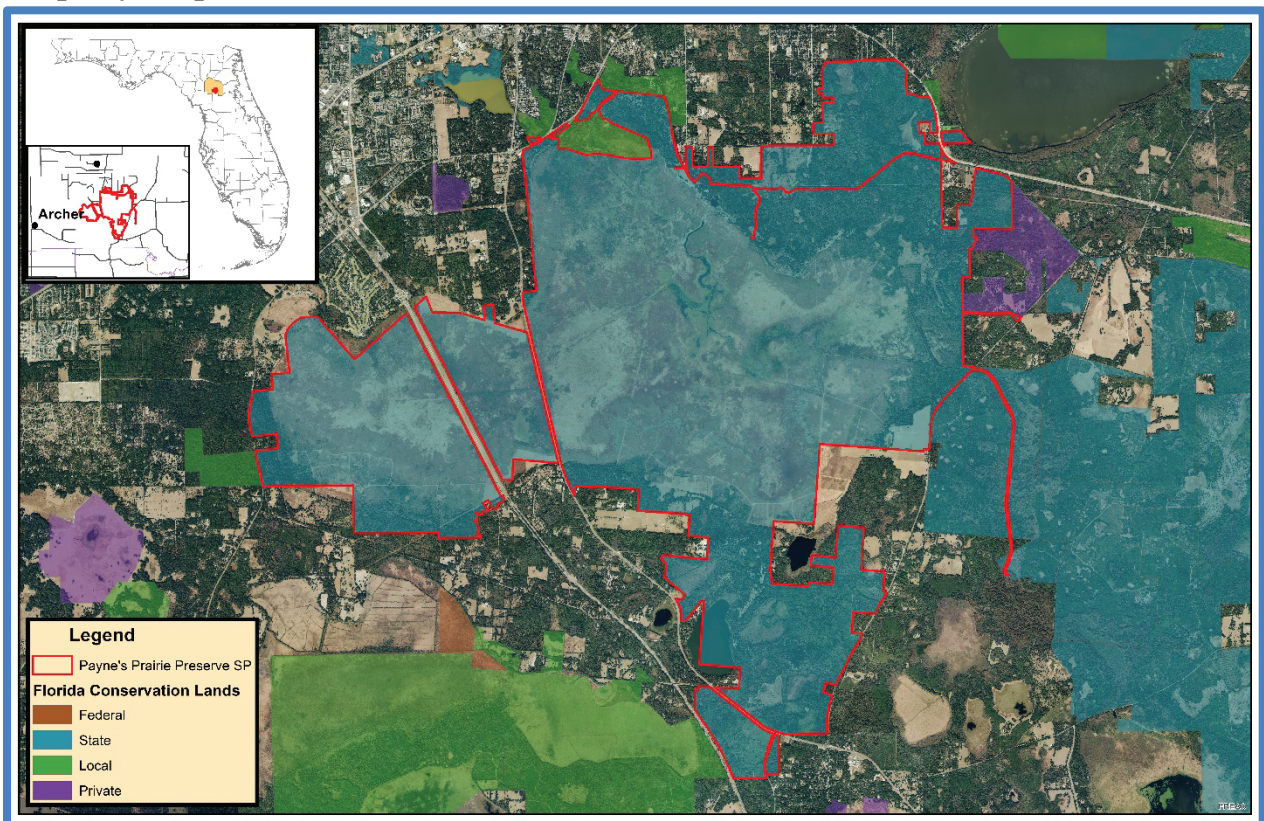
### **Review Team Members (voting)**

- Dan Pearson, DRP District
- Shelly Wayte, FFS
- Ryan Kennelly, Local Gov't.
- Brent Bachelder, SJRWMD
- Ginger Feagle, FWC
- Jim Surdick, Conservation Org.
- Jason Neumann, DEP District
- Grace Howell, Private Land Manager

### **Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

## Property Map



## Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 8, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 8, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.19	3.81
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.98	4.42
Hydrology	4.55	4.67
Imperiled Species	4.53	4.50
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.53	4.29
Cultural Resources	4.69	4.75
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.56	4.46
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.31	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

### **Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the state park staff on consulting subject area experts to inform management decisions. (8+, 0-)
2. The team commends the park staff for working with partners to acquire critical additions adjacent to the park. (8+, 0-)
3. The team commends the park staff for an active fire management program, including use of mechanical and chemical treatments to restore fire into natural communities. (8+, 0-)
4. The team commends the state park staff for adaptive management regarding prioritizing restoration projects as funding becomes available and taking advantage of natural disturbances to improve firelines. (8+, 0-)
5. The team commends the park staff on initiating timber harvest judiciously to manage upland forested natural community restoration. (8+, 0-)
6. The team commends the park staff for partnering with St. Johns River Water Management District and funding partners to replace the Camps Canal water control structure in an effort to improve delivery of water from Camps Canal into Paynes Prairie Basin and Alachua Sink. (8+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the old livestock fencing be removed within the park. (8+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. Funding has been allocated for FY21/22 to remove 12,000 feet of old fence lines within the park. As with many projects at the park, removal of certain fence lines will be contingent on water levels in the prairie basin marsh.*

## Field Review Details

### Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically limestone outcrop, mesic hammock, sinkhole, upland hardwood forest, xeric hammock, alluvial forest, basin marsh, depression marsh, basin swamp, dome swamp, baygall, bottomland forest, floodplain swamp, hydric hammock, clastic upland lake, marsh lake, sinkhole lake, blackwater stream, seepage stream, spring run and aquatic cave.**
2. **Listed species, listed animal and plant species in general, and specifically gopher tortoise, listed wading bird spp., Florida pine snake, silver buckthorn, Godfrey's swamp privet, brittle maidenhair fern and hooded pitcher plant.**
3. **Natural resources survey/monitoring resources; specifically sport fish or their habitat monitoring, listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically survey and protection/preservation.**
5. **Prescribed fire, specifically quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically Upland pine / upland mixed woodland.**
7. **Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, and site preparation.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
9. **Hydro-alteration, specifically roads and culverts, ditches and canals, hydro-period alteration, water level alterations, dams, reservoirs, and other impoundments.**
10. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality and quantity**
11. **Surface water monitoring, specifically quantity and quantity**
12. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
13. **Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.**
14. **Public access, specifically roads, and parking.**
15. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
16. **Management Resources, specifically waste disposal and sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, and funding.**

## Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

- The maintenance condition of the natural communities, specifically sandhill, upland mixed woodland, and upland pine, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.*

*Managing Agency Response: The majority of the sandhill, upland mixed woodland and upland pine areas are in poor condition due to past land use history which included cattle grazing and conversion to improved pasture. Restoration of these degraded sites are being pursued as staff and funding allows and are considered along with the park's many other restoration and management objectives.*

## Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities (I.A)</b>										
Limestone Outcrop	I.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.2	3	5	3	3	4	3	3	3	3.38
Mesic Hammock	I.A.3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4.00
Sandhill	I.A.4	2	4	2	1	3	3	3	4	2.75
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.5	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3.13
Sinkhole	I.A.6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.88
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.7	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	4.88
Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.8	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	2	1.50
Upland Pine	I.A.9	3	4	2	2	4	2	2	2	2.63
Wet Flatwoods	I.A.10	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	3.75
Xeric Hammock	I.A.11	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.88
Alluvial Forest	I.A.12	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.88
Basin Marsh / Depression Marsh	I.A.13	5	4	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.63
Basin Swamp / Dome Swamp	I.A.14	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.88
Baygall	I.A.15	5	5	5	4	5	4	4	3	4.38
Bottomland Forest	I.A.16	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.88
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.17	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75
Hydric Hammock	I.A.18	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.88
Clastic Upland Lake / Marsh Lake / Sinkhole Lake	I.A.19	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	4	4.75
Blackwater Stream / Seepage Stream / Spring Run	I.A.20	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75
Aquatic Cave	I.A.21	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.21



<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation (I.B)</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	4.57
American alligator	I.B.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.88
Gopher tortoise	I.B.1.b	4	4	5	5	4	5	4	3	4.25
Listed wading bird spp.	I.B.1.c	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	3	4.63
Florida pine snake	I.B.1.d	5	4	4	5	4	5	3	2	4.00
Plants	I.B.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	4.57
Silver buckthorn	I.B.2.a	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	4	4.75
Godfrey's Swampprivet	I.B.2.b	5	5	4	5	4	5	4	3	4.38
Brittle maidenhair fern	I.B.2.c	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	4.88
Hooded pitcher plant	I.B.2.d	5	5	4	5	4	5	4	3	4.38
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.53
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Sport fish or their habitat monitoring	I.C.1	5	4	x	4	4	5	3	3	4.00
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	5	4	5	4	5	4	2	4.25
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	5	4	5	4	5	4	2	4.25
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	5	4	4	4	4	5	5	3	4.25
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	5	5	4	5	4	5	4	2	4.25
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B)</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	4	4.75
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	4	4	5	5	5	5	4	4.63
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.69
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	5	5	2	4	3	4	3	3.88
Frequency	III.A.2	5	4	5	3	4	3	4	3	3.88
Quality	III.A.3	5	4	5	5	4	3	4	3	4.13
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										3.96
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Upland pine / upland mixed woodland	III.B.1	4	4	4	5	4	4	5	2	4.00
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.00
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	5	3	5	5	4	5	5	5	4.63
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	4	4	4	3	4	4	5	4	4.00
Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3	4	4	5	3	4	3	3	4	3.75
Site Preparation	III.C.4	4	3	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.25
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.16
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	5	4	5	4	5	5	4	4.63
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	5	4	4	5	4	5	5	4	4.50
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	4	5	4	5	4	5	5	4	4.50
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	4.75

control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	4	5	5	4	5	5	2	4.38
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	4	4	5	4	4	5	5	x	4.43
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.53
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	5	4	5	5	5	5	4	3	4.50
Ditches	III.E.1.b	5	4	5	5	5	5	4	3	4.50
Hydro-period Alteration	III.E.1.c	5	4	5	5	5	5	3	3	4.38
Water Level Alteration	III.E.1.d	5	4	5	5	5	5	3	3	4.38
Dams, Reservoirs or other impoundments	III.E.1.e	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	4.50
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.45
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	4	4.63
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	4	4.63
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.63
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	4	4.63
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	4	4.50
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.56
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	4	4	5	4	5	5	4	3	4.25
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	4	4	5	5	5	5	4	3	4.38
Signage	III.F.3	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	3	4.63
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	4	4	5	4	5	5	5	3	4.38
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.41
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding Development	III.G.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4	4	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.50
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	3	4.50
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	3	4.50
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	4.63
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.88
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	4.75
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.72

Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	3	4.50
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	3	4.50
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Buildings	V.2.a	4	4	5	4	5	5	5	3	4.38
Equipment	V.2.b	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	3	4.50
Staff	V.3	4	3	4	3	4	5	4	3	3.75
Funding	V.4	4	3	5	3	5	5	5	4	4.25
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										4.31

Color Code:	Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor	See Appendix A for detail
		Missing Vote	Insufficient Information		

## Land Management Plan Review Details

### Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below.

1. *Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically fire effects monitoring, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.*

*Managing Agency Response: Fire effects monitoring will be addressed in greater detail in the next unit management plan revision. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

2. *Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, and timber harvesting, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address forest management.*

*Managing Agency Response: The Park Service has completed a multi-phased statewide project which included a vegetation inventory of upland forest communities and has created a comprehensive GIS dataset of forest/vegetation for all parks. This data will be utilized to create the timber management component for the next unit management plan revision, and to guide forest management decisions to produce the desired future condition for each natural community. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C. when it was approved by ARC.*

## Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities (I.A)</b>										
Limestone Outcrop	I.A.1	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.63
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.2	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.63
Mesic Hammock	I.A.3	5	4	5	4	5	5	4	5	4.63
Sandhill	I.A.4	5	4	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.50
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.5	5	4	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.50
Sinkhole	I.A.6	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4.75
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.7	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4.75
Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.8	5	4	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.50
Upland Pine	I.A.9	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.63
Wet Flatwoods	I.A.10	5	4	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.50
Xeric Hammock	I.A.11	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4.75
Alluvial Forest	I.A.12	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4.75
Basin Marsh / Depression Marsh	I.A.13	5	4	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.50
Basin Swamp / Dome Swamp	I.A.14	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.63
Baygall	I.A.15	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.63
Bottomland Forest	I.A.16	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.63
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.17	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4.75
Hydric Hammock	I.A.18	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4.75
Clastic Upland Lake / Marsh Lake / Sinkhole Lake	I.A.19	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4.75
Blackwater Stream / Seepage Stream / Spring Run	I.A.20	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4.75
Aquatic Cave	I.A.21	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4.75
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.65
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation (I.B)</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	5	5		5	5	5	4	2	4.43
American alligator	I.B.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75
Gopher tortoise	I.B.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	4.63
Listed wading bird spp.	I.B.1.c	5	5	5	5	3	5	4	3	4.38
Florida pine snake	I.B.1.d	5	4	5	5	4	5	4	2	4.25
Plants	I.B.2	5	5		5	5	5	4	2	4.43
Silver buckthorn	I.B.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	4.63
Godfrey's Swampprivet	I.B.2.b	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	3	4.50
Brittle maidenhair fern	I.B.2.c	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	3	4.50
Hooded pitcher plant	I.B.2.d	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	3	4.50
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Sport fish or their habitat monitoring	I.C.1	4	3		2	4	5	4		3.67
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	3	5	4	4	5	4	2	4.00
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	4	5	3	4	5	4	2	4.00

Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	4	4	1	2	3	3	4	1	2.75
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	4	1	3	4	3	4	2	3.13
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	4.63
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B)</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.75
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	2	4.50
Frequency	III.A.2	5	4	5	5	4	5	5	3	4.50
Quality	III.A.3	5	4	5	5	4	5	5	2	4.38
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.46
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Upland pine / upland mixed woodland	III.B.1	5	4	5	5	4	5	4	3	4.38
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.38
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	4	2	3	1	2	5	1	3	2.63
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	4	2	3	1	2	5	1	3	2.63
Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3	5	3	5	3	2	5	1	3	3.38
Site Preparation	III.C.4	4	2	5	4	2	5	1	3	3.25
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										2.97
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.E.1.a	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	3	4.50
prevention - animals	III.E.1.b	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	3	4.50
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.E.1.c	4	4	5	2	4	5	4	4	4.00
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.E.2.a	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	3	4.50
control - animals	III.E.2.b	5	4	5	5	4	5	4	3	4.38
control - pest/pathogens	III.E.2.c	4	4	5	2	4	5	4	3	3.88
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.29
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.F.1.a	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	3	4.63
Ditches	III.F.1.b	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	3	4.63
Hydro-period Alteration	III.F.1.c	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	3	4.63
Water Level Alteration	III.F.1.d	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	3	4.63
Dams, Reservoirs or other impoundments	III.F.1.e	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	3	4.63
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.63
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.F.2.a	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	4	4.63
Ground water quantity	III.F.2.b	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	4	4.63
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.63
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.F.3.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75

