MARJORIE KINNAN RAWLINGS HISTORIC STATE PARK

Park Chapter

NORTH FLORIDA HIGHLANDS REGION

MARJORIE KINNAN RAWLINGS HISTORIC STATE PARK

ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

0 300 600 Feet

N W E S

TO MICANOPY/
GAINESVILLE

CROSS
CREEK

325

325

Cross Creek

PARK FEATURES
- Park Boundary
- Structures
- Unpaved Park Roads
- Parking Lots
- Walkways
- Trails

BASIN SWAMP

MESIC HAMMOCK

Maintenance Building

Office Building

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings House

Jungle Hammock Trail

Pumphouse

Chicken Pens

Barn

Tenant House

Restrooms

Canal

BASIN MARSH

ORANGE LAKE BASIN

Cross Creek (Canal)

Orange Lake

East Grove Trail

Office

Staff Residence

Pole Barn

Storage

MESIC FLATWOODS

BASIN SWAMP

HYDRIC HAMMOCK

MESIC HAMMOCK

BASIN MARSH

325

TO CITRA

LOCHLOOSA LAKE BASIN

INTRODUCTION

LOCATION AND ACQUISITION HISTORY

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park is located in Alachua County within the small community of Cross Creek (see Vicinity Map). Access to the park is from County Road 325, which runs north-south between State Road 20 and State Road 301. The Vicinity Map also reflects significant land and water resources existing near the park.

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park was initially acquired on July 1, 1970. The original 0.76-acre parcel was acquired from the University of Florida Foundation, Inc. (UFF), under a 10-year lease. This lease would expire on June 30, 1980. The leased premises consisted of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings House and the farmyard only.

Before the 10-year term lease for the 0.76-acre property expired, the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) and the UFF extended the lease for an additional five-year term. On Dec. 9, 1981, the UFF donated a 7.81-acre property, which included the 0.76-acre area DRP had been managing under lease, to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida (Trustees). Since this donation, the Trustees have acquired more parcels through the P2000 Acquisitions and Inholdings and Florida Forever Acquisitions and Inholdings land acquisition programs. Currently, the park comprises 124.31 acres. The Trustees hold fee simple title to the park, and, on Dec. 13, 1982, the Trustees leased (Lease No. 3241) the property to DRP under a 50-year lease. The current lease will expire on Dec. 12, 2032

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park is designated single-use to provide public outdoor recreation and conservation. There are no legislative or executive directives that constrain the use of this property (see Addendum 1). A legal description of the park property can be made available upon request to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

SECONDARY AND INCOMPATIBLE USES

In accordance with 253.034(5) F.S., the potential of the park to accommodate secondary management purposes was analyzed. These secondary purposes were considered within the context of DRP's statutory responsibilities and resource values. This analysis considered the park's natural and cultural resources, management needs, aesthetic values, visitation, and visitor experiences. It was determined that no secondary purposes could be accommodated in a manner that would not interfere with the primary purpose of resource-based outdoor recreation and conservation.

DRP has determined that uses such as water resource development projects, water supply projects, stormwater management projects, linear facilities and sustainable agriculture and forestry (other than those management activities specifically identified in this plan) would not be consistent with the management purposes of the park.

In accordance with 253.034(5) F.S., the potential for generating revenue to enhance management was also analyzed. Visitor fees and charges are the principal source of revenue generated by the park. It was determined that multiple-use management activities would not be appropriate as a means of generating revenues for land management. Instead, techniques such as entrance fees, concessions and similar

measures will be employed on a case-by-case basis to supplement park management funding. Generating revenue from consumptive uses or from activities that are not expressly related to resource management and conservation is not under consideration.

PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PARK

Park Purpose

The purpose of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park is to focus on the preservation, protection, maintenance and interpretation of archaeological and historical resources, while also providing compatible recreational opportunities to the public.

Park Significance

- In 2006, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park was designated a National Historic Landmark, the highest such recognition accorded by the United States to historic properties determined to be of exceptional value in representing or illustrating an important theme, event or person in the history of the nation.

- The historic park provides a glimpse of the famous Cross Creek community, revealed by Mrs. Rawlings in her works, as it evolved in response to the economic, cultural, social and environmental conditions that shaped and defined modern Florida.

- The community, home and farmyard of Rawlings, a leading 20th-century American writer whose works continue to interest scholars, students, and the general reading public, inspired her literature and connection to place.

Central Park Theme

The words of a quintessential Florida author jump off the page at Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park, where the author's own story is told through the homestead and orange grove she treasured.

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park is classified as a special feature site in the DRP unit classification system. A special feature is a discrete and well-defined object or condition that attracts public interest and provides public benefit through interpretive observation and study. A state special feature site is an area that contains such a feature and is set aside for controlled public enjoyment. Special feature sites, for the most part, are either historical or archaeological by type, but they may also have a geological, botanical, zoological or other basis. State special feature sites must be of unusual or exceptional character or have statewide or broad regional significance.

Management of special feature sites places primary emphasis on protection and maintenance of the special feature for long-term public enjoyment. Permitted uses are almost exclusively passive in nature and program emphasis is on interpretation of the special feature. Development at special feature sites is focused on protection and maintenance of the site, public access, safety and the convenience of the user.

OTHER DESIGNATIONS

The unit is not within an Area of Critical State Concern as defined in section 380.05; Florida Statutes and is not presently under study for such designation. The park is a component of the Florida Greenways and Trails System, administered by the DEP's Office of Greenways and Trails.

All waters within the park have been designated as Outstanding Florida Waters, pursuant to Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code. Surface waters in this park are also classified as Class III waters by DEP. The park is not adjacent to an aquatic preserve as designated under the Florida Aquatic Preserve Act of 1975 (Section 258.35, Florida Statutes).

PARK ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed exterior renovation of the historic farmstead barn.
- Provided over 1,000 tours of the historic farmhouse.
- Performed complete inventory of farmhouse collection and began updating conservation plan.
- Developed a new interpretive program, "The Ancient Enmity," based on Rawlings' fear of snakes and how she overcame it.
- Accomplished 100% of non-native plant removal goal.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMPONENT

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park Management Zones			
Management Zone	**Acreage**	**Managed with Prescribed Fire**	**Contains Known Cultural Resources**
MKR-1	3.30	N	Y
MKR-2	30.93	N	Y
MKR-3A	9.86	N	Unknown
MKR-3B	11.48	N	Unknown
MKR-3C	44.04	N	Unknown
MKR-4	24.69	N	Unknown

TOPOGRAPHY

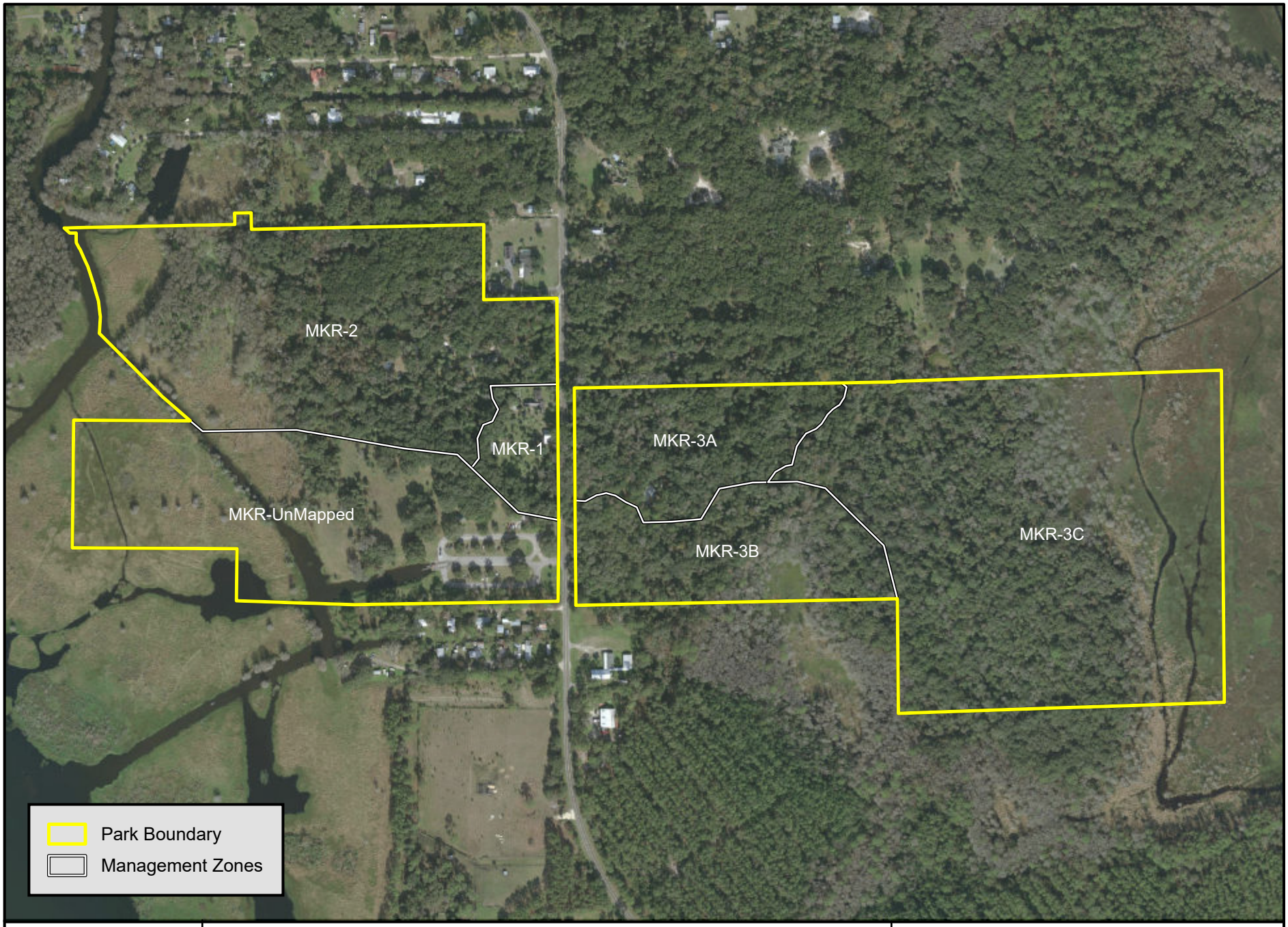
The park is situated within the northern limits of a region of the state known as the Central, or Mid-peninsular, Physiographic Zone. This geomorphic entity is characterized by discontinuous highlands in the form of nearly parallel ridges separated by broad valleys. The park lies in the Central Valley of the Central Highlands. Once a continuous upland, the Central Highlands have been reshaped by forces of erosion (White 1970).

The major drainage system in the Central Valley is the Ocklawaha River and its tributaries. A number of large lakes are present, including Lochloosa and Orange Lakes. The two lakes are connected by a channelized stream, Cross Creek, on which is situated a village of the same name. The western boundary of the park fronts on Orange Lake, while the eastern boundary abuts freshwater wetlands associated with Lochloosa Lake.

Topographic relief on the property is slight, with elevations ranging between 55 and 70 feet. The only known disturbances are a shallow hole in an area that was formerly an orange grove and numerous fire plow scars.

SOILS

According to the Soil Survey of Alachua County (Thomas et al. 1985) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey, eight soil series occur within Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park: Tavares sand, Wachula-Urban land complex, Candler fine sand, Samsula muck, Terra Ceia muck, Pomona sand, Monteocha loamy sand, and Pottsburg sand (see Soils Map). Most of these soils have poor to very poor drainage characteristics. On the other hand, Tavares sand is a moderately well