Surface Water Monitoring Average Score										4.75
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.G.1	5	4	5		5	5	4	3	4.43
Gates & fencing	III.G.2	4	4	5		5	5	4	3	4.29
Signage	III.G.3	4	4	5		5	5	4	3	4.29
Law enforcement presence	III.G.4	4	4	5		5	5	4	3	4.29
Resource Protection Average Score										4.32
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding Development	III.H.1.a	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	3	4.50
Inholdings/additions	III.H.2	5	5	5	5	4	5	4		4.71
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.H.3	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	4	4.63
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.H.4	5	4	5	5	4	5	4	4	4.50
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	4.63
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	4.63
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	5	5		5	5	3	3	4.43
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	5	5		5	5	3	4	4.57
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	5	5		5	5	3	3	4.43
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	5	5		5	5	3	5	4.71
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	5		5	5	4	3	4.57
Public Access & Education Average Score										4.59
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Environmental education	VI.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	4.88
Boating / paddling	VI.A.2	5	1	4	5	5	5	4		4.14
Fishing	VI.A.3	3	2	4	3	5	5	4		3.71
Recreational trail use	VI.A.4	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	4.88
Picnicking	VI.A.5	5	5	4	5	5	5	4	5	4.75
Camping	VI.A.6	5	5	4	5	5	5	4	4	4.63
Equestrian	VI.A.7	3	3	4	5	5	5	4	2	3.88
Wildlife viewing	VI.A.8	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	4.88
Livestock management	VI.A.9	3	4	4	5	5	5	2	1	3.63
<b>Proposed Uses</b>										
Park office (re-location)	VI.B.1	5	4	4	2	5	5	3		4.00
Youth camp area	VI.B.2	5	5	4	2	5	5	3	3	4.00
Prairie Creek trailhead	VI.B.3	5	5	4		5	5	3	3	4.29
Volunteer camping area	VI.B.4	5	4	4		5	5	3		4.33

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Aric Larson, Governmental Operations Consultant III  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Parks Small, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Sine Murray, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca



# 2015 Land Management Review Team Report for Wes Skiles Peacock Springs State Park

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## 1. Introduction

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In case where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Wes Skiles Peacock Springs State Park

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP)

**Acres:** 759.87

**County:** Suwannee County

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to provide opportunities for resource-based outdoor recreation and nature appreciation for the enjoyment of Florida residents and visitors, and to protect and preserve a representative example of natural karst topography, aquatic cave environments, second growth and old growth forests, and water resources with direct hydrological linkages to the Suwannee River and artesian limestone aquifer.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL

**Original Acquisition Date:** 06/16/86

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 12/18/13

**Review Date:** 9/22/15

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Amy Conyers, Park Manager
- Jennifer Miller, Assistant Park Manager

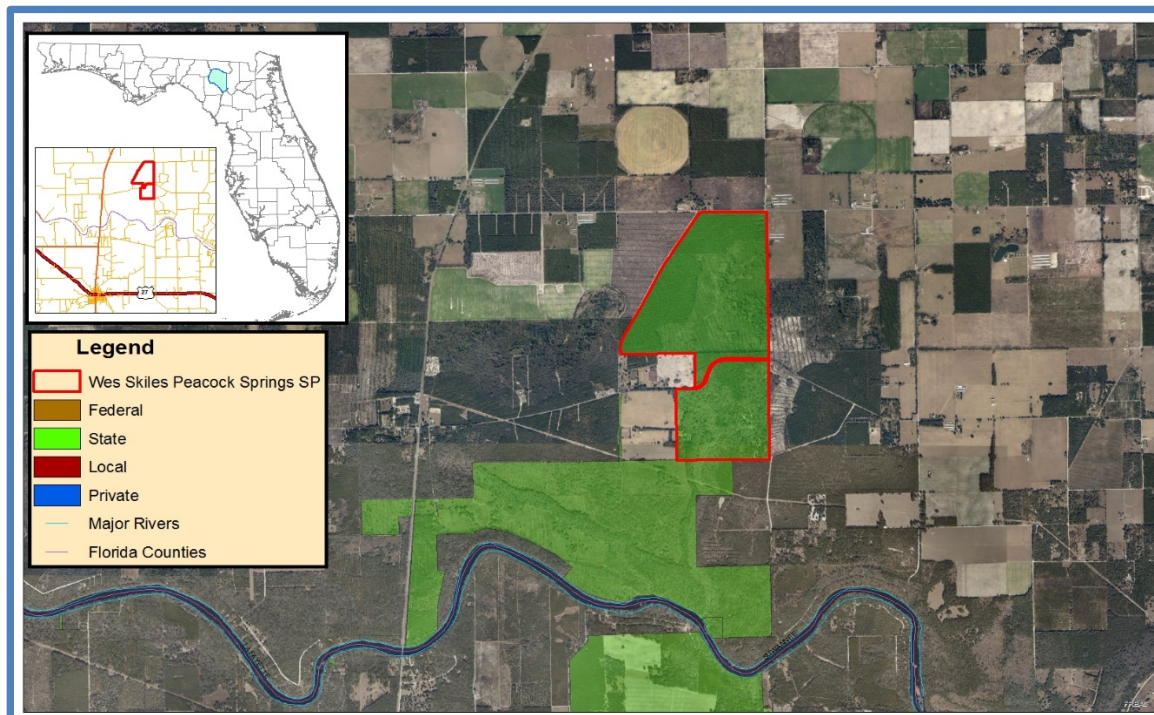
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- DRP: Anne Barkdoll
- FWC: Scotland Talley
- FFS: Brian Cobble
- DEP: Jason Neumann
- SWCD:
- Local gov't:
- Conservation organization: Carol Sullivan
- Private land manager:

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- Aric Larson, DEP/DSL
- William Irby, SRWMD
- Mike Wisenbaker, DOS/DHR
- Rick Clark, FWC/IPMS

## 1.2 Property Map



### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

**Is the property managed in accordance with the purposes for which it was acquired?**

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

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

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.10	4.18
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	2.40	4.70
Hydrology	4.12	3.93
Imperiled Species	4.40	4.37
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.27	4.27
Cultural Resources	4.80	5.00
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.34	4.39
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.03	N/A

Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
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#### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the DRP staff for managing visitor impacts while providing excellent access to the springs. (5+, 0-)
2. The team commends the DRP staff for providing excellent interpretive signage at springs and trailheads. (5+, 0-)
3. The team commends the DRP staff for their outstanding effort in promoting protection and preservation of cultural resources. (5+, 0-)
4. The team commends the DRP staff for efforts to protect water quality and spring fauna by controlling erosion on roads and around springs in a collaborative effort with the CSO. (5+, 0-)
5. The team commends the DRP staff for maintaining an effective and successful working relationship with the CSO. (5+, 0-)

### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the DRP staff initiate a prescribed fire program on the park. (5+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree. Zone 1B is the only park zone with previous burn history; it was last burned in 2000. It is on the plan to burn this year. The park had few fire type acres until the recent acquisition of the property north of Luraville Road. These northern zones have a restoration plan in development to remove hardwoods and replant longleaf pines. Prescribed fire will be part of the restoration process.*

2. The team recommends that the DRP consider strategies for road improvements that will promote improved and quality access for all vehicle types. (5+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree. Due to the cave systems that traverse the roads, the karst windows in the park and the frequency of flooding, DRP is extremely limited in the techniques and materials that can be used on the roads. A 2008 road improvement project included a geologic study to determine road weight capacity limits that would protect the cave conduits. The park is working to stabilize the worst road sections with gravel while preventing erosion and sediment from impacting the caves and karst windows. Another project will likely be requested in the near future to enhance the road work done in 2008.*

## 2. Field Review Details

### 2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. **Natural Communities; specifically sinkhole, upland hardwood forest, alluvial forest, bottomland forest, floodplain swamp, sinkhole lake, and spring-run stream.**
2. **Listed Species Protection and Preservation; animals in general, and cave dwelling invertebrates, and plant species in general:**
3. **Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources; specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring:**
4. **Cultural Resources; specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation:**
5. **Restoration, specifically aquatic cave hydrology:**
6. **Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species; specifically prevention and control of plants, animals and pests/pathogens:**

7. **Ground Water and Surface Water Monitoring, specifically for quantity and quality: development, exotics from adjacent properties, and inholdings/additions:**
8. **Public Access; specifically roads, and parking:**
9. **Environmental Education and Outreach, specifically pertaining to habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities and management of visitor impacts:**
10. **Management Resources; specifically waste disposal and sanitary facilities:**

## 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

1. **Protection and maintenance of natural communities; specifically for sandhill and upland pine, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on the information provided by the managing agency, how much of the area is in maintenance condition.**

*Managing Agency Response: Agreed. The majority of the upland pine habitat was extensively disturbed by silviculture activities that occurred before it was acquired by the park. Restoration actions are planned for this area during this cycle of the management plan. Extensive work is needed before the habitat will be in maintenance.*

**Resource Management, prescribed fire; specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether prescribed fire is sufficient.**

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. Many of the park's fire type acres have been heavily disturbed by previous silviculture activities and need restoration before they can be burned within their normal fire return interval. The park has established prescribed fire goals for this year and restoration and additional prescribed fire are planned.*

**Forest Management; specifically timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation, and site preparation, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether forest management is sufficient.**

*Managing Agency Response: The recent Unit Management Plan addresses timber harvest and replanting as part of restoration in the natural community restoration section. Restoration actions are planned for implementation during this Unit Plan cycle.*

Management resources, specifically staff and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. However, no new staff can be assigned to this or any other park unit unless they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Division funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature.*

### 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Sandhill	I.A.1	1	1	1	1	1				1.00
Sinkhole	I.A.2	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.3	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Upland Pine	I.A.4	1	2	4	1	2				2.00
Alluvial Forest	I.A.5	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Bottomland Forest	I.A.6	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.7	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Sinkhole Lake	I.A.8	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Spring-run Stream	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.20
<b>Listed Species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	2	5	4	5	5				4.20
Cave dwelling Inverts	I.B.1.a	5	5	4	5	X				4.75
Plants	I.B.2	4	5	4	4	X				4.25
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.40
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	3	5	4	4	4				4.00
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	X	4	4	3	4				3.75
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	X	5	4	4				4.25
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	4	5				4.80
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.80
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A1	1	1	1	1	1				1.00
Frequency	III.A.2	1	1	1	1	1				1.00
Quality	III.A.3	1	1	1	1	1				1.00

<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										1.00
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Upland Pine/Sandhill	III.B.1	1	3	4	4	3				3.00
Aquatic Cave Hydrology	III.B.2	5	5	5	4	4				4.60
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										3.80
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	X	1	3	1	3				2.00
Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3	X	1	3	1	3				2.00
Site Preparation	III.C.4	X	1	3	1	3				2.00
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										2.00
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	4	4	5	3				4.00
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	4	4	4	5	3				4.00
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
control - animals	III.D.2.b	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.27
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Ditches	III.E.1.b	X	3	2	4	X				3.00
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										3.00
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	X	5	5	4				4.75
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	X	5	5	4				4.75
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.75
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	4	4	5	4	4				4.20
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	4	5	4	4	4				4.20
Signage	III.F.3	4	5	4	4	4				4.20
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	4	5	5	5	4				4.60
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.30
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	4	4	5	5	X				4.50
Exotics from Adjacent Properties	III.G.1.b	4	5	5	4	4				4.40
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4	5	4	3	4				4.00
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										



Roads	IV.1.a	5	5	5	5	3				4.60
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	5	4	3				4.40
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	4	3	4	3	4				3.60
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	4	3	4	3	4				3.60
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	4	4	5	4	4				4.20
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	4	5				4.80
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.38
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Buildings	V.2.a	2	3	4	3	4				3.20
Equipment	V.2.b	3	3	4	3	4				3.40
Staff	V.3	2	1	1	1	3				1.60
Funding	V.4	2	1	1	1	3				1.60
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										3.03

Color Code:	Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor	See Appendix A for detail
		Missing Vote	Insufficient Information		

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. **Hydrologic/geologic function hydro-alteration, specifically ditches, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address protection and preservation of hydrologic/geologic function.**

**Managing Agency Response:** *The park does not have any ditches.*

### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Sandhill	I.A.1	5	4	3	3	5				4.00
Sinkhole	I.A.2	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.3	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Upland Pine	I.A.4	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
Alluvial Forest	I.A.5	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Bottomland Forest	I.A.6	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.7	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Sinkhole Lake	I.A.8	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Spring-run Stream	I.A.9	5	5	4	4	5				4.60
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	4	5	4	5	5				4.60
Cave dwelling Inverts	I.B.1.a	5	5	4	5	X				4.75
Plants	I.B.2	4	5	4	2	X				3.75
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.37
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	3	5	4	4	5				4.20
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	3	4	4	5	4				4.00
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	3	X	5	5	4				4.25
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	3	5	4	4	5				4.20
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
Frequency	III.A.2	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
Quality	III.A.3	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.80
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Upland Pine/Sandhill	III.B.1	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
Aquatic Cave Hydrology	III.B.2	4	5	5	5	5				4.80
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	X	5	3	4	3				3.75

Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3	X	5	3	4	3				3.75
Site Preparation	III.C.4	X	5	3	4	3				3.75
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										<b>3.75</b>
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.E.1.a	4	5	3	5	4				4.20
prevention - animals	III.E.1.b	4	5	3	5	4				4.20
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.E.1.c	4	5	3	5	3				4.00
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.E.2.a	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
control - animals	III.E.2.b	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
control - pest/pathogens	III.E.2.c	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										<b>4.27</b>
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Ditches	III.F.1.b	1	2	2	4	2				2.20
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										<b>2.20</b>
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.F.2.a	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
Ground water quantity	III.F.2.b	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										<b>4.80</b>
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.F.3.a	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	5	5	5	4				4.80
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										<b>4.80</b>
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.G.1	4	5	5	5	4				4.60
Gates & fencing	III.G.2	4	5	4	5	4				4.40
Signage	III.G.3	4	4	4	5	4				4.20
Law enforcement presence	III.G.4	4	5	5	5	4				4.60
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										<b>4.45</b>
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.H.1.a	4	4	4	5	3				4.00
Exotics from Adjacent Properties	III.H.1.b	4	4	4	5	3				4.00
Inholdings/additions	III.H.2	4	5	4	4	3				4.00
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.H.3	4	5	3	4	3				3.80
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.H.4	4	5	3	3	4				3.80
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	5	5	4	5	3				4.40
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	4	5	3				4.40
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	3	4	4	4				4.00

Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	3	4	3	4				3.80
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	5	4	5	4				4.60
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	4	5	4				4.60
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	4	5	4				4.60

**Public Access & Education Average Score** 4.33

**Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)**

**Existing Uses**

Hiking	VI.A.1	5	5	3	4	4				4.20
Picnicking	VI.A.2	5	5	3	3	4				4.00
Wildlife Viewing	VI.A.3	5	5	4	3	4				4.20
Nature Study	VI.A.4	5	5	5	4	4				4.60
Diving (certified divers)	VI.A.6	5	5	5	5	5				5.00
swimming	VI.A.7	5	5	4	3	4				4.20
Interpretive Programs	VI.A.8	5	5	1	5	4				4.00

**Proposed Uses**

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

## Appendix A: Scoring System Detail

### Explanation of Consensus Commendations:

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property’s attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We

provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

**Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

**Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2018 Land Management Review Team Report for Price’s Scrub State Park

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In cases where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.



## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Price's Scrub State Park

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 944

**County:** Marion

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 11/25/02

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 6/4/04

**Review Date:** 8/30/18

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Donald Forgione, Park Manager

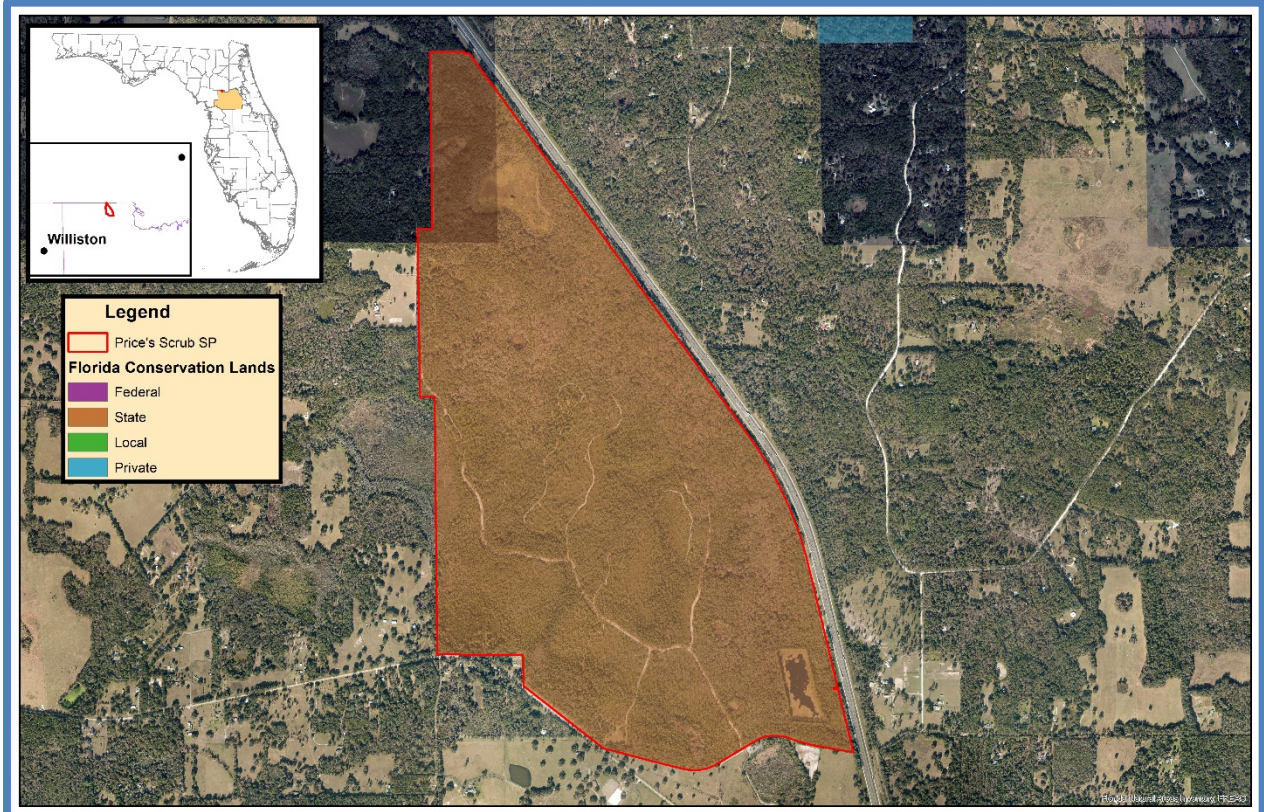
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- Anne Barkdoll, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Tyler Turner, FWC
- Jason Seyfert, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Cyndi Gates, SWFWMD
- Grace Howell, Cons. Organization
- Guy Marwick, Private Land Manager

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Kris Campbell, FWC/IPMS

## 1.2 Property Map



### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	2.84	2.71
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.62	3.56
Hydrology	4.43	3.14
Imperiled Species	4.60	4.22
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.50	3.43
Cultural Resources	5.00	4.43
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.51	3.75
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.23	N/A

Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
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#### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for accomplishing their prescribed burn program with the proximity to I-75 and the weather conditions of central Florida. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the manager and staff for their survey and control of invasive exotic plants. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for a well managed park overall. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS for control and monitoring of feral hogs. (7+, 0-)
5. The team commends the FPS for monitoring and protecting imperiled species in the park. (7+, 0-)
6. The team commends the park manager and staff for cultivating a great relationship with the user groups at the park. (7+, 0-)

#### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FPS have a timber assessment done for the sand pines in the upland natural communities and consider a timber sale of the sand pines for management. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *A timber sale of sandpines will be considered as part of the management tools if it is compatible with the restoration goals of the natural communities where they are present. Timber management will be addressed in the next management plan update.*

## 2. Field Review Details

### 2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. Natural communities, specifically seepage stream, sinkhole lake, depression marsh, mesic hammock, mesic flatwoods, baygall, and dome swamp.
2. Listed species, plants and animals in general, and specifically pond spice.
3. Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.
4. Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.
5. Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically quality.
6. Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants and animals, and control of pests/pathogens.
7. Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts, and ditches.
8. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, and law enforcement presence.
9. Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically inholdings/additions.
10. Public access, specifically parking.
11. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.
12. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, and sanitary facilities.

### 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

1. *The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically upland mixed woodland, wet flatwoods, and basin marsh, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.*

*Managing Agency Response: FPS staff will continue to improve the condition of the wet flatwoods and upland mixed woodland within the park.. However, the majority of the basin marsh is not within the current park boundary and therefore cannot be brought into maintenance condition.*

2. *Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether forest management is sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: FPS has made significant progress in the management of the mesic flatwoods, scrubby flatwoods and scrub that benefit the overall forest management. Additional needs for a timber inventory will be addressed in the next management plan.*

- Management Resources, specifically equipment and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. However, Division funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature and funds are allocated to the 175 state parks and trails according to priority needs. Any deemed increase in Division Budget/staffing will follow the established legislative budget request process.*

### 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Scrub	I.A.1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3.00
Seepage Stream	I.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Sinkhole Lake	I.A.3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.4	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	3.43
Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.5	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	5	1.57
Depression Marsh	I.A.6	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4.00
Wet Flatwoods	I.A.7	3	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	2.83
Mesic Hammock	I.A.8	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	4.83
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.9	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4.83
Baygall	I.A.10	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Basin Marsh	I.A.11	2	1	2	3	2	1	1	1	1.71
Dome Swamp	I.A.12	4	4	5	4	5	5	5	5	4.67
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										3.82
<b>Listed species:Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	4	3	5	3	4	5	5	5	4.14
Plants	I.B.2	5	4	5	5	4	5	5	5	4.67
Pond Spice	I.B.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	5	5	4	4	5	5	5	4.71
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	5	3	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.43
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	4.50
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00

<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B)</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A1	3	4	3	2	3	3	3	3	3.00
Frequency	III.A.2	3	3	4	3	3	5	4	4	3.57
Quality	III.A.3	4	4	4	5	4	5	4	4	4.29
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										3.62
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	2	3	2	2	1	1	2	2	1.86
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										1.86
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	4	5	3	5	5	5	5	4.57
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4.86
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	x	3	5	3	5	x	2	2	3.60
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	x	3	5	3	5	x	x	2	4.00
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	5	4	4	4	5	5	4	4	4.43
Ditches	III.E.1.b	5	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	4.43
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.43
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4.86
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4.86
Signage	III.F.3	4	3	4	3	3	4	5	5	3.71
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4.14
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.39
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding Development	III.G.1.a	4	4	4	3	4	x	4	4	3.83
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4	4	5	4	5	5	5	5	4.67
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	4	5	4	5	5	5	5	4.71
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	4	5	3	5	5	4	4	4.43
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	4	5	4	5	5	5	5	4.71

Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	4	5	4	3	5	5		4.43
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	4	5	3	4	5	5		4.43
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	4	5	4	5	5	5		4.71
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.63
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	5	3	5	3	4	5	4		4.14
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	5	3	5	3	4	5	4		4.14
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Equipment	V.2.b	3	2		2	2	2	2		2.17
Staff	V.3	3	3	2	3	5	3	3		3.14
Funding	V.4	3	3	2	1	5	2	2		2.57
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										3.23

Color Code:	Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor	See Appendix A for detail
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information			

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. *Natural Communities, specifically upland mixed woodland, mesic hammock, mesic flatwoods, baygall, basin marsh, and dome swamp, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address current or desired condition and/or future management actions to protect or restore.*

*Managing Agency Response: Mesic hammock and upland mixed woodland had not been determined to be Florida natural communities when the current management plan was written and are therefore not in the plan. These and the other natural communities above will be addressed in the next management plan.*

2. *Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically other habitat management effects monitoring, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. Monitoring of resources within the park will be addressed more thoroughly in the management plan update. However, the current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C. when it was approved by ARC.*

3. *Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address a timber inventory.*  
**Managing Agency Response:** *Timber management will be addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C. when ARC approved it.*
  
4. *Non-native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically prevention and control of pests/pathogens, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address prevention of invasive species.*  
**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree. This will be addressed further in the management plan update. The current plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C. when it was approved by ARC.*
  
5. *Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, and surplus land identified received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property and/or surplus lands.*  
**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree. Adjacent property concerns including discussion of potential surplus land determination will be more thoroughly addressed in the next plan update. The current management plan was however reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Scrub	I.A.1	3	4	4	4	2	3	4		3.43
Seepage Stream	I.A.2		5	5	4	2	3	5		4.00
Sinkhole Lake	I.A.3		5	5	5	2	3	5		4.17
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.4		4	5	5	2	3	5		4.00
Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.5	1	1	1	1	1	1	4		1.43
Depression Marsh	I.A.6		4	4	5	2	3	5		3.83
Wet Flatwoods	I.A.7		4	4	4	2	3	5		3.67
Mesic Hammock	I.A.8	1	4	1	1	1	1	5		2.00
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.9	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1.00
Baygall	I.A.10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1.00
Basin Marsh	I.A.11	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1.00
Dome Swamp	I.A.12	1	1	1	2	1	1	1		1.14
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										2.56
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	4	4	5	3	2	5	5		4.00
Plants	I.B.2	4	4	5	4	2	5			4.00

Pond Spice	I.B.2.a	5		5	4	4	5	5		4.67
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.22
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	3	4	5	4	2	5	5		4.00
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	3	2	5	3	2	5	5		3.57
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	2		4	2	1	1	1		1.83
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	4	3	5	4	2	5	5		4.00
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	4	5	5	2	5	5		4.43
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	4	5	5	2	5	5		4.43
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.43
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	3	3	4	3	3	5			3.50
Frequency	III.A.2	3	4	4	3	3	5			3.67
Quality	III.A.3	3	3	4	3	3	5			3.50
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										3.56
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	2	3	4	3	2	3	3		2.86
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										2.86
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.E.1.a	4	3	5	4	2	5	5		4.00
prevention - animals	III.E.1.b	4	3	5	4	2	5	5		4.00
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.E.1.c	1	3	5	4	1	1	1		2.29
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.E.2.a	4	4	5	4	2	5	5		4.14
control - animals	III.E.2.b	4	4	5	4	2	5			4.00
control - pest/pathogens	III.E.2.c	1	2	5	4	1	1	1		2.14
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										3.43
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.F.1.a	3	3	5	4	2	3	3		3.29
Ditches	III.F.1.b	3	3	5	4	2	3	1		3.00
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										3.14
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.G.1	3	3	5	5	2	5			3.83
Gates & fencing	III.G.2	3	3	3	4	2	5	4		3.43
Signage	III.G.3	3	3	5	3	2	5	4		3.57
Law enforcement presence	III.G.4	4	3	5	4	3	5	5		4.14
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										3.74
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										



Expanding Development	III.H.1.a	3	4	4	3	2	5	4		3.57
Inholdings/additions	III.H.2	3	4	5	4	5	5	5		4.43
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.H.3	1	2	1	2	1	1	1		1.29
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.H.4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5		4.86
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Parking	IV.1.b	3	5	5	4	2	5	5		4.14
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	3	4	3	4	2	5	4		3.57
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	3	4	3	4	2	5	4		3.57
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	3	4	3	4	2	5	5		3.71
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	4	3	3	4	2	5	5		3.71
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	4	4	3	4	2	5	5		3.86
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	2	4	4	4	2	5	5		3.71
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										<b>3.76</b>
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Hiking	VI.A.1	5	5	5	4	5	5	5		4.86
Equestrian use	VI.A.2	5	5	5	3	4	5	5		4.57
<b>Proposed Uses</b>										
Trails	VI.B.1	5	5	4	4	5	5	5		4.71
Fishing	VI.B.2	4	4	4	5	5	5	4		4.43
Canoeing	VI.B.3	4	4	4		5	5	4		4.33
Picnicking	VI.B.4	5	5	4	5	5	5	4		4.71

Color Code:

Excellent

Above Average

Below Average

Poor

Missing Vote

Insufficient Information

See Appendix A for detail

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2017 Land Management Review Team Report for Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In case where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park

**Managed by:** Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Division of Recreation and Parks

**Acres:** 4,074

**County:** Duval

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** P2000/CARL

**Original Acquisition Date:** 8/31/94

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 6/9/06

**Review Date:** 8/23/17

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Michelle Waterman, Park Manager
- Kirby Wilson, FPS
- Meghan Harris, FPS