MARJORIE KINNAN RAWLINGS HISTORIC STATE PARK
Management Zones

N

0 600 Feet 1,200

Sources: ESRI; Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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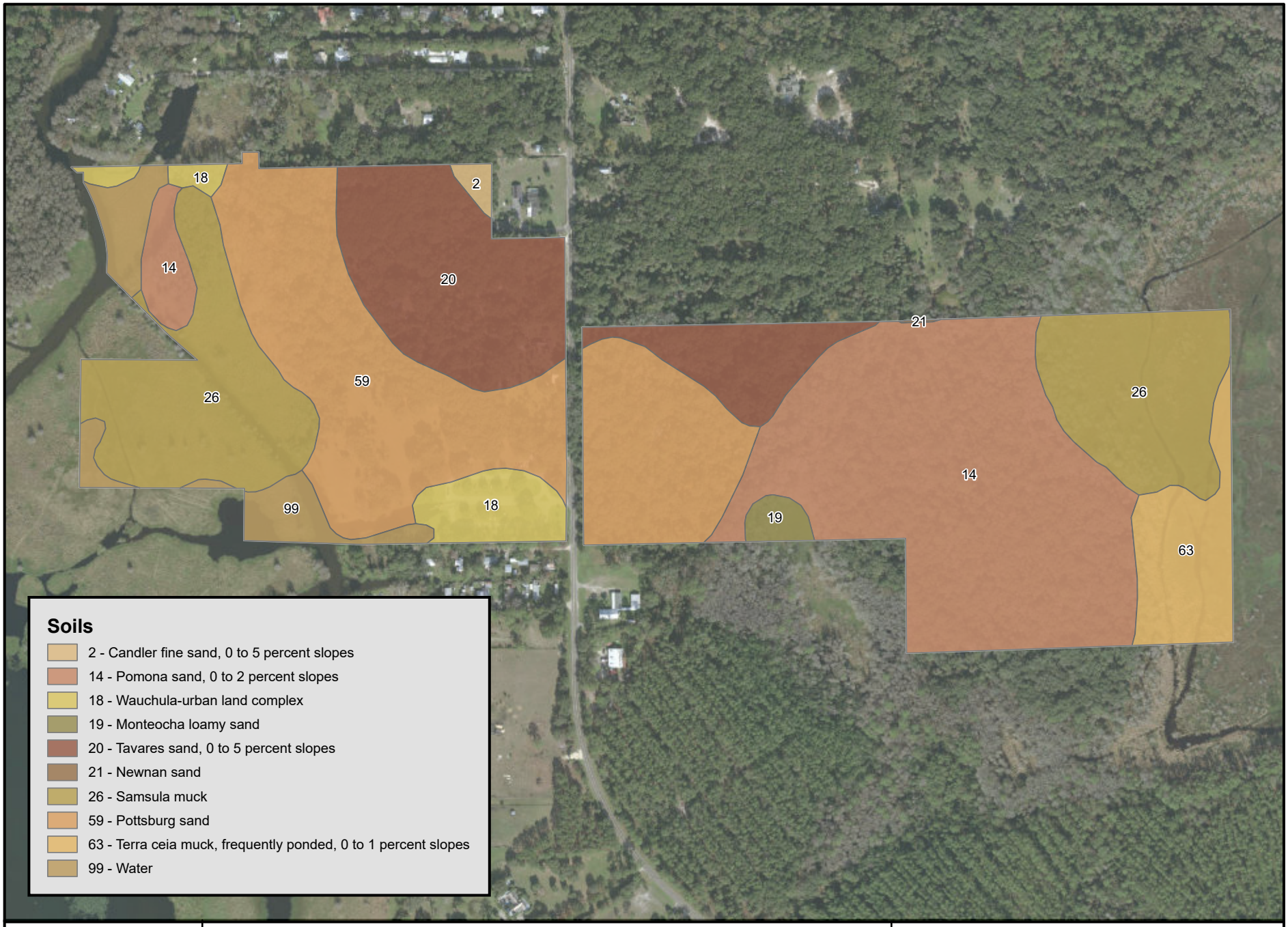

MARJORIE KINNAN RAWLINGS HISTORIC STATE PARK
Soils

N

0 600 Feet 1,200

Sources: ESRI; Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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drained soil, while Candler fine sand is excessively drained. Most of the historic structures in the park are located on Tavares sand.

Virtually all the uplands within and adjacent to the park have been cultivated at one time or other. A notable exception is the southeastern corner of the park where it abuts Lochloosa Lake. A review of historic aerial photographs reveals that this site has not experienced cultivation since at least the 1930s.

Current agricultural and horticultural practices at the park may cause occasional soil disturbance, but no long-term detrimental effects are apparent and no significant soil erosion has occurred. Management activities will follow best management practices to prevent soil erosion and conserve soil and water resources in the park.

HYDROLOGY

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park is situated in the lower Ocklawaha River watershed, a drainage area encompassing 2,769 square miles (DEP, 2001). The Ocklawaha watershed is comprised of several sub-basins, including the Orange Creek Basin located in Alachua, Marion and Putnam counties of north-central Florida. The Orange Creek sub-basin covers 600 square miles and contains three significant waterbodies that include Orange (WBID 2749), Lochloosa (WBID 2738A), and Newnans Lakes (WBID 2705). In 2003, all waterbodies within Orange Creek basin were designated as priority for protection and restoration under Florida's Surface Water and Improvement Management Act (SWIM) of 1987 (Di et al., 2006). For reference purposes, the state of Florida water managers have designated each waterbody in Florida with a specific waterbody identification number (WBID).

The western edge of the park shares a narrow boundary of the eastern shoreline of Orange Lake at the southern mouth of Cross Creek (WBID 2754). Cross Creek is a channelized north/south stream that connects Lochloosa and Orange lakes. Additionally, there are several artificially opened channels that exist along many portions of the Orange Lake shoreline, including at least two that link to the public boat ramp at the southeastern area of the park. Orange and Lochloosa Lakes and Cross Creek are designated as Outstanding Florida Waters.

Historically, several wetlands surrounding the lakes in the Orange Creek Basin were drained for agriculture use, including areas adjacent to Orange Lake (DEP, 2001, DEP 2003). Muck farming in Florida was considered a valuable agricultural tool for growing crops. Unfortunately, because of these activities and other excess nutrients, sediments and pesticides have contributed to declines in the surface water quality throughout this basin. Agriculture activities have contributed more than 50% of the total maximum daily load (TMDL) for both nitrogen and phosphorus nutrients to Orange Lake (Gao and Gilbert, 2003). Even though Lochloosa Lake was declared impaired for nutrients in 2015, the sources impacting this waterbody are still under investigation (DEP 2015).

Surface water quality in Orange and Lochloosa lakes has been on a decline since the mid-1980s when dedicated tracking efforts were initiated (DEP, 2003). In 1996, surface water quality in Orange and Lochloosa lakes was reported to be fair, but the water quality in Cross Creek was considered poor (Hand et al., 1996). By 2003, water quality in Orange and Lochloosa lakes was downgraded to poor (Di et al., 2006). Both lakes are classified as hypereutrophic waterbodies based on the average water chemistry results such as clarity, total nitrogen and chlorophyll-a, but are considered eutrophic based on average phosphorus measurements. In 2008, the state of Florida adopted a Basin Management Action Plan

(BMAP) for the Orange Creek Basin (DEP, 2008a). In 2017, a summary of accomplishments during the first 10 years of BMAP implementation for the Orange Creek Basin was released (DEP, 2017).

The groundwater source at the park is the Floridan aquifer, located some 40 feet below the surface of the ground (DEP 2008b). The aquifer occupies the previously described limestone and dolomite beds of Eocene age, which store freshwater to depths of several hundred feet. In this region, the aquifer can exist under either artesian or water table conditions. The aquifer at the park's location is unconfined.

The water quality of the region's aquifer is generally good (McGrail et al. 1998; Boniol, D. 2002). Since the local Floridan aquifer is unconfined and lies relatively close to the ground surface, there is potential for malfunctioning septic tanks or other contaminating sources to pollute the groundwater. Much of the surrounding area remains essentially undeveloped, and it will likely remain undeveloped. Already much of the land around Lochloosa Lake is under public ownership or management. Furthermore, Alachua County's comprehensive plan recognizes the unique sensitivity of the area and requires a more intensive review of development proposals than is standard in the county.

Hydrological Management

The natural hydrology of most state parks has been impaired prior to acquisition to some degree. Florida's native habitats are precisely adapted to natural drainage patterns and seasonal water level fluctuations, and variations in these factors frequently determine the types of natural communities that occur on a particular site. Even minor changes to natural hydrology can result in the loss of plant and animal species from a landscape.

Objective A*:* Assess the park's hydrological restoration needs**.**

- Action 1 - Continue to cooperate with agencies and independent researchers regarding hydrological research and monitoring programs.
- Action 2 - Continue to monitor, review and comment on proposed land use or zoning changes within lands bordering the park.

The main hydrological concern may be the numerous fire plow scars that cut through the park, most of them near Lake Lochloosa. The scars vary widely in age. Staff will attempt to determine if the scars may adversely affect the hydrologic regime through channelization or redirection of natural sheet flow. Management will comply with best management practices to maintain or improve the existing water quality on site and will take measures as needed to prevent soil erosion or other impacts to water resources.

DRP will continue its tradition of close cooperation with state and federal agencies and independent researchers engaged in hydrological research and monitoring programs within the park.

DRP staff will continue to monitor Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) and Water Use Permit (WUP) requests for the region to provide timely and constructive comments that promote protection of the park's water resources. Additional cooperative efforts may include facilitating the review and approval of research permits and providing researchers with assistance in the field, including orientation to park resources. Recommendations derived from these monitoring and research activities will be essential to the decision-making process during management planning. DRP staff will also continue to monitor land-use or zoning changes within lands bordering the park.

NATURAL COMMUNITIES

Mesic Flatwoods – 2.68 acres

A small, remnant area of mesic flatwoods occurs in the park and is part a much larger tract of mesic flatwoods on the park's southern boundary. It is fire suppressed due to the surrounding development and former agricultural activity. The only active management required for this natural community is to regularly treat any invasive plant species that may be present.

Mesic Hammock – 50.65 acres

The majority of the upland acres at the park is mesic hammock. Portions of this habitat were historically in orange groves or farmed fields during the time of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings' life. Past land uses have undoubtedly altered this woodland. Live oak, southern magnolia, cabbage palm and the occasional pignut hickory dominate the overstory, forming a closed canopy. Saw palmetto, rusty lyonia and devilwood (*Cartrema americanum*) are common understory and midstory plants. Herbaceous groundcover is largely nonexistent. The better-quality mesic hammock is located on the east side of the park near Lochloosa Lake. Here, old fire plow scars serve as evidence that fires have occasionally crept into the forest, perhaps from adjacent marshland along the edge of Lochloosa Lake.

The mesic hammock between Orange and Lochloosa Lakes between should be maintained and expanded on either side of the county road that divides the park. This may be achieved by reducing the mowed footprint on the west side of this road. The only other active management required for this natural community is to regularly treat any invasive plant species that may be present.

Basin Marsh – 34.4 acres

Parts of the Orange Lake and Lochloosa Lake marshes form the western and eastern boundaries of the park, respectively. These extensive, biologically rich marshes are designated Outstanding Florida Waters and are part of the Orange Creek Basin. Excessive accumulation of organic sediments, hydrologic changes in the larger basin and invasive plant species have impacted the basin marsh. The only active management required for this natural community is to regularly treat any invasive plant species that may be present.

Basin Swamp – 7.91 acres

This natural community is in good condition and will improve as the cypress, tupelo, maple and other canopy species increase in age. The only active management required for this natural community is to regularly treat any invasive plant species that may be present.

Depression Marsh – 0.13 acres

The majority of the depression marsh occurs on private property adjacent to the park with a small portion occurring on park property. The only active management required for this natural community is to regularly treat any invasive exotic plant species that may be present.

Hydric Hammock – 11.6 acres

The hydric hammock is generally in good condition and only needs to follow the general management measures. The only active management required for this natural community is to regularly treat any invasive plant species that may be present.

Marsh Lake – 0.54 acres
Historically, this is an area of open water that has fluctuated in size over time as mats of floating vegetation move with wind and drought conditions. Historical aerial photos show persistent open water with a variable footprint. No active management is necessary at this time.

Canal/Ditch – 2.39 acres
The boat access point to Orange Lake is a canal from the county-managed boat ramp.

Clearing – 6.57 acres
The area around the county-managed boat ramp access to Orange Lake is currently mowed and has some picnic tables. In the future, it may be desirable to reduce the footprint of the mowed area. The desired future condition of the unmowed area would be mesic hammock. Allowing a portion of the cleared area to revert to mesic hammock would help preserve the wildlife corridor between Orange and Lochloosa lakes that Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings described in her writings.

Developed – 7.43 acres
The developed areas include the historic landscape of the homestead, administrative office, volunteer campsites, manager's residence and the area managed by the county as a park, which includes the Orange Lake boat ramp.

DRP practices natural systems management. In most cases, this entails returning fire to its natural role in fire-dependent natural communities. Other methods to implement this goal include large-scale restoration projects as well as smaller scale natural communities' improvements.

No prescribed fire is planned for the park in the next 10 years. Potential burn habitat in the park includes the basin marshes of Orange and Lochloosa lakes and about 2 acres of mesic flatwoods. No firebreaks exist between the shores of the basin marshes and the upland portions of the park. There is a potential to create muck fires in these two lakes.