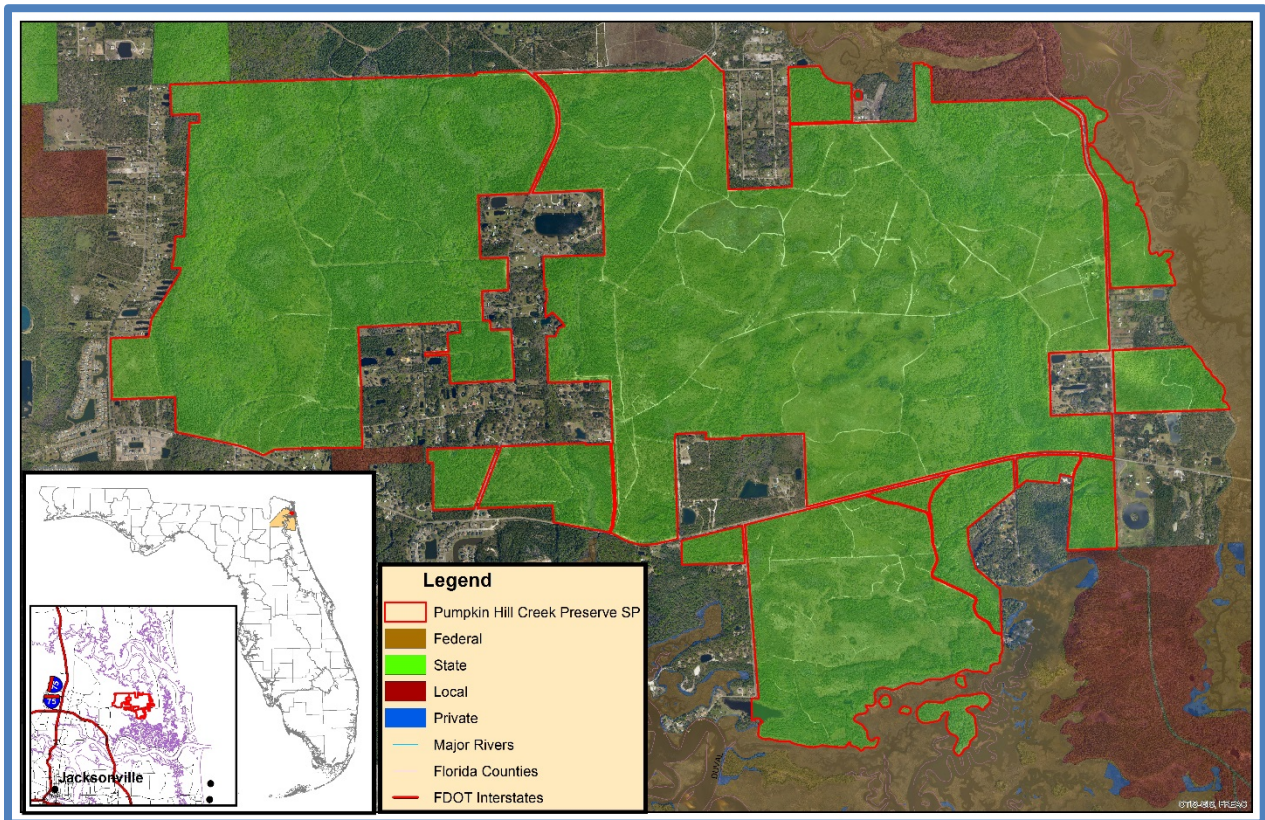
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- Anne Barkdoll, DRP District
- Brian Burket, Local Gov't.
- Scotland Talley, FWC
- Keri Armstrong, DEP District
- Bill Korn, FFS
- Tyler Mosteller, SJRWMD
- Walter Bryant, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- James Parker, DEP/DSL
- Joseph Burgess, DEP/FCO
- Aric Larson, DEP/DSL

## 1.2 Property Map



### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

**Table 1: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.71	2.81	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.33	2.69	
Hydrology	3.25	2.60	
Imperiled Species	3.80	2.90	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.34	2.76	
Cultural Resources	4.31	3.57	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.86	2.92	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	2.74	N/A	
<b>Color Code</b> (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

#### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for the mesic flatwoods restoration work completed in the North Shore Tract. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for working with the City and Federal agencies to create a master recreation plan with interconnecting trails. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for initiating mechanical treatments and burning in much of the scrubby flatwoods, which are really looking good. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS for efforts to increase the number and quality of firelines throughout much of the property. (7+, 0-)
5. The team commends the FPS for recent steps to acquire new equipment to trap and remove wild hogs. (7+, 0-)
6. The team commends the FPS for continuing to improve prescribed fire program and overcoming many challenges. (7+, 0-)
7. The team commends the FPS for operationa and resource management accomplishments despite reduced staff and vehicle/equipment limitations. (7+, 0-)
8. The team commends the FPS for increased parking for equestrian and other users. (7+, 0-)
9. The team commends the FPS for working with land management partners in promoting and utilizing public lands. (7+, 0-)

### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FPS evaluate timber inventory data in wet and mesic flatwoods and thin as appropriate to achieve desired basal area. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree. FPS has a current inventory and will consider that data in the management of wet and mesic flatwoods.*

2. The team recommends that the FPS pursue fuel wood/hardwood harvests in degraded sandhills to allow for more herbaceous growth and return to pyric community. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree. During the course of restoration planning, FPS considers a variety of hardwood management techniques and selects an approach best suited to each situation.*

3. The team recommends that the FPS install water bars within firelines draining surface water. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree. DRP will address erosion control based on identified needs.*

4. The team recommends that the FPS conduct seedling survival surveys to assess efficacy of longleaf plantings. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree.*

5. The team recommends that the FPS consider conducting surveys for marsh passerine birds listed as imperiled. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree. DRP will continue to cooperate with FWC on their surveys in this area.*

6. The team recommends that the FPS consider removing the office and shop perimeter fence, or at least reducing the footprint and making it wildlife friendly. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree.*

7. The team recommends that the FPS post burn evaluate North Shore restoration area for groundcover restoration needs. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree. The North Shore restoration is ongoing and we will consider this in the restoration plan.*

8. The team recommends that the FPS continue to maintain fire type communities in rotation and strive to add additional acreage building from the core of communities in rotation. Prioritize increasing burn accomplishments to areas in fire maintenance from the current 680 acres. (7+, 0-)



*Managing Agency Response: Agree. Since 2012 DRP staff have increased the number of fire type acres in rotation at Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve.*

9. The team recommends that the FPS install low water crossings in areas with identified needs to permit access for management equipment such as fire trucks, log trucks, etc. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. FPS will continue to install low water crossings as needed and as funding permits.*

10. The team recommends that the FPS allocate more staff and resources to park to accomplish more resource management goals. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. However, no new staff can be assigned to this or any other park unit unless they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature.*

## **2. Field Review Details**

### **2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings**

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically shell mound, basin swamp, baygall, bottomland forest, depression marsh, salt marsh, floodplain swamp, hydric hammock, flatwoods/prairie lake, blackwater stream.**
2. **Natural resources survey/monitoring specifically invasive species survey/monitoring.**
3. **Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation**
4. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency and quality.**
5. **Restoration, specifically Flatwoods (North Shore tract restoration).**
6. **Forest Management, specifically Timber harvesting.**
7. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals and pest/pathogens.**
8. **Resource protection, specifically gates and fencing, signage and law enforcement presence.**
9. **Adjacent property concerns, specifically expanding development.**
10. **Public access, specifically parking**
11. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically recreational opportunities**
12. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities.**

### **2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

1. *The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically mesic flatwoods, sandhill, and wet flatwoods, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. DRP is working to improve these natural communities through various means including fuel reduction through mechanical treatment. This will enhance the opportunities to burn these areas safely. This will be addressed more thoroughly in the next plan update.*

2. *Natural Resources Survey, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring and other nongame species or their habitat monitoring, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether survey and monitoring of the resources or their habitats are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: The parks' primary monitoring focus must be on species that require special management attention. An all-species inventory generally must be a lower priority than actually conducting actions to manage habitats. Costs for an inventory will be included in the unit management plan as needed but can only be allocated as funds become available on a statewide priority needs basis.*

3. *Resource Management, Prescribed Fire, specifically area being burned, and frequency, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, to what degree prescribed fire is accomplished according to the objectives for prescribed fire management. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% accomplished, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. DRP will continue working to increase fire frequency. Prescribed fire will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update.*

*Forest Management, specifically reforestation/afforestation, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether forest management is sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Since 2015 DRP has planted 276 acres of longleaf pines at the Preserve. DRP will continue to plant longleaf pines as guided by the restoration plans. This will be addressed further in the next plan update.*

4. *Management Resources, specifically buildings, equipment, staff, and funding, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. However, Division funding and staffing is determined annually by the Florida Legislature and funds are allocated to the 174 state parks and trails according to priority needs. Further, funding is appropriated annually by the Florida Legislature and is allocated at the Division and District levels in order to best meet annual operational and*

*resource management needs. Any deemed increase in Division Budget/staffing will follow the established legislative budget request process.*

- Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration, specifically low water crossings, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether consideration of past and present hydrologic and geologic functions are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. DRP staff have developed a low water crossing plan based on the Preserve needs. This will be addressed as funding becomes available and in the next plan update.*

- Management Resources, specifically buildings, equipment, staff, and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: See question #5 above.*

### 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
mesic flatwoods	I.A.3	2		2	2	2	3	2		2.17
Sandhill	I.A.4	2	1	1	2	1	2	2		1.57
Scrubby flatwoods	I.A.5	4	4	3	4	4	4	4		3.86
Shell mound	I.A.6	5	5	x		4	4	4		4.40
Basin swamp	I.A.8	5	5	5	5	5	5	4		4.86
Baygall	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Bottomland forest	I.A.10	5	5	5	5	5	5	4		4.86
Depression marsh	I.A.11	5	5	4	4	4	4	4		4.29
Dome swamp	I.A.12	3	4	3	4	3	4	3		3.43
Salt marsh	I.A.13	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Floodplain swamp	I.A.14	4	5	4	5	5	5	5		4.71
Hydric hammock	I.A.16	5	x	x	5	x	x	x		5.00
Wet flatwoods	I.A.17	1	5	1	2	1	4	1		2.14
Flatwoods/Prairie lake	I.A.18	5	5	x	5	5	5	4		4.83
Blackwater stream	I.A.19	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.07
<b>Listed species:Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	4		3	4	4	4			3.80
Plants	I.B.2	4		3	4	4	4			3.80
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										3.80
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	2	2	3	4	3	3	3		2.86

Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	1	2	3	4	3	4	3		2.86
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	3	4	4	5	3	4	4		3.86
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	2	5	4	4	3	4	4		3.71
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	3	4	4	5	5	4	4		4.14
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	4	5	4	4		4		4.33
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	4	5	4	5	4	4		4.29
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.31
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2		1.86
Frequency	III.A.2	2	4	2	2	2	2	2		2.29
Quality	III.A.3	4	4	3	4	5	3	4		3.86
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										2.67
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Flatwoods (North Shore tract restoration)	III.B.2	3	4	4	4	4	4	5		4.00
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.00
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory / Assessment	III.C.1	3	4	3	4	4	x	3		3.50
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	3	4	4	3	4	5	5		4.00
Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3		2.86
Site Preparation	III.C.4	3	3	2	3	2	5	3		3.00
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										3.34
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	3	5	5	5	4	5	4		4.43
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	5	5	5	4	4	4		4.43
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	3	4	5	4	4	4	4		4.00
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	3	5	5	5	5	4	4		4.43
control - animals	III.D.2.b	4	5	5	5	4	5	4		4.57
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c		4	5	4	4	4	4		4.17
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.34
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	2	3	3	3	3	4	3		3.00
Ditches	III.E.1.b	3	3	3	3	3	3	3		3.00
Low Water Crossings	III.E.1.f	2	2	2	2	1	2	2		1.86
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										2.62
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	3	4	4	4	4	3		3.86
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	3	4	4	4	4	3		3.86

<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										3.86	
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>											
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	4	2	4	3	3	4	3		3.29	
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										3.29	
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>											
Boundary survey	III.F.1	4	4	4	4	3	4	4		3.86	
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	4	4	4	5	3	5	3		4.00	
Signage	III.F.3	5	5	5	4	3	5	3		4.29	
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	4	4	5	3	4	5	3		4.00	
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.04	
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>											
<b>Land Use</b>											
expanding development	III.G.1.a	4	4	5	4		4	3		4.00	
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4	4	4	4	3	x	3		3.67	
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>											
<b>Public Access</b>											
Parking	IV.1.b	4	4	4	4	4	5	3		4.00	
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>											
Wildlife	IV.2.a	3	3	5	4	3	4	3		3.57	
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	3	2	3	4	3	3	3		3.00	
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	3	3	5	4	3	4	3		3.57	
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	3	5	3	4	4	3		3.86	
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	4	5	5	4	3	4	3		4.00	
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	3	5	4	4	4	3		3.86	
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										3.69	
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>											
<b>Maintenance</b>											
Waste disposal	V.1.a	4	4	5	4	4	5	4		4.29	
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	4	4	5	4	4	5	4		4.29	
<b>Infrastructure</b>											
Buildings	V.2.a	3	3	2	2	2	3	2		2.43	
Equipment	V.2.b	2	2	2	2	2	3	2		2.14	
Staff	V.3	1	1	1	2	1	1	2		1.29	
Funding	V.4	2	2	1	2	2	3	2		2.00	
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										2.74	
Color Code:											
		Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor						See Appendix A for detail
			Missing Vote	Insufficient Information							

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note

that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. *Natural Communities, specifically sandhill, shell mound, basin swamp, baygall, bottomland forest, depression marsh, dome swamp, salt marsh, floodplain swamp, hydric hammock, wet flatwoods, and flatwoods/prairie lake, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address current or desired condition and/or future management actions to protect or restore.*

*Managing Agency Response: While the current plan does not specifically use the language desired future condition, the plan does describe management needs of habitats to improve or maintain their condition. This will be delineated further in the plan update.*

2. *Listed Species protection and preservation, specifically plants, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address this listed plant species.*

*Managing Agency Response: The protection and preservation of listed species, particularly plants, will be more thoroughly addressed in the next plan update.*

3. *Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, and other habitat management effects monitoring, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.*

*Managing Agency Response: Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources including other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring and invasive species survey/monitoring will be more thoroughly addressed in the next plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

4. *Resources Management, specifically prescribed fire area being burned and frequency, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address prescribed fire.*

*Managing Agency Response: Prescribed fire quality will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

5. *Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation, and site preparation, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address forest management.*

*Managing Agency Response: Timber management will be addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C. when it was approved by ARC.*

6. *Non-native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically prevention of plants, animals, pests/pathogens, and control of pest/pathogens, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address prevention of invasive species.*

*Managing Agency Response: DRP currently maintains a statewide database of invasive exotic plants presence and treatment in state parks. DRP also actively removes non-native animals. This will be further addressed in the next plan update.*

7. *Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration, specifically roads/culverts, ditches, and low water crossings, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address hydrologic and geologic function.*

*Managing Agency Response: This will be addressed in the next plan update.*

8. *Ground Water Monitoring, specifically ground water quality and quantity, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address ground water quality and quantity.*

*Managing Agency Response: Park and District staff will not be able to maintain a water quality monitoring program on their own. Staff will seek the assistance of the Water Management District (or local Water Authority or local health department) to assist the park in regular water quality/quantity monitoring.*

9. *Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quantity, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address surface water monitoring.*

*Managing Agency Response: This will be addressed in the next plan update. However, park and District staff will not be able to maintain a water quality monitoring program on their own. Staff will seek the assistance of the Water Management District (or local Water Authority or local health department) to assist the park in regular water quality/quantity monitoring.*

10. *Resource Protection, specifically gates and fences, signage, and law enforcement presence, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address resource protection.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. These issues will be addressed in the next plan update.*

11. *Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically expanding development, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.*

*Managing Agency Response: The Division will consider this during the next unit management plan revision.*

12. *Public Access & Education, specifically wildlife, invasive species, and habitat management activities, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address environmental education and outreach.*

*Managing Agency Response: Environmental Education and Outreach including interpretive facilities and signs will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
mesic flatwoods	I.A.3	4	3	2	5	3	3	2		3.14
Sandhill	I.A.4	3	2	2	5	3	2	2		2.71
Scrubby flatwoods	I.A.5	3	2	2	5	3	4	2		3.00
Shell mound	I.A.6	2	2	2	4	2	4	2		2.57
Basin swamp	I.A.8	2	2	2	4	3	5	2		2.86
Baygall	I.A.9	2	2	2	4	3	5	2		2.86
Bottomland forest	I.A.10	2	2	2	4	3	5	2		2.86
Depression marsh	I.A.11	3	2	2	4	3	4	2		2.86
Dome swamp	I.A.12	2	2	2	4	3	4	2		2.71
Salt marsh	I.A.13	2	2	2	4	3	5	2		2.86
Floodplain swamp	I.A.14	2	2	2	4	3	5	2		2.86
Hydric hammock	I.A.16	2	2	2	4	3	5	2		2.86
Wet flatwoods	I.A.17	3	2	2	4	3	3	2		2.71
Flatwoods/Prairie lake	I.A.18		2	2	4	3	3	2		2.67
Blackwater stream	I.A.19		2	2	4	3	5	2		3.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										2.83
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	2		2	4	3	4			3.00
Plants	I.B.2	2		2	4	2	4			2.80
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										2.90
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	2	2	2	5	2	3	2		2.57
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	1	2	2	4	3	3	2		2.43
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	3	2	2	5	2	4	2		2.86
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	2	2	2	4	3	3	2		2.57
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	3	2	2	5	2	5	2		3.00
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	2	3	4	4	5	3		3.57
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	2	3	4	4	5	3		3.57
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										3.57
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	3	2	3	2	2	4	2		2.57
Frequency	III.A.2	3	2	3	4	2	4	2		2.86



Quality	III.A.3	3	2	3	4	3	4	2		3.00
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										2.81
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Flatwoods (North Shore tract restoration)	III.B.2	3	2	2	3	2	4	2		2.57
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										2.57
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory / Assessment	III.C.1	3	3	2	4	2	4	2		2.86
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	3	3	2	3	2	5	2		2.86
Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3	3	3	2	3	2	4	2		2.71
Site Preparation	III.C.4	3	3	2	3	2	4	2		2.71
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										2.79
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	3	3	2	3	3	4	2		2.86
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	3	3	2	3	3	4	2		2.86
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	2	3	2	1	3	4	2		2.43
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	3	3	2	3	3	5	2		3.00
control - animals	III.D.2.b	3	3	2	3	3	5	2		3.00
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	2	3	2	1	3	4	2		2.43
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										2.76
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	3	2	2	3	3	4	2		2.71
Ditches	III.E.1.b	3	2	2	3	3	4	2		2.71
Low Water Crossings	III.E.1.f	2	2	2	2	1	2	1		1.71
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										2.38
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	3	2	2	3	3	4	2		2.71
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	3	2	2	3	3	4	2		2.71
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										2.71
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quantity	III.E.3.b	3	2	2	3	3	4	2		2.71
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										2.71
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	3	4	2	3	3	4	2		3.00
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	3	3	2	3	3	4	2		2.86
Signage	III.F.3	3	3	2	3	3	4	2		2.86
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	2	3	2	2	3	4	2		2.57
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										2.82
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										

Expanding Development	III.G.1.a	3	2	2	4		3	2		2.67
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4	2	2	4	3	5	2		3.14
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.G.3	5	3	1	4	3	5	5		3.71
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.G.4	5	3	1	4	3	5	5		3.71
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Parking	IV.1.b		3	3	5	3	5	2		3.50
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	1	2	3	2	3	4	2		2.43
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	1	2	3	2	3	4	2		2.43
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	2	2	3	2	3	4	2		2.57
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	4	3		3	3	4	2		3.17
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	4	4		5	4	4	2		3.83
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	3	2		4	4	4	2		3.17
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										<b>3.01</b>
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Equestrian	VI.A.1	4	5	5	5	4	4	5		4.57
Hiking	VI.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Biking	VI.A.3	4	5	5	2	4	4	5		4.14
Fishing	VI.A.4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5		4.86
Canoeing/kayaking	VI.A.5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5		4.86
Wildlife observation	VI.A.6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5.00
Geocaching	VI.A.7	4	5	5	4	4	5	5		4.57
<b>Proposed Uses</b>										
Primitive campsites	VI.B.3	3	5	5	2	5	1	1		3.14
Group camp	VI.B.4	3	5	5	2	4	1	1		3.00

Color Code:

Excellent

Above Average

Below Average

Poor

Missing Vote

Insufficient Information

See Appendix A for detail

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2019 Land Management Review Team Report for Rainbow Springs State Park

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In cases where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Rainbow Springs State Park

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 1,472

**County:** Marion

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To protect most of the undeveloped or minimally developed private land remaining along the Rainbow River.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 10/24/1990

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 12/10/2002

**Review Date:** 10/11/2019

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Larry Steed, Park Manager
- Tina Miller, APM

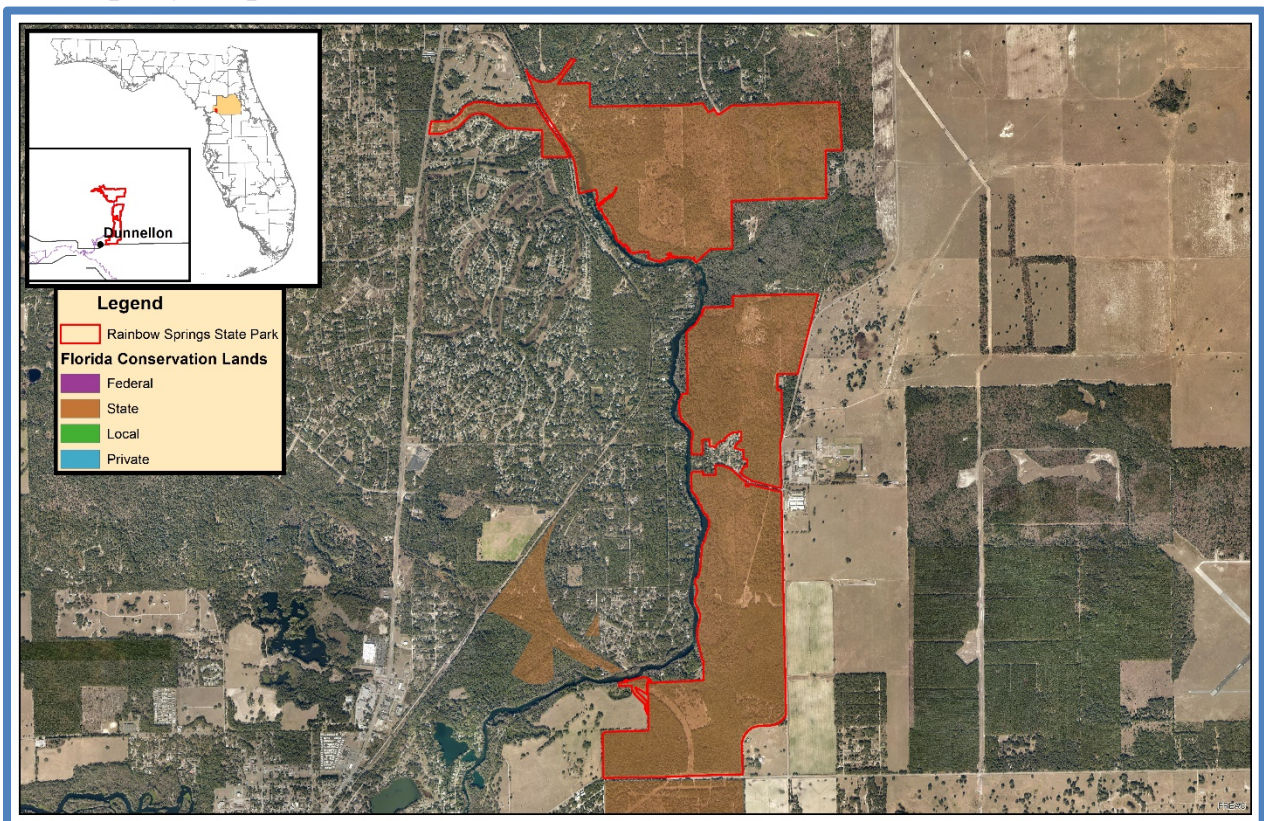
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- Rick Owen, DRP District
- Doug Longshore, FFS
- Rodney Sieg, Local Gov't.
- Chris McKendree, SWFWMD
- Alex Kropp, FWC
- Deborah L. Curry, Cons. Organization
- Hailey Ambrose, DEP District
- Private Land Manager, None

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Ronda Sutphen, FFS
- Chris Boever, FWC/IPMS
- Cyndi Gates, SWFWMD
- Jeff Sowards, DEP/RCP

## 1.2 Property Map



### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.31	3.07
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.14	3.29
Hydrology	4.58	3.36
Imperiled Species	3.54	3.38
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.12	2.93
Cultural Resources	4.57	3.14
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.39	3.54
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.95	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

#### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) staff for increasing burn frequency and acreage burned. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the staff on progress to restore Griffith’s addition to sandhill community. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the staff on coordination with FWC and other partners to control invasive species. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS staff on providing a wide array of recreational opportunities while managing visitor impacts. (7+, 0-)
5. The team commends the staff regarding enforcement and monitoring of water-based recreational activities. (7+, 0-)
6. The team commends the staff on communications with neighboring landowners, including for education and outreach. (7+, 0-)
7. The team commends the staff for coordination with the water management district and aquatic preserve staff on all water resource issues in the Rainbow River. (7+, 0-)
8. The team commends the FPS for the improvement of their prescribed burning teams and the good coordination from the park staff. (7+, 0-)
9. The team commends the staff for excellent partnership and coordination with the citizen support organization and volunteers. (7+, 0-)



### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The management plan reviewed by this land management review team was prepared in 2002. This is the third time this plan has been reviewed. In order for the land management review process to function properly, the team recommends the management plan be updated in a timely manner. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: The Division of Recreation and Parks are working to update the Unit Management Plan.*

2. The team recommends the FPS resume southeastern kestrel monitoring and nest box maintenance in coordination with FWC. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: District and park staff will continue to coordinate with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) on monitoring and management strategies for the southeastern kestral in the park.*

3. The team recommends the FPS resume Bachman's sparrow annual monitoring and brown-headed nuthatch monitoring in coordination with FWC. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: District and park staff will continue to coordinate with FWC on monitoring and management strategies for imperiled species in the park.*

## 2. Field Review Details

### 2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. Natural communities, specifically basin swamp, depression marsh, floodplain swamp, hydric hammock, and spring-run stream.
2. Listed species, animals, specifically gopher tortoise and plants in general.
3. Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.
4. Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.
5. Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.
6. Restoration, specifically sand pine plantation to sandhill.
7. Forest management, specifically timber inventory.
8. Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, and animals.
9. Hydro-alteration, specifically roads and culverts, and erosion.
10. Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.
11. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.
12. Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.

13. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.
14. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, and equipment.

## 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

1. *The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically upland hardwood forest, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.*

*Managing Agency Response: District and park staff are working to delineate upland hardwood forest and upland mixed woodland natural communities for the next Unit Management Plan.*

2. *Listed species, specifically Southeastern American kestrel, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, whether management actions are sufficient for protection and preservation of the species.*

*Managing Agency Response: District and park staff will continue to coordinate with FWC on monitoring and management strategies for imperiled species in the park.*

## 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities (I.A)</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	3	3	3	3	4	4	4		3.43
Sandhill	I.A.2	4	3	4	4	3	4	4		3.71
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.3	3	4	4	4	4	3	4		3.71
Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.4	3	x	3	4	3	x	4		3.40
Basin Swamp	I.A.5	5	5	5	4	5	4	5		4.71
Depression Marsh	I.A.6	5	5	5	5	5	4	5		4.86
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.7	5	5	4	5	4	5	4		4.57
Hydric Hammock	I.A.8	5	5	5	5	5	5	4		4.86
Spring-Run Stream	I.A.9	5	5	4	4	4	5	4		4.43
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.10	3	x	3	3	1	4			2.80
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.05

<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation (I.B)</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	3	4	3	4	3	3	3		3.29
Southeastern American Kestrel	I.B.1.a	2	2	3	4	2	3	2		2.57
Gopher Tortoise	I.B.1.b	4	5	4	5	5	4	3		4.29
Plants	I.B.2	3	x	4	4	5	4	4		4.00
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										3.54
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	4	2	4	4	5	5	5		4.14
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	4	2	3	4	5	2	3		3.29
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	4	4	4	5	5	4	5		4.43
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	4	4	4	5	5	5	4		4.43
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B)</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	4	4	5	5	5	5		4.57
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	4	4	5	5	5	5		4.57
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.57
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	4	4	4	5	5	4	5		4.43
Frequency	III.A.2	4	4	4	5	5	4	5		4.43
Quality	III.A.3	4	5	3	5	5	5	4		4.43
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.43
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Sand Pine Plantation to Sandhill	III.B.1	2	4	4	4	4	4	5		3.86
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										3.86
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	5	4	4	5	5	4	5		4.57
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.57
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		4.00
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	4	4	4	5	5	4		4.29
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	4	4	4	4	3	4	4		3.86
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	4	4	4	4	5	5	4		4.29
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	4	4	4	5	5	4		4.43
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	4	4	4	4	3	4	4		3.86
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.12
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	4	x	4	5	5	4	3		4.17
Erosion	III.E.1.f	5	5	4	4	5	5	5		4.71
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.44

<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	5	4	5	5	4	5		4.71
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	5	4	5	5	4	5		4.71
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.71
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	4	4	5	5	5	4		4.57
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	4	4	4	4	5	4	4		4.14
Signage	III.F.3	4	4	4	4	5	4	4		4.14
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	5	4	4	4	5	3	4		4.14
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.25
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	4	4	4	4	5	4	4		4.14
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4	4	3	4	5	4	4		4.00
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	4	5	4	5	4	4	5		4.43
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	4	5	5	5	4		4.71
Boat Access	IV.1.c	5	5	4	5	3	5	4		4.43
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	4	5	3	4	5	4	4		4.14
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	5	4	5	4	4	4		4.43
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	5	4	4	5	5	4		4.57
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	4	4	5	5	4	5		4.57
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	4	5	5	5		4.86
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	4	4	5	5	4		4.57
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.52
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	5	5	5	5	4	5	5		4.86
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	5	5	5	5	3	5	5		4.71
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Buildings	V.2.a	5	4	3	4	4	4	4		4.00
Equipment	V.2.b	5	4	3	4	4	4	4		4.00
Staff	V.3	3	2	2	3	4	3	4		3.00
Funding	V.4	4	2	2	2	4	4	4		3.14
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										3.95

Color Code:	Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor	See Appendix A for detail
		Missing Vote	Insufficient Information		

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

- The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically upland mixed woodland and upland hardwood forest, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.*

*Managing Agency Response: The next Unit Management Plan will be updated to reflect upland hardwood forest and upland mixed woodland natural community classifications.*

- Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically prevention of plants and animals, and prevention and control of pest/pathogens, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, as well as overall management actions, whether prevention and control are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: The Division will address this issue in the next management plan so that it reflects land management actions.*

- Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether adjacent property concerns are sufficiently addressed.*

*Managing Agency Response: The Division will address adjacent property concerns and the determination of surplus lands in the update of the management plan.*

#### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities (I.A)</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	1	3	3	4		4	3		3.00
Sandhill	I.A.2	1	3	3	4		4	3		3.00
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.3	1	3	3	4		4	4		3.17
Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.4	1	2	3	3	1	1	1		1.71
Basin Swamp	I.A.5	1	3	5	3		4	4		3.33