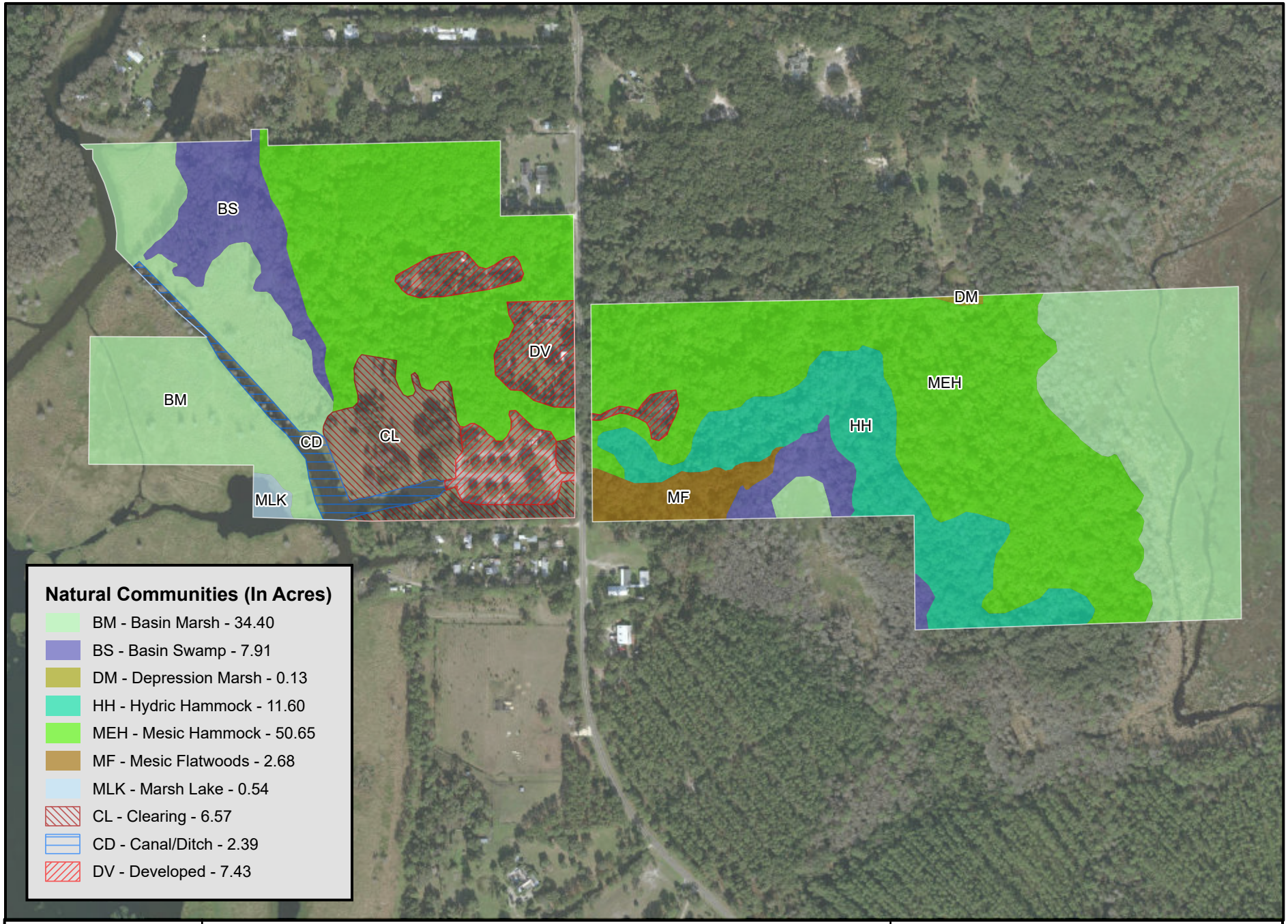
The park contains only a few acres of flatwoods habitat, which is adjacent to St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) property. It is preferable to incorporate the park's fire-dependent acreage into a prescribed fire that the SJRWMD conducts.

Natural Community Improvement
Improvements are similar to restoration but on a less intensive scale. This typically includes small-scale vegetative management activities or minor habitat manipulation.

Objective A: Conduct natural community/habitat improvement activities on 0.25 acres of mesic hammock natural community.

- Action 1 - Maintain or expand the hammock wildlife corridor between Orange and Lochloosa lakes for snakes and other wildlife that Rawlings describes in her writings.

This area provides a documented wildlife connection between the two lakes. Park management activities should expand this wooded fringe on the parcel north of the Rawlings homestead.



MARJORIE KINNAN RAWLINGS HISTORIC STATE PARK
Natural Communities - Existing Conditions

N

0 600 Feet 1,200

Sources: ESRI; Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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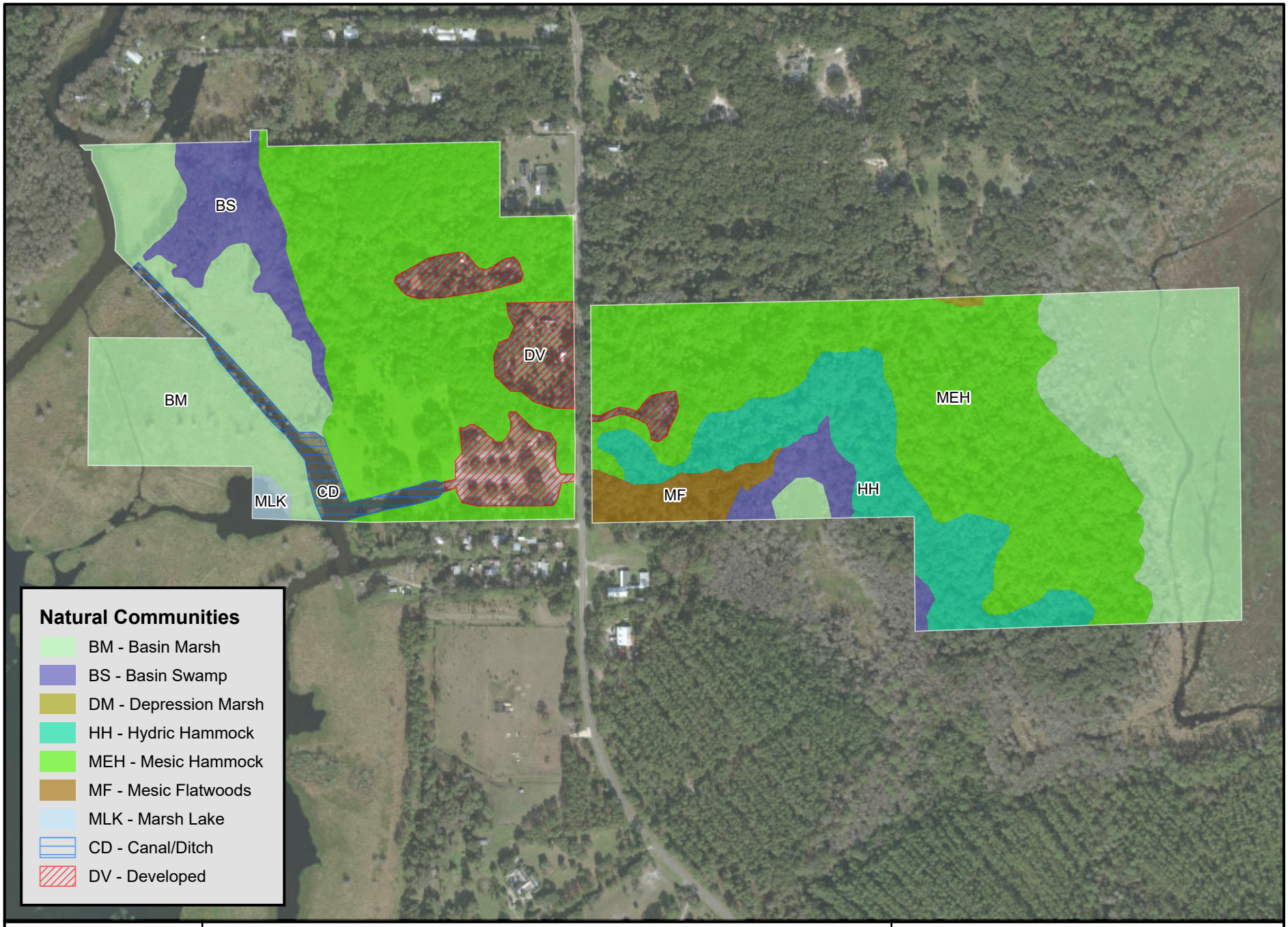

MARJORIE KINNAN RAWLINGS HISTORIC STATE PARK
Natural Communities - Desired Future Conditions

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0 600 Feet 1,200

Sources: ESRI; Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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IMPERILED SPECIES

Imperiled species are those that are tracked by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) as critically imperiled or imperiled or that are listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) or the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) as endangered, threatened or of special concern.

Gopher tortoises occur in the park, particularly in open areas. Bald eagles are very visible in the Orange Lake-Lochloosa Lake area, and in recent years, there has been an active nest within the park in a tall pine in the mesic hammock east of County Road 325. There are apparently no other imperiled species in the park that would require the initiation of specific management procedures. Alligators moving between Orange Lake and Lochloosa Lake occasionally cross through the park. Some probably nest within the park along the edges of the lakes or in the depression marsh. Wading birds frequent the marshes along the edges of both lakes. The state-threatened Atamasco lily (*Zephyranthes atamasca*) also occurs in the park.

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

Imperiled Species Inventory						
Common and Scientific Name	**Imperiled Species Status**				**Management Actions**	**Monitoring Level**
	FWC	**USFWS**	**FDACS**	**FNAI**		
PLANTS						
Atamasco lily *Zephyranthes atamasca*			LT		4	Tier 1
REPTILES						
American alligator *Alligator mississippiensis*	FT (S/A)	SAT		G5,S4	10	Tier 1
Gopher tortoise *Gopherus polyphemus*	ST			G3,S3	6,7,8, 10,13	Tier1
BIRDS						
Little blue heron *Egretta caerulea*	ST			G5,S4	4	Tier 1
Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor*	ST			G5,S4	4	Tier 1
Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus*				G5,S2		Tier 1

Imperiled Species Inventory						
Common and Scientific Name	**Imperiled Species Status**				**Management Actions**	**Monitoring Level**
	FWC	**USFWS**	**FDACS**	**FNAI**		
Wood Stork Mycteria americana	ST	LT		G4,S2	4	Tier 1

Management Actions:

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

Monitoring Level:

Tier 1.

Non-Targeted Observation/Documentation: includes documentation of species presence through casual/passive observation during routine park activities (i.e. not conducting species-specific searches). Documentation may be in the form of Wildlife Observation Forms, or other district specific methods used to communicate observations.

Imperiled Species Management

DRP strives to maintain and restore viable populations of imperiled plant and animal species primarily by implementing effective management of natural systems. Single species management is appropriate in state parks when the maintenance, recovery or restoration of a species or population is complicated due to constraints associated with long-term restoration efforts, unnaturally high mortality or insufficient habitat. Single species management should be compatible with the maintenance and restoration of natural processes and should not imperil native species or compromise park values.

In the preparation of this management plan, DRP staff consulted with staff of the FWC and other appropriate agencies for assistance in developing imperiled animal species management objectives and actions. For imperiled plant species, DRP staff consulted with FDACS. Data collected by the USFWS, FWC, FDACS and FNAI as part of their ongoing research and monitoring programs will be reviewed by park staff periodically to inform management of decisions that may have an impact on imperiled species.

Ongoing inventory and monitoring of imperiled species in the state park system is necessary to meet DRP's mission. Monitoring efforts must be prioritized so that the data collected provides information that can be used to improve or confirm the effectiveness of management actions on conservation priorities. Monitoring intensity must at least be at a level that provides the minimum data needed to

make informed decisions to meet conservation goals. Priority must be given to those species that can provide valuable data to guide adaptive management practices.

***Objective A*:** Update baseline imperiled species occurrence inventory lists.

Objective B: Monitor and document one imperiled animal species in the park.

- Action 1 - Implement and document Tier 1 monitoring for the gopher tortoise.
- Action 2 - Protect the gopher tortoise from disturbance.

Gopher tortoises occur within the developed and former agricultural areas of the park. Where they occur, burrows will be noted and protected from disturbance. Staff will continue to refer to the FWC Gopher Tortoise Management Plan (FWC 2012) to guide management of this imperiled species.

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

- Action 1 - Document locations of the Atamasco lily.
- Action 2 - Inspect populations periodically to proactively detect and protect from disturbance.

INVASIVE SPECIES

The Hightower parcel to the north of the Rawlings House was acquired in 2003. This property contained many invasive plants that were used in landscaping an old home site but eventually escaped cultivation. The infestations have been treated multiple times since the property was acquired, but some invasives still remain. Species that are still present include mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*), air potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*), coral ardisia (*Ardisia crenata*), camphor (*Cinnamomum camphora*), ceasarweed (*Urena lobata),* skunkvine (*Padaeria foetida*) and chinaberry (*Melia azedarach)*. Other species have been found in this parcel and in neighboring hammock woodland as well. The ornamental plant Four-O'clock (*Mirabilis jalapa*) should also be removed by staff when it moves into the parks natural area's. The park, with assistance from District 2 staff, will maintain the invasive removal program.

Park visitors and staff rarely observe feral hogs except in times of high water. Hunting does occur on adjacent properties, which may help limit the population. If feral hog activity increases to the point that resources are threatened, then control measures will be undertaken.

Since the last unit plan, DRP staff and volunteers have treated 19.3 infested acres of invasive plants. Many of these infestations and species were associated with ornamental plantings around a former home site on a parcel acquired in 2003.

The two main difficulties in treating invasive species at this park are the lack of staff and the wet boundaries on the eastern and western edges of the park. District staff, Florida Conservation Corps (FLCC) and park volunteers assist with treatment. The two most difficult species to control currently are Skunk vine (*Paederia foetida*) and caesarweed (*Urena lobata*).

In 2002, the red bay ambrosia beetle (*Xyloborus glabratus*) was first detected in the United States in southeast Georgia. The beetle carries the fungal pathogen *Raffaelea lauricola*, which it transmits to red bay trees (*Persea borbonia*) and other species in the Lauraceae family, causing laurel wilt disease and

death. The beetle and its associated pathogen spread rapidly, and by 2005 it had appeared in Duval County. In 2007, the disease was discovered in Alachua County. Since that time, most of the adult red bays in the park have died. The beetle (and laurel wilt) has now spread throughout most of Florida and into many neighboring states. Although most of the adult red bays have been top-killed, the trees continue to resprout from their roots. It may be that members of the Lauraceae family will continue to survive in shrub form as the remnant tree root systems continue to resprout. At this point, much remains unknown about the long-term impacts of this disease on red bays and other Lauraceae. Staff should continue to restrict the movement of firewood into and out of the park and educate visitors about the issue.