Depression Marsh	I.A.6	1	3	5	3		4	4		3.33
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.7	1	3	4	3		4	5		3.33
Hydric Hammock	I.A.8	1	3	5	3		5	5		3.67
Spring-Run Stream	I.A.9	1	3	4	4		5	4		3.50
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.10	1	2	3	2	1	3	1		1.86
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										2.99
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation (I.B)</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	1	3	3	4	3	4	5		3.29
Southeastern American Kestrel	I.B.1.a	1	4	3	4	5	5			3.67
Gopher Tortoise	I.B.1.b	1	3	4	4	5	1	5		3.29
Plants	I.B.2	1	3	4	4	3	4	4		3.29
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										3.38
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	1	4	4	3	3	4	5		3.43
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	1	4	3	3	3	4	3		3.00
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	1	4	4	4	3	5	5		3.71
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	1	4	4	5	3	5	4		3.71
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B)</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	1	3	4	4	3	4	3		3.14
Protection and preservation	II.B	1	3	4	4	3	4	3		3.14
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										3.14
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	1	3	4	4	3	5	3		3.29
Frequency	III.A.2	1	3	4	4	3	4	3		3.14
Quality	III.A.3	1	3	3	4	3	4	3		3.00
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										3.14
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Sand Pine Plantation to Sandhill	III.B.1	1	3	4	4	3	4	5		3.43
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										3.43
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	1	3	4	4	3	4	3		3.14
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										3.14
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.E.1.a	1	3	3	3	3	4	3		2.86
prevention - animals	III.E.1.b	1	3	3	3	3	4	3		2.86
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.E.1.c	1	3	3	3	3	2	3		2.57
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.E.2.a	1	3	3	4	3	5	4		3.29
control - animals	III.E.2.b	1	3	3	4	3	4	4		3.14
control - pest/pathogens	III.E.2.c	1	3	3	4	3	2	4		2.86
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										2.93
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										

Roads/culverts	III.F.1.a	1	3	4	4	3	4	3		3.14
Erosion	III.F.1.f	1	3	4	4	3	4	3		3.14
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										3.14
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.F.3.a	1	3	4	5	3	5	4		3.57
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	1	3	4	5	3	5	4		3.57
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										3.57
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.G.1	1	3	4	4	3	5	4		3.43
Gates & fencing	III.G.2	1	3	4	4	3	4	4		3.29
Signage	III.G.3	1	3	4	4	3	4	5		3.43
Law enforcement presence	III.G.4	1	3	4	4	3	4	5		3.43
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										3.39
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Expanding development	III.H.1.a	1	3	3	4	3	4	4		3.14
Inholdings/additions	III.H.2	1	3	3	4	3	5	4		3.29
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.H.3	1	3	3	4	3	3	2		2.71
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.H.4	1	3	3	4	3	4	4		3.14
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a		3	3	4	3	5	4		3.67
Parking	IV.1.b		3	3	4	3	5	4		3.67
Boat Access	IV.1.c		3	4	4	3	5	4		3.83
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a		3	4	4	3	4	4		3.67
Invasive Species	IV.2.b		3	4	4	3	4	4		3.67
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c		3	4	4	3	4	4		3.67
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3		3	3	4	3	5	4		3.67
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4		3	4	4	3	5	4		3.83
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5		3	4	4	3	3	4		3.50
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										3.69
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Natural Resource Conservation	VI.A.1	5	5	4	4	5	5	5		4.71
Swimming	VI.A.2	5	5	4	4	5	5	3		4.43
Tubing	VI.A.3	5	5	4	4	5	5	4		4.57
Canoeing/Kayaking	VI.A.4	5	5	4	4	5	5	4		4.57
Wildlife Observation	VI.A.5	5	5	4	4	5	5	5		4.71
Hiking	VI.A.6	5	5	4	4	5	5	5		4.71
Camping	VI.A.7	5	5	4	4	5	5	4		4.57

Color Code:

Excellent

Above Average

Below Average

Poor

Missing Vote

Insufficient Information

See Appendix A for detail

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*



**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2017 Land Management Review Team Report for San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In case where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park

**Managed by:** Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Division of Recreation and Parks

**Acres:** 7,358

**County:** Alachua

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** P2000/CARL

**Original Acquisition Date:** 8/31/[9474](#)

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 2/11/05

**Review Date:** 10/17/17

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Robert Steele, Park Manager

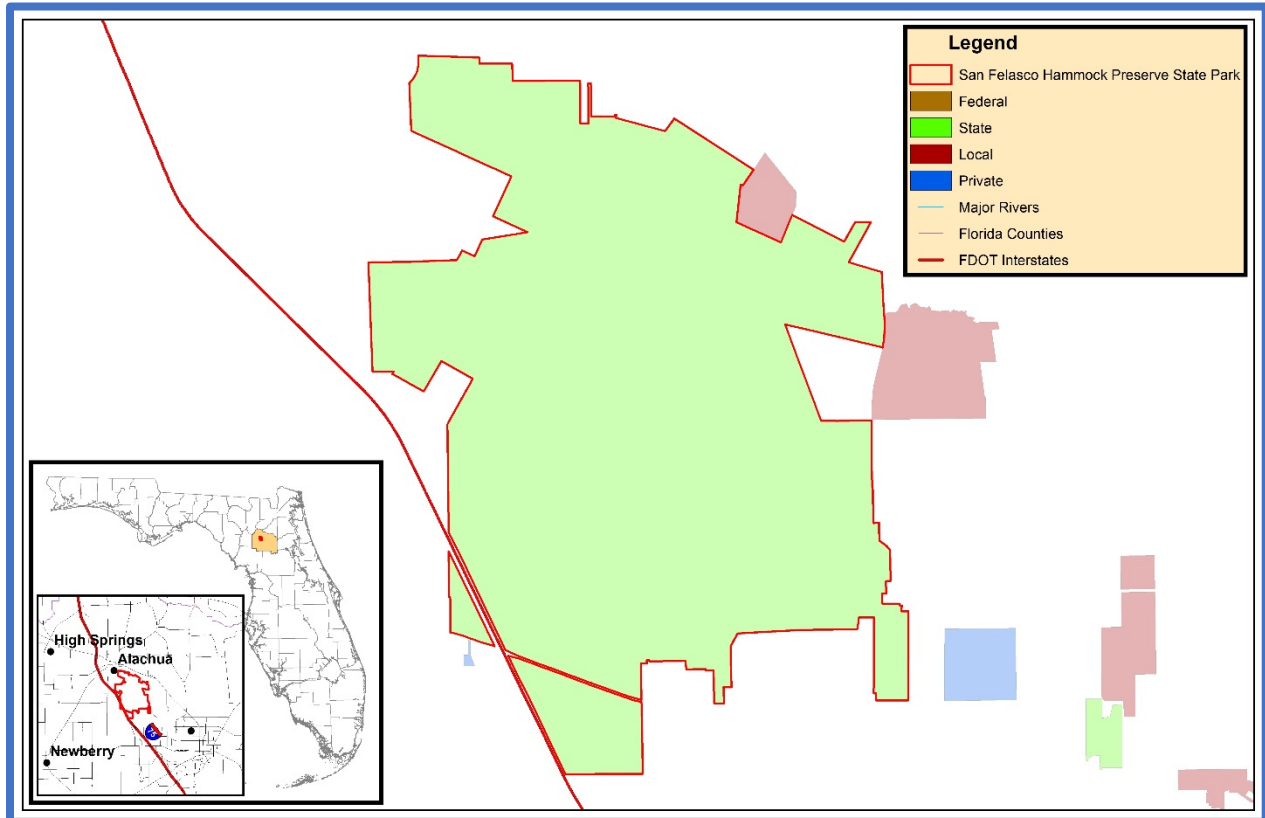
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- Dan Pearson, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Ginger Morgan, FWC
- Carmine Oliverio DEP District
- Ernie Ash, FFS
- Grace Howell, FNPS
- Conservation Org., None
- Private Land Manager, None

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- James Parker, DEP/DSL
- Matt Greene, FWC
- John Kunzer, FWC

## 1.2 Property Map



## 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

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

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Table 1: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.33	4.23
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.62	4.22
Hydrology	4.47	4.00
Imperiled Species	4.13	4.33
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.50	4.43
Cultural Resources	4.50	4.60
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.37	4.29
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.08	N/A
<b>Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)</b>		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for the aggressive strategy to identify, assess and treat non-native invasive plants over a long-term to control spread and reduce presence on the landscape. (5+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for managing a diverse set of users (hikers, bikers, equestrian) at the park while successfully preserving and protecting sensitive/unique systems. (5+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for aggressive mechanical removal/mowing to enable fire to be reintroduced into areas dependent on it. (5+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS for the development of a trail management plan to coordinate and educate park staff and volunteers on the purpose of the resources, and to incorporate objectives of the unit management plan. (5+, 0-)
5. The team commends the FPS for partnering with the homeowners association as a neighbor to identify natural resource concerns of interest to both parties. (5+, 0-)
6. The team commends the FPS on increasing off-site public outreach with the Florida History/Cracker Horse program. (5+, 0-)

### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FPS continue to increase prescribed fire in order to promote ecosystem health and protect habitat for listed species. (5+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree.*

2. The team recommends that the FPS use citizen science to fill data gaps using INaturalist, IveGotOne apps and similar capabilities of smartphones. (5+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. District and Park staff will investigate implementation of these programs in coordination with the Division of Recreation and Parks.*

## 2. Field Review Details

### 2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically mesic flatwoods, sandhill, upland hardwood forest, upland pine mixed woodland, basin marsh/marsh lake, basin swamp, baygill, bottomland forest, depression marsh, dome, alluvial forest (floodplain forest), floodplain marsh, hydric hammock/ mesic hammock, clastic upland lake, sandhill upland lake, sinkhole and sinkhole lake, swamp lake, blackwater stream, seepage stream, aquatic and terrestrial cave.**
2. **Listed species: Protection & Preservation, specifically animals, gopher tortoise, plants**
3. **Natural resources survey/monitoring specifically invasive species survey/monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat, invasive species survey/monitoring**

4. Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation
5. Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically None
6. Restoration, specifically southern pine beetle sites.
7. Forest Management, specifically timber inventory/ assessment, timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation
8. Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals and pest/pathogens.
9. Hydrologic/Geologic Function Hydro-Alteration, specifically roads/culverts
10. Ground Water Monitoring, specifically ground water quality, ground water quantity
11. Surface Water Monitoring, specifically surface water quality, surface water quantity
12. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey gates and fencing, signage and law enforcement presence.
13. Adjacent property concerns, specifically expanding development, I-75 smoke management, inholdings/additions
14. Public access, specifically road, parking
15. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, management of visitor impacts
16. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities.

## 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

1. *Resource Management, Prescribed Fire, specifically frequency, received below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, to what degree prescribed fire is accomplished according to the objectives for prescribed fire management. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% accomplished, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. Increasing the frequency of prescribed fires is a high priority for the park.*

2. *Management Resources, specifically buildings, and staff received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. However, Division funding for infrastructure is determined annually by the Florida Legislature and funds are allocated to the 175 state parks and trails according to priority needs. In addition, no new staff can be assigned to this or any other park unit unless they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units.*

## 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	3	3	3	4	4				3.40
Sandhill	I.A.2	5	4	4	3	5				4.20
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.3	5	4	4	4	5				4.40
Upland Pine Mixed Woodland	I.A.4	3	3	3	3	4				3.20
Basin Marsh/Marsh Lake	I.A.5	5	4	4	4	5				4.40
Basin Swamp	I.A.6	5	4	5	5					4.75
Baygall	I.A.7	5	4	5	5					4.75
Bottomland Forest	I.A.8	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Depression Marsh	I.A.9	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Dome	I.A.10	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Alluvial Forest (Floodplain Forest)	I.A.11	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Floodplain Marsh	I.A.12	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.13	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Hydric Hammock/ Mesic Hammock	I.A.14	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Clastic Upland Lake	I.A.15	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Sandhill Upland Lake	I.A.16	4	4	5	5	4				4.40
Sinkhole and Sinkhole Lake	I.A.17	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Swamp Lake	I.A.18	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Blackwater Stream	I.A.19	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Seepage Stream	I.A.20	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Aquatic and Terrestrial Cave	I.A.21	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.51
<b>Listed species:Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	5	4	3	5	4				4.20
Gopher Tortoise	I.B.1.a	5	3	3	5	4				4.00
Plants	I.B.2	5	4	3	5	4				4.20
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.13
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	4	3	4	4				4.00
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	4	3	4	4				4.00
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	1	4	3	4	3				3.00
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	4	3	4	4				3.80
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	4	5	5	4				4.60
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	4	3	5	5				4.40
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										



Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A1	5	3	2	3	4				3.40
Frequency	III.A.2	3	3	2	3	3				2.80
Quality	III.A.3	5	3	3	4	4				3.80
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										3.33
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Upland Pine Restoration	III.B.2	5	4	3	4	3				3.80
Southern Pine Beetle sites	III.B.3	5	4	4	4	3				4.00
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										3.90
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory / Assessment	III.C.1	2	4	5	5	5				4.20
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3	5	4	3	5	4				4.20
Site Preparation	III.C.4	4	4	3	4	4				3.80
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.15
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	5	4	4	4	5				4.40
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	4	4	4	5				4.40
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Ditches	III.E.1.b									
Hydro-period Alteration	III.E.1.c									
Water Level Alteration	III.E.1.d									
Dams, Reservoirs, other impoundments	III.E.1.e									
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.20
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Signage	III.F.3	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.45

Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)										
Land Use										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
I-75 Smoke Management	III.G.1.b	5		3	4	4				4.00
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Public Access & Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)										
Public Access										
Roads	IV.1.a	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Parking	IV.1.b	4	3	3	5					3.75
Environmental Education & Outreach										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	4	3	4	4				4.00
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	4	3	5	5				4.40
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	4	3	5	4				4.20
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	4	5	5				4.80
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	3	5	4				4.40
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.29
Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)										
Maintenance										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	5	4	4	x	4				4.25
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	5	4	4	x	4				4.25
Infrastructure										
Buildings	V.2.a	1	2	2	x	3				2.00
Equipment	V.2.b	3	3	3	x	3				3.00
Staff	V.3	1	1	2	3	2				1.80
Funding	V.4	4	3	3	3	3				3.20
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										3.08

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**\*\* The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement actions in the management plan. \*\***

### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	5	3	4	4	4				4.00
Sandhill	I.A.2	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.3	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Upland Pine Mixed Woodland	I.A.4	5	3	4	4	4				4.00
Basin Marsh/Marsh Lake	I.A.5	5	4	4	4	3				4.00
Basin Swamp	I.A.6	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Baygall	I.A.7	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Bottomland Forest	I.A.8	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Depression Marsh	I.A.9	5	4	4	4					4.25
Dome	I.A.10	5	4	4	4	3				4.00
Alluvial Forest (Floodplain Forest)	I.A.11	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Floodplain Marsh	I.A.12	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.13	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Hydric Hammock/ Mesic Hammock	I.A.14	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Clastic Upland Lake	I.A.15	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Sandhill Upland Lake	I.A.16	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Sinkhole and Sinkhole Lake	I.A.17	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Swamp Lake	I.A.18	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Blackwater Stream	I.A.19	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Seepage Stream	I.A.20	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Aquatic and Terrestrial Cave	I.A.21	5	4	4	4	3				4.00
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.15
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
Gopher Tortoise	I.B.1.a	5	3	4	5	4				4.20
Plants	I.B.2	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.33
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	4	3	4	3				3.80
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	5	4	3	4	4				4.00
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	5	4	3	4	3				3.80
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	5	4	3	4	3				3.80
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	4	3	4	4				4.00
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.60
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										

Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	4	3	5	5				4.40
Frequency	III.A.2	5	3	3	5	5				4.20
Quality	III.A.3	5	4	3	5	5				4.40
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.33
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										
Upland Pine Restoration	III.B.2	5	4	3	5	4				4.20
Southern Pine Beetle sites	III.B.3	5	4	3	4	4				4.00
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.10
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory / Assessment	III.C.1	5	4	4	4	5				4.40
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	5	4	4	4	5				4.40
Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
Site Preparation	III.C.4	5	4	3	4	4				4.00
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.30
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	4	4	4	5				4.40
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	5	4	4	4	5				4.40
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	5	4	4	5	4				4.40
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										4.43
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	5	4	3	4	4				4.00
Ditches	III.E.1.b									
Hydro-period Alteration	III.E.1.c									
Water Level Alteration	III.E.1.d									
Dams, Reservoirs, other impoundments	III.E.1.e									
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.00
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	3	3	4	4				3.80
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	3	3	4	4				3.80
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										3.80
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	3	4	4	5				4.20
Surface water quantity	III.E.3.b	5	3	4	4	5				4.20
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.20
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	4	4	4	5				4.40
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	5	4	4	4	5				4.40
Signage	III.F.3	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.30

Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)										
Land Use										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	5	4	3	4	5				4.20
I-75 Smoke Management	III.G.1.b	5	4	3	4	4				4.00
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	5	4		5	5				4.75
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.G.3	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.G.4	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Public Access & Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)										
Public Access										
Roads	IV.1.a	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Parking	IV.1.b	5	4	4	5					4.50
Environmental Education & Outreach										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	4	3	4	4				4.00
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	4	3	4	4				4.00
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	4	3	4	5				4.20
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	4	3	4	4				4.00
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	4	4	4	5				4.40
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	4	5	4				4.60
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.29
Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)										
Existing Uses										
Hiking	VI.A.1	5	4	4	5	5				4.60
Bicycling	VI.A.2	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Equestrian Trails	VI.A.3	5	4	4	4	4				4.20
Picnicking	VI.A.4	5	4	3	5	5				4.40

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor	See Appendix A for detail
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information		

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant, Office of Environmental Services  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2021 Land Management Review Team Report for Suwannee River State Park

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## **Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In cases where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## **Property Reviewed in this Report**

**Name of Site:** Suwannee River State Park

**Managed by:** Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Acres:** 1,929

**County:** Suwannee, Madison, Hamilton

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** Public outdoor recreation and conservation.

**Acquisition Program(s):** N/A

**Original Acquisition Date:** 11/6/1945

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 12/19/1916

**Review Date:** 8/31/2021

### **Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Matthew Phifer, Manager

### **Review Team Members (voting)**

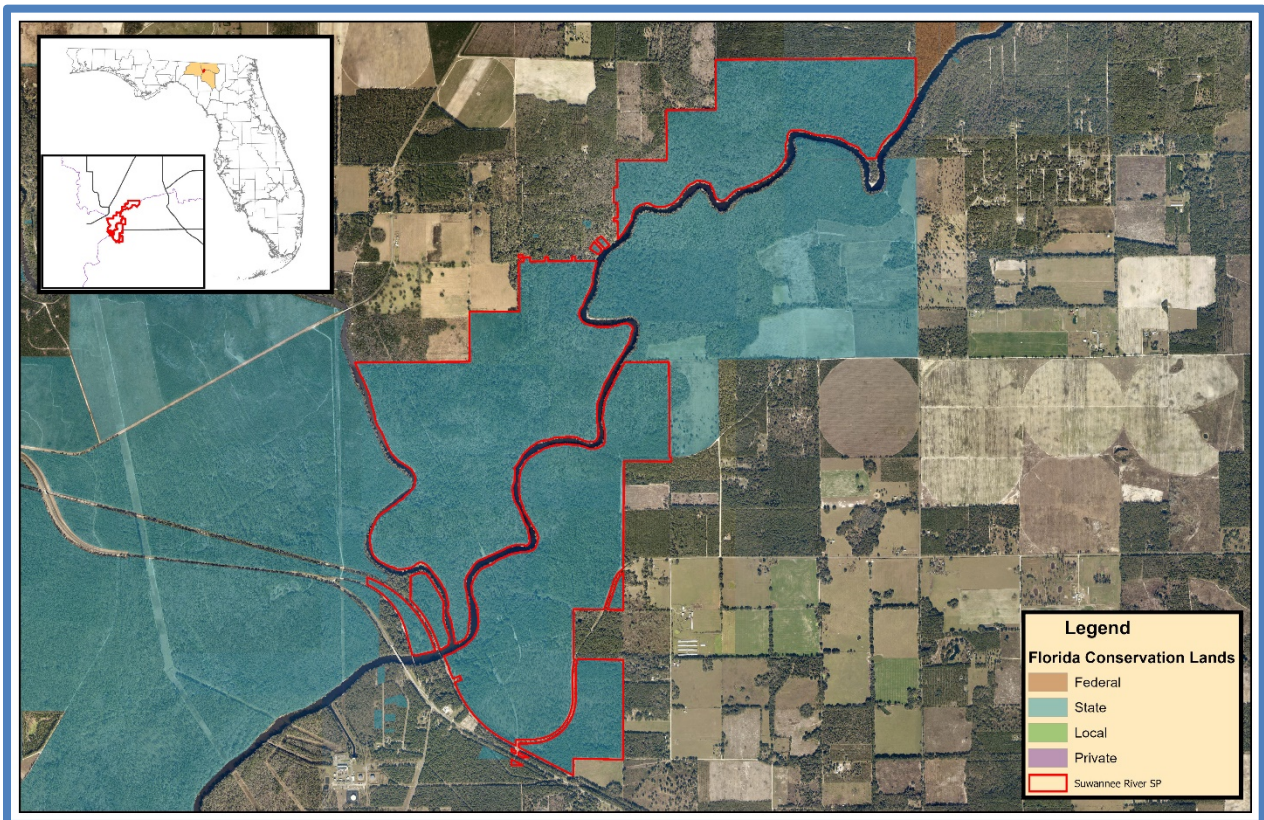
- Rick Owen, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Scotland Talley, FWC
- Taylor Parks, DEP District

- Shelly Wayte, FFS
- Edwin McCook, SRWMD
- Michael Bubb, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

### **Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

## **Property Map**



## Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 6, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 6, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.49	4.65
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.86	4.48
Hydrology	4.90	4.88
Imperiled Species	4.50	4.67
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.67	5.00
Cultural Resources	4.58	4.75
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.62	4.75
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.47	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

### **Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) for their efforts in managing invasive vegetation. (5+, 0-)
2. The team commends staff for providing excellent recreational opportunities, camping, hiking, etc. (5+, 0-)
3. The team commends staff for cooperating with the SRWMD on the monitoring of water quality and quantity at the park. (5+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that park staff continue to maintain areas in the appropriate fire return interval and expand into areas where fire return interval needs improvement. (5+, 0-)  
Managing Agency Response: *Agree. The park will continue to use prescribed fire and strive for the appropriate Fire Return Interval for all management zones.*
2. The team recommends that Florida Park Service continue to remove larger hardwoods to allow sunlight to enter successional hardwood forest areas. (5+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: *Agree. The Park and District 2 staff will prioritize management zones in need of mechanical treatment, and work to improve habitat by reducing offsite hardwoods.*

## **Field Review Details**

### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically mesic hammock, sandhill, sinkhole, upland hardwood forest, alluvial forest, bottomland forest, floodplain swamp, sinkhole lake, alluvial stream, blackwater stream, spring-run stream and aquatic cave.**
2. **Listed species, listed animal and plant species in general, and specifically Florida mountain mint.**
3. **Natural resources survey/monitoring resources; specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Prescribed fire, specifically quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically Zone 6A and 1B hardwood treatment .**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, and site preparation.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
9. **Hydro-alteration, specifically roads and culverts, and dams, reservoirs or other impoundments.**
10. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
11. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
12. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, and law enforcement presence.**
13. **Adjacent property concerns, specifically inholdings and additions.**
14. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
15. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
16. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff, and funding.**

### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

*The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement actions in the field.*

## Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities (I.A)</b>										
Mesic Hammock	I.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Sandhill	I.A.2	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
Sinkhole	I.A.3	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.4	5	5	4	4	5	5			4.67
Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.5	2	3	5	3	4	3			3.33
Upland Pine	I.A.6	3	4	5	3	4	3			3.67
Alluvial Forest	I.A.7	5	3	5	4	5	5			4.50
Bottomland Forest	I.A.8	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Sinkhole Lake	I.A.10	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
Alluvial Stream	I.A.11	5	5	5	2	5	5			4.50
Blackwater Stream	I.A.12	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
Spring-Run Stream	I.A.13	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
Aquatic Cave	I.A.14	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.61
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation (I.B)</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	3	5	4	5	4	5			4.33
Plants	I.B.2	4	5	5	5	4	5			4.67
Florida Mountain Mint	I.B.2.a	4	5	4	5	4	5			4.50
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	3	4	5	4	4	5			4.17
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	4	5	5	4	4	5			4.50
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	4	4	4	4	5	4			4.17
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	3	4	5	4	5	5			4.33
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	4	5	5	4	5	5			4.67
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B)</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	5	4	4	5	5			4.50
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	5	4	5	5	5			4.67
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.58
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	2	4	4	3	5	5			3.83
Frequency	III.A.2	2	4	4	3	5	5			3.83
Quality	III.A.3	3	4	5	5	5	5			4.50
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.06
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										

Loblolly stand (former ag field, Zone 4A) → sandhill / upland mixed	III.B.1	1	3	4	3	4	5			3.33
Zone 6A and 1B hardwood treatment	III.B.2	4	3	4	4		5			4.00
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										<b>3.67</b>
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	2	5	4	3	5	5			4.00
Site Preparation	III.C.4	X	5	5	4		5			4.75
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										<b>4.38</b>
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	4	5	5	5	5	5			4.83
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	5	5	4	5	5			4.67
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	4	5	5	4	5	5			4.67
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	4	5	4	4	5	5			4.50
control - animals	III.D.2.b	4	5	5	4	5	5			4.67
control - pests/pathogens	III.D.2.c	4	5	5	4	5	5			4.67
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										<b>4.67</b>
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	4	4	5	5	5	5			4.67
Dams, Reservoirs or other impoundments	III.E.1.e	X	4	5		5	5			4.75
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										<b>4.71</b>
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	5	5		5	5			5.00
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	5	5		5	5			5.00
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										<b>5.00</b>
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										<b>5.00</b>
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	3	3	5	5	5	5			4.33
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	4	5	3	5	4	5			4.33
Signage	III.F.3	2	5	3	5	4	4			3.83
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	4	5	5	4	5	5			4.67
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										<b>4.29</b>
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2		5	5	3	5	5			4.60
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Roads	IV.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Boat Access	IV.1.c	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00

Environmental Education & Outreach										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	5	5	4	5	5			4.67
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.94
Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)										
Maintenance										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Infrastructure										
Buildings	V.2.a	2	5	4	4	5	5			4.17
Equipment	V.2.b	4	5	5	5	5	5			4.83
Staff	V.3	3	5	3	4	5	4			4.00
Funding	V.4	3	4	4	4	4	5			4.00
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										4.47

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

## Land Management Plan Review Details

### Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

- Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, and surplus lands identified received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.***

***Managing Agency Response: Adjacent property concerns including discussion of potential surplus land determination will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when approved by ARC.***

## Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities (I.A)</b>										
Mesic Hammock	I.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Sandhill	I.A.2	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
Sinkhole	I.A.3	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.4	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Upland Mixed Woodland	I.A.5	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
Upland Pine	I.A.6	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Alluvial Forest	I.A.7	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Bottomland Forest	I.A.8	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Sinkhole Lake	I.A.10	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
Alluvial Stream	I.A.11	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
Blackwater Stream	I.A.12	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Spring-Run Stream	I.A.13	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Aquatic Cave	I.A.14	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.94
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation (I.B)</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	3	5	4	5	5	5			4.50
Plants	I.B.2	4	5	5	5	5	5			4.83
Florida Mountain Mint	I.B.2.a	4	5	4	5	5	5			4.67
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.67
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	3	5	4	5	5	5			4.50
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	3	5	5	4	5	5			4.50
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	3	5	4	4	5	5			4.33
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	3	5	5	4	5	5			4.50
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	4	5	5	5	5	5			4.83
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B)</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	5	5	3	5	5			4.67
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.75
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	5	4	5	5	5			4.83
Frequency	III.A.2	5	5	3	5	5	5			4.67
Quality	III.A.3	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.83
<b>Restoration (III.B)</b>										



Loblolly stand (former ag field, Zone 4A) → sandhill / upland mixed	III.B.1	4	5	4	5	5	5			4.67
Zone 6A and 1B hardwood treatment	III.B.2	1	3	4	5		5			3.60
<b>Restoration Average Score</b>										4.13
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	3	5	4	5	5	5			4.50
Site Preparation	III.C.4	1	5	5	5		5			4.20
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.35
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
control - animals	III.D.2.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
control - pests/pathogens	III.D.2.c	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	3	5	5	5	5	5			4.67
Dams, Reservoirs or other impoundments	III.E.1.e	3	5	5		5	5			4.60
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										4.63
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	5	5		5	5			5.00
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	5	5		5	5			5.00
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Surface water quantity	III.E.3.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	5	5	4	5	4	5			4.67
Signage	III.F.3	1	5	4	5	4	5			4.00
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	3	4	5	4	5	5			4.33
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										4.50
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4	5	5	5	5	5			4.83
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.G.3	2	2	2	5	3	1			2.50
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.G.4	2	2	1	5	3	1			2.33
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										

Roads	IV.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Boat Access	IV.1.c	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										5.00
<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Camping	VI.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Hiking	VI.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Wildlife Observation	VI.A.3	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Nature Study	VI.A.4	5	5	5	4	5	5			4.83
Picnicking	VI.A.5	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Boating	VI.A.6	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Paddling	VI.A.7	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Fishing	VI.A.8	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
Cabins	VI.A.9	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00
<b>Proposed Uses</b>										
30-site standard campground	VI.B.1	3	5	5	5	5	5			4.67
Additional primitive campsite	VI.B.2	5	5	5	5	5	5			5.00

Color Code:

Excellent

Above  
Average

Below  
Average

Poor

Missing  
Vote

Insufficient  
Information

See  
Appendix A  
for detail

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Keith Singleton, Program Consultant  
Division of State Lands

**FROM:** Wes Howell, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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Steve Cutshaw, Chief, Office of Park Planning  
Division of Recreation and Parks

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**SUBJECT:** Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

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The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of \_\_\_\_\_ by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

/ca

# 2018 Land Management Review Team Report for Waccasassa Bay Preserve State Park

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## **1. Introduction**

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In cases where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team “shall 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 or archaeological features. The review shall 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.”