Species Name **Scientific Name - Common Name**	**FLEPPC Category**	**Distribution**	**Zone ID**
Albizia julibrissin - Mimosa	I	Single Plant or Clump	MKR-3A
Ardisia crenata - Coral ardisia	I	Scattered Plants or Clumps	MKR-1, MKR-2, MKR-3A, MKR-3B
Cinnamomum camphora - Camphor-tree	I	Single Plant or Clump	MKR-3A
Paederia foetida - Skunk vine	I	Scattered Plants or Clumps	MKR-3A
Syngonium podophyllum - Arrowhead vine	I	Scattered Plants or Clumps	MKR-2
Urena lobata - Caesar's weed	I	Scattered Plants or Clumps, Scattered Dense Patches Linearly Scattered	MKR-2, MKR-3A, MKR-3B, MKR-1

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

***Objective A*:** Annually treat 1 gross acre equaling about 0.1 infested acres of invasive plant species in the park.

- Action 1 - Annually develop/update invasive plant management work plan.
- Action 2 - Implement annual work plan by treating 0.1 acre in park annually and continuing maintenance and follow-up treatments as needed.

All known infestations of invasive plants should be treated annually. During dry periods, the lakes shores should be surveyed for Chinese tallow (*Triadica sebifera*) and other invasive species. The upland areas of the park should be surveyed every two years.

Park staff should annually request assistance from FLCC members for an invasive plant control work day.

***Objective B**:* Implement control measures on invasive animal species in the park.

- Action 1 - Remove invasive animals on an as-needed basis.

Few invasive animals are seen at the park. Feral hogs are rarely seen except during high water levels when they move into the park from the adjacent lake edges.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites

Two archaeological sites exist within the park: Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Home (Aboriginal Component) 8AL479b and Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Barn 8AL2558.

8AL479b is an aboriginal deposit that was discovered while completing foundation work for restoration of the Rawlings House in 1995 (Johnson 1995). Artifacts recovered were diagnostic of aboriginal people of the Middle Archaic and Alachua periods. Historic items from the Rawlings period (1928-53) were also present. Archaeological deposits associated with the site of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Barn are described under 8AL2558. Artifacts are prehistoric, dating from the Mid-Archaic and Deptford periods up to the historic period. A replica barn was constructed near the original barn site in 1991.

Additional cultural resources at the park include unrecorded archaeological elements representing structures, fence lines or crop areas that have fallen into disuse or have been removed. Information gleaned from historic aerial photographs has been used to identify some of these elements.

The location of the original Rawlings tenant house still needs to be determined and recorded with the Florida Master Site File (FMSF). The best current oral history indicates the location of the original tenant house was located to the north of the existing public bathroom in the area managed by the county and close to the fence line of the Rawlings homestead.

The footers of Rawlings' water tower still exist behind the pumphouse and should be recorded with the FMSF. Historic fences are in fair condition and have not been mapped or photo-documented.

Another unrecorded site occurs on the north line of the Hightower property, about 300 feet west of the northeast corner. This consists of crumbling bricks and a possible chimney remains. West of this area, there also exists what appears to be a short section of berm or possibly old tram road that extends west along the north boundary to the lake edge. This is also unrecorded.

The majority of the park has not received an archaeological survey. A predictive model for the park was completed in 2012 (Collins, L. D. et al.).

The two recorded sites are in good condition. The condition of the unrecorded original fence lines is fair. There are no known threats to the sites.

The recorded sites should be protected from ground disturbance when mowing grass by maintaining an appropriate mower height.

The unrecorded archaeological sites should be recorded with the FMSF. These include the location of the original Rawlings tenant house and the original fence lines of the Rawlings homestead. The original fence lines should be photo-documented. Other sites include the homestead water tower footers next

to the pumphouse, the location of any Rawlings crop or garden areas, the possible tram section and the remnants of a structure on the northern boundary of the Hightower property.

Historic Structures

There are three historic structures in the park: the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings House (8AL479a), Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Pump House (8AL5630) and the Brice Tenant House (8AL5631). The Rawlings house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970, and the house and farmyard were designated as a National Historic Landmark in 2006. The house has been documented in a Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) report, and it was mentioned in the Historic Structures Survey of Unincorporated Alachua County (Anderson, 2000).

The house complex consists of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings House, the pump house (8AL5630), a relocated outhouse, a reconstructed barn, the relocated Brice Tenant House (8AL5631) and reconstructed pens for chickens and waterfowl. The house complex occupies a square of approximately 175 feet per side, adjacent to the west side of County Road 325. While the pens and garden area are reconstructed, the location and design were guided by Rawlings' former employee Idella Parker.

There are no blueprints for the Rawlings house, and the documentation of the house in the HABS report is brief. During the restoration work in 1995, University of Florida architectural students and the contractor prepared additional partial drawings. They have not been compiled. The house is a vernacular assemblage of smaller wood frame buildings. Its form resembles a "T" whose head is the longer element. The head parallels the road and functions as the facade of the house. The one-story house is elevated on a foundation of masonry, cement block, and treated pine piers. Exterior fabric is vertical wood board-and-batten siding, and the roof is wood shingle. Interior floors are wood. The kitchen and pantry have plain scrubbed floorboards, the dining room floor is polished, and the porches are plain board. Fenestration in the house is irregular. Porches are located on major elevations. The house was reroofed, and the foundation and roof framing were strengthened in 1995. The park finished restoring the house in March 1996, with almost every room, floor and ceiling repainted. Since 2000, outside steps and rotten siding have been replaced. The exterior was repainted professionally in 2005.

While being restored, the house was replaced on its foundation. During this process, the house was not placed in a completely correct fashion, which has caused ongoing issues.

The other original recorded structure in the house complex is the pump house (8AL5630) which is currently used as a shed and as housing for a 1930s-vintage pump that no longer services the house. It also is covered in vertical board-and-batten siding, painted white to match the house. During the restoration project in 1995, workers repaired and repainted the outbuilding and roofed it with metal, all in accordance with the original design of the structure as shown in historic photographs. The original water tower footers still exist on the west side of and adjacent to the pumphouse. They should be recorded as an archaeological site or the pump house site file should be updated to include GPS locations and photographs.