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district or jurisdictional water management district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

## 1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

**Name of Site:** Waccasassa Bay Preserve State Park

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 30,241

**County:** Levy

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** LATF/LWCF/CARL/P2000/Donation      **Original Acquisition Date:** 12/10/71

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 6/6/05

**Review Date:** 8/7/18

### Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Tommy Pavao, Park Manager
- Christopher Camargo, Park Service Specialist

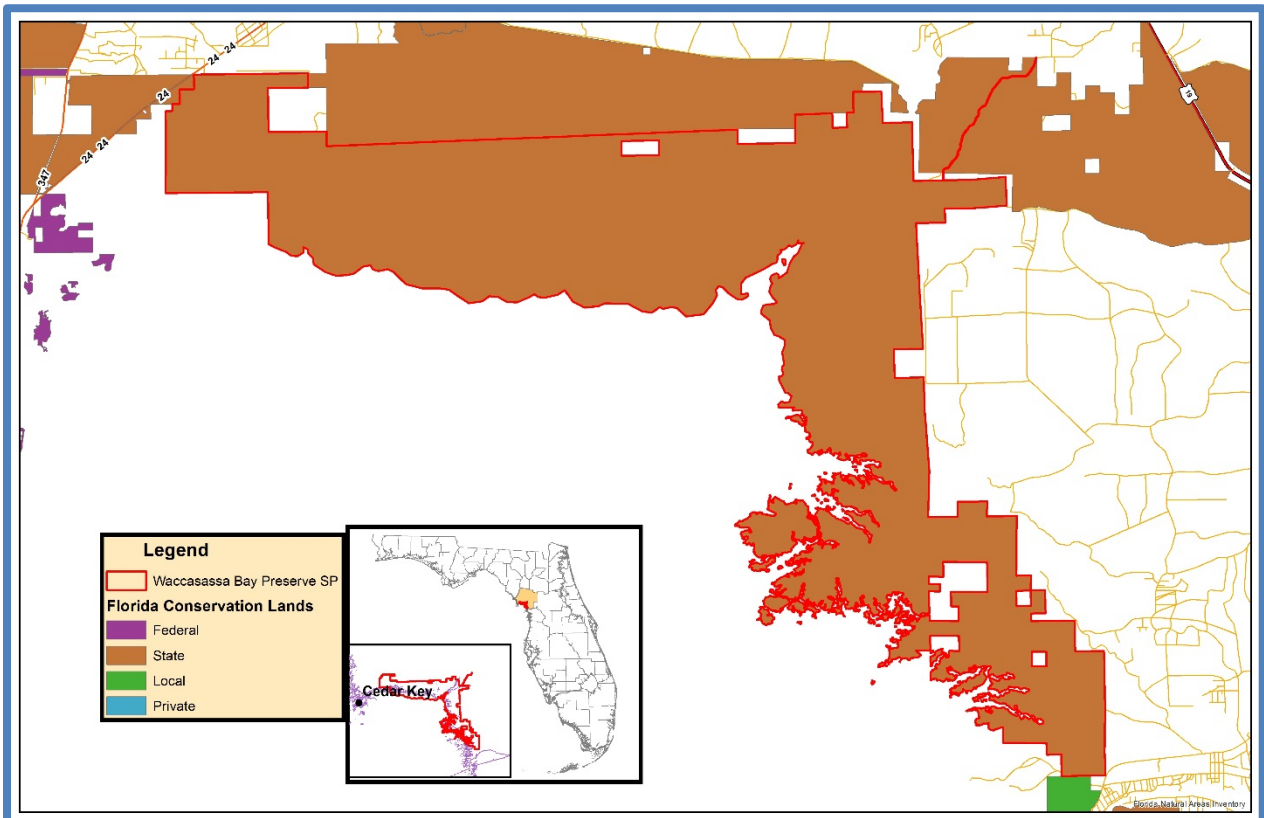
### Review Team Members Present (voting)

- Richard Owen, DRP District
- Steven Keith, Local Gov't.
- Blair Hayman, FWC
- Jason Neumann, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Wri Irby, SRWMD
- Jaya Milam, Cons. Organization
- Private Land Manager, None

### Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Glenda Schrimper, FNPS Florida Native Plant Society

## 1.2 Property Map



### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

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

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see *Appendix A*.

#### 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for becoming airboat qualified and for making efforts to monitor, patrol and work along the coastal boundaries of the park. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for maintaining a large acreage of natural communities with a small number of staff. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for cooperative work to monitor imperiled species. (7+, 0-)

#### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FPS pursue various alternatives for additional funds to improve working and living areas, also equipment to provide the tools and machinery to manage the property at optimal levels. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree.*

2. The team recommends that the FPS seek out innovative technology to supplement and assist current land management practices. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** *Agree.*

Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.40	3.89
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.05	4.43
Hydrology	4.33	3.81
Imperiled Species	4.48	4.48
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.96	3.84
Cultural Resources	4.07	4.00
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.79	3.77
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	2.74	N/A

Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
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3. The team recommends that the FPS work with partners to install an interpretive sign at the public boat ramps. (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The Division will work with with the appropriate entities on the development of interpretive signage for the Waccasassa River public boat ramp.*

4. The team recommends that the FPS install camping signage to identify designated campsites and replace unofficial structures with new shelters (where applicable). (7+, 0-)

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The Division will consider these recommendations during the next unit management plan revision.*

## 2. Field Review Details

### 2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. **Natural communities, specifically scrubby flatwoods, basin swamp, depression marsh, hydric hammock, blackwater stream, estuarine composite substrate, salt marsh, mangrove swamp, and estuarine mollusk reef.**
2. **Listed species, plants and animals in general, and specifically salt marsh vole.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned and quality.**
6. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants.**
7. **Ground water and surface water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
8. **Resource protection, specifically signage.**
9. **Adjacent property concerns, specifically surplus lands identified.**
10. **Public access, specifically boat access.**
11. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, and recreational opportunities.**
12. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal.**

### 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

1. *Environmental education and outreach, specifically interpretive facilities and signs, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether interpretive facilities and signs is sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. The Division will consider these recommendations during the next unit management plan revision.*

- Management Resources, specifically buildings, staff and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Agree. However, no new staff can be assigned to this or any other park unit unless they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature. The Division will consider the recommendations for new development during the next unit management plan revision.*

### 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3.00
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.2	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4.14
Basin Swamp	I.A.3	5	5	5	4	4	5	4	4	4.57
Depression Marsh	I.A.4	5	5	4	3	4	5	4	4	4.29
Hydric Hammock	I.A.5	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.71
Blackwater Stream	I.A.6	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	4.57
Estuarine Composite Substrate	I.A.7	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Salt Marsh	I.A.8	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Mangrove Swamp	I.A.9	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Estuarine Mollusk Reef	I.A.10	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	4.86
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.51
<b>Listed species:Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	5	3	5	4	4	5	5	5	4.43
Salt Marsh Vole	I.B.1.a	5	3	5	5	4	5	5	5	4.57
Plants	I.B.2	5	3	5	4	4	5	5	5	4.43
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.48
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	4	5	4	3	5	5	5	4.43
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	5	4	5	5	4	5	4	4	4.57
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	5	4	5	4	4	5	4	4	4.43
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	3	5	4	4	4	5	4	4	4.14
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A, II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	5	4	3	3	4	6	4	4	4.14
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	4.00
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.07

<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	3	4	4	4	4	5	5		4.14
Frequency	III.A.2	3	4	4	4	4	5	3		3.86
Quality	III.A.3	3	4	4	4	4	5	5		4.14
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.05
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	5	5	5	3	4	5	4		4.43
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	4	5	4	3	4	5	4		4.14
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										4.29
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	4	4	4	5	4	5	4		4.29
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	4	3	4	3	5	4		3.86
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c		3	4	3	4		4		3.60
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	4	4	5	5	4	5	4		4.43
control - animals	III.D.2.b	4	3	3	4	3	5	4		3.71
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	4	3	4	3	4	5	4		3.86
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										3.96
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	5	3	4	3	3	4	3		3.57
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										3.57
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	5	5	5	5	4	5	4		4.71
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	5	5	5	5	4	5	4		4.71
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.71
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	5	5	5	5	4	5	4		4.71
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	5	5	5	4	5	4		4.71
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.71
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	3	2	3	4	3	5	4		3.43
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	3	2	4	3	3	5	4		3.43
Signage	III.F.3	4	4	4	4	3	5	4		4.00
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	3	3	4	3	3	5	3		3.43
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										3.57
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Lime Rock Mine	III.G.1.b	5	5	5	3	4	5	4		4.43
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4	4	4	4	4	5	3		4.00
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										

Boat Access	IV.1.c	5	4	5	5	4	5	4		4.57
<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	5	4	5	4	4	5	4		4.43
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	5	4	5	4	4	4	4		4.29
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	5	4	5	4	4	5	4		4.43
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	3	1	2	1	3	4	1		2.14
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	5	4	5	5	4	5	3		4.43
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	3	4	4	3	3	5	4		3.71
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										4.00
<b>Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)</b>										
<b>Maintenance</b>										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	4	4	4	5	4	5	4		4.29
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	4	4	3	3	4	5	4		3.86
<b>Infrastructure</b>										
Buildings	V.2.a	2	2	3	1	2	4	2		2.29
Equipment	V.2.b	4	4	4	2	3	3	2		3.14
Staff	V.3	1	1	2	1	1	2	2		1.43
Funding	V.4	3	1	2	1	1	1	1		1.43
<b>Management Resources Average Score</b>										2.74

Color Code:	Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor	See Appendix A for detail
		Missing Vote	Insufficient Information		

### 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

#### 3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

- 1. Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically lime rock mine, and discussion of potential surplus land determination, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.***

***Managing Agency Response:*** *The Division will address adjacent property concerns and the determination of surplus lands in the update of the management plan. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

- 2. Managed Area Uses, specifically proposed picnicking/trail, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address proposed uses.***

*Managing Agency Response: : The Division will consider these recommendations during the next unit management plan revision. However, the current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>Natural Communities ( I.A )</b>										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	5	3	4	4	4	5	3		4.00
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.2	5	3	4	4	4	5	4		4.14
Basin Swamp	I.A.3	5	3	4	4	4	5	4		4.14
Depression Marsh	I.A.4	5	3	4	4	4	5	4		4.14
Hydric Hammock	I.A.5	5	3	4	4	4	5	4		4.14
Blackwater Stream	I.A.6	5	3	4	4	4	4	4		4.00
Estuarine Composite Substrate	I.A.7		3	4	4	4	5	5		4.17
Salt Marsh	I.A.8	4	3	4	4	4	5	5		4.14
Mangrove Swamp	I.A.9	3	3	3	3	3	5	5		3.57
Estuarine Mollusk Reef	I.A.10	3	3	3	3	3	5	5		3.57
<b>Natural Communities Average Score</b>										4.00
<b>Listed species: Protection &amp; Preservation ( I.B )</b>										
Animals	I.B.1	5	3	5	4	4	5	5		4.43
Salt Marsh Vole	I.B.1.a	5	4	5	4	4	5	5		4.57
Plants	I.B.2	5	3	5	4	4	5	5		4.43
<b>Listed Species Average Score</b>										4.48
<b>Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources (I.C)</b>										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	5	3	4	4	3	5	5		4.14
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	3	3	5	4	4	5	4		4.00
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	5	3	4	4	4	5	4		4.14
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	3	4	4	4	5	4		4.14
<b>Cultural Resources (Archeological &amp; Historic sites) (II.A,II.B )</b>										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	4	3	3	4	5	4		3.86
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	4	5	3	4	5	4		4.14
<b>Cultural Resources Average Score</b>										4.00
<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)</b>										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	5	4	4	4	4	5	5		4.43
Frequency	III.A.2	5	4	4	4	4	5	5		4.43
Quality	III.A.3	5	4	4	4	4	5	5		4.43

<b>Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score</b>										4.43
<b>Forest Management (III.C)</b>										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	5	3	3	3	4	5	4		3.86
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	4	3	3	3	4	5	4		3.71
<b>Forest Management Average Score</b>										3.79
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species (III.D)</b>										
<b>Prevention</b>										
prevention - plants	III.E.1.a	4	3	4	4	4	5	4		4.00
prevention - animals	III.E.1.b	5	3	4	4	4	5	4		4.14
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.E.1.c	3	3	3	3	3		4		3.17
<b>Control</b>										
control - plants	III.E.2.a	5	3	4	4	4	5	4		4.14
control - animals	III.E.2.b	5	3	4	4	4	5	4		4.14
control - pest/pathogens	III.E.2.c	3	3	3	3	3	5	4		3.43
<b>Non-Native, Invasive &amp; Problem Species Average Score</b>										3.84
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)</b>										
Roads/culverts	III.F.1.a	4	3	3	3	3	5	3		3.43
<b>Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score</b>										3.43
<b>Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)</b>										
Ground water quality	III.F.2.a	5	3	3	4	4	5	4		4.00
Ground water quantity	III.F.2.b	5	3	3	4	4	5	4		4.00
<b>Ground Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.00
<b>Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)</b>										
Surface water quality	III.F.3.a	5	3	3	4	4	5	4		4.00
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	5	3	3	4	4	5	4		4.00
<b>Surface Water Monitoring Average Score</b>										4.00
<b>Resource Protection (III.F)</b>										
Boundary survey	III.G.1	5	3	3	4	3	5	4		3.86
Gates & fencing	III.G.2	5	3	3	4	3	5	3		3.71
Signage	III.G.3	5	3	3	4	3	5	3		3.71
Law enforcement presence	III.G.4	3	3	3	3	3	5	3		3.29
<b>Resource Protection Average Score</b>										3.64
<b>Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)</b>										
<b>Land Use</b>										
Lime Rock Mine	III.H.1.b	3	1	1	3	2	2	1		1.86
Inholdings/additions	III.H.2	5	4	2	4	4	5	3		3.86
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.H.3	4	1	1	3	2	2	1		2.00
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.H.4	5	4	4	3	4	5	4		4.14
<b>Public Access &amp; Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)</b>										
<b>Public Access</b>										
Boat Access	IV.1.c	4	3	4	5	4	5	4		4.14

<b>Environmental Education &amp; Outreach</b>										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	4	3	4	4	4	5	4		4.00
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	4	3	4	4	4	4	4		3.86
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	4	3	4	4	4	5	4		4.00
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	4	3	3	2	4	4	3		3.29
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	4	3	4	5	4	5	4		4.14
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	3	4	3	4	5	4		3.86
<b>Public Access &amp; Education Average Score</b>										<b>3.90</b>

<b>Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)</b>										
<b>Existing Uses</b>										
Boating	VI.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	4		4.86
Fishing	VI.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	4		4.86
Primitive camping	VI.A.3	5	4	5	2	2	5	4		3.86
<b>Proposed Uses</b>										
Picnicking/Trail	VI.B.2	5	4	5	2	0	0	1		2.43

Color Code:

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
	Missing Vote	Insufficient Information	

See Appendix A for detail

## **Appendix A: Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*