An additional element of the park's cultural resources and cultural landscape is the Brice Tenant House (8AL5631). The original Rawlings tenant house, occupied in Rawlings' time by employees who worked her farm and ran the household, was removed from the site around 1970. The addition to the park of the Brice tenant house, which is similar to the Rawlings tenant house in age and general shape and

form, is intended to enhance interpretation of the workings of the Rawlings farm and the lives of African Americans during Rawlings' time. The Brice tenant house, a three-room wood frame structure in fair condition, was donated by Kate Barnes, a former Alachua County commissioner and resident of Cross Creek. It was moved to the park from its original location in the Brice farmyard (now the Kate Barnes house), less than half a mile away. The exact location of the original tenant house on the Rawlings property has not yet been determined archaeologically, but it differs from the current location of the Brice House.

The Brice tenant house was restored, which included establishing a foundation, stabilizing structural elements of the floor and replacing portions of the siding. The raked sand yard typical of the area has been reproduced at this site.

No architectural drawing of the original Rawlings tenant house exists, but author and Cross Creek native Jake Glisson did a sketch of the original tenant house. An archival description of the house exists in park documents. One difference between the Rawlings' original tenant house and the Brice house is the location of the porch. In the original house, it was located on the short end and not along the long side as in the Brice tenant house. A link between the original house and the Brice house is that the Mickens family, who worked for Rawlings and about whom she wrote, lived in both houses.

Two unrecorded historic structures occur in the park: the farm bell which is probably original to the Rawlings homestead and the outhouse which is of the era but was moved to the homestead, possibly from Paynes Prairie.

While the condition of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Home (8AL479a) is mostly good, there are aspects that will need attention. The cement bases of the carport pillars are deteriorating due to the condition of the metal rods running through them. The rods are rusting and expanding, causing the cement pillars to crack and break open from the inside. They are in poor condition and need repair or replacement. The metal posts were inserted into the bases during a previous restoration. The original cement bases are not believed to have had metal posts. A picture in the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings collection shows the driveway with Rawlings and a 1940 Oldsmobile. It depicts a carport that does not have cement piers. Instead, they appear to be constructed of dark wood with four wings of support holding the white painted carport posts. Additional research is needed to ensure that replacement bases reflect the Rawlings lifetime era.

Within five years, the house foundation needs a full evaluation of its impacts on the stability of the structure and how it might need to improve. This is important since the house was incorrectly placed on the foundation during the restoration of 1995, resulting in some settling. Several sagging spots in the flooring have been noted, particularly along the northern section of the wall separating the kitchen and dining room. This indicates that the house piers and foundation may need a thorough examination. Interpretive use of the Rawlings house may compound the issue.

The roof shingles of the house will be replaced within this planning period. While there are no leaks or shingle loss, there is some curling of the shingles. The current shingles are pressure treated heart pine as recommended by the Division of Historic Resources (DHR). This same type of shingle should be used to reroof the house.

The Brice tenant house is in fair condition, despite the relatively recent restoration. However, the tenant house is to be interpreted as it was when people lived in it many years ago. The current condition

reflects the condition it was in for tenants. It should be monitored for water and termite damage. There is evidence of previous water stains on the floorboards and termite damage, but the roof does not leak and there is no evidence of active termite damage. The interior of the Brice house is open for self-guided tours. Guided tours may be requested.

Management of the historic structures should follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, including the guidelines for the treatment of cultural landscapes (Secretary of the Interior, 1995).

A critical part of managing the Rawlings house and homestead buildings is the annual cleaning of the historic structures. This two-month activity occurs during August and September, concurrent with the archival cleaning of the collection and following the same procedures. Structures are thoroughly cleaned inside and out, all room contents are removed, floors are waxed with material compatible with historic guidelines and painting, and repairs are done as needed. After the cleaning is complete and the collection has been cleaned, all items are replaced in their previous configurations.

To maintain historic continuity, the park should begin to include annual documentation of the structures' condition, repair needs and repairs completed during the cleaning process. This should be documented similar to the procedure used for collection items.

The house and structures are observed on a regular basis as staff and volunteers move through the park. This allows preventative maintenance to occur as needed. Periodically, the structures need to be painted by a professional.

Collections

Cultural resources at the park include extensive collections of objects that belonged to Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings. Norton Baskin, Marjorie's husband, retained many of her items in storage and donated them to the park in the early 1970s. The table and chairs on the porch were used by Marjorie for writing. The armchair with the original deer hide seat is one she sat in, and the bedstead in the bedroom is hers. The collection also contains items that did not belong to Marjorie but were of the era. The typewriter, displayed on the porch where she wrote, is not hers but is the same make and model as hers. The serial number of her typewriter was determined from a period photograph, and a duplicate was acquired for the collection. Furnishings, clothing, artwork, books, kitchen, carpentry tools, farm tools, implements and a vintage automobile are also part of the collection. They are displayed in her house in the way she used them during her lifetime. Idella Parker assisted in the placement of items so that they were in the house as they had been during Marjorie's lifetime. Tools are displayed in the farm buildings. The tenant house contains collection items, but none are original to Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings.

The park contains a paper archive of the Rawlings house history. It consists of letters, photos and structural drawings of the house plans. It also contains documents related to the park history itself. In April 2018, the park received an additional donation of period photographs from Dr. William Brice, a descendent of the Brice family who were neighbors of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings. The recent photos include a photo of the daughter of Martha Mickens, also named Martha Mickens, who worked for Rawlings. She is shown seated with others on the porch of the Brice tenant house, now the tenant house at the park. Other photos include members of the Armstrong family, who lived in the Rawlings house before Marjorie purchased it. Some parts of the collection have been documented in Past Perfect. An archival listing of all original donated pieces is needed.

Another aspect of the collection are citrus varieties originally grown by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings. Land near Cross Creek has been tilled for over 100 years, and Rawlings herself attempted to make a profit from the land. She was attracted to citriculture and bought her property already extensively planted with mature citrus trees. Rawlings also removed a pecan grove from an area on the east side of County Road 325 and planted citrus. While there are no original Rawlings citrus trees still in existence, some of Rawlings' original citrus varieties remain. These have been mapped in the house grove, with identification of individual trees to variety, or at least to root stock if that is all that remains. Trees that need replacement are replanted with her traditional varieties. Citrus has been replanted around the house and in the farmyard running south past the barn.

The condition of the park's collection objects ranges from fair to good except for the vintage automobile, which is in poor condition. Most of the ceramics are in good condition, while many of the furnishings are in fair condition. All of the artwork, which was conserved and reframed with archival quality material in 2004, is in good condition. Other paper and textile objects are in fair condition. The collection objects in the Rawlings house are subject to insect intrusion and damage.

Given the non-climate-controlled conditions, humidity and temperature affect most of the objects composed of organic materials or ferrous metals. The collection is archivally cleaned every year. The automobile is in the carport and exposed to the elements.

Every year, tours of the house are suspended for two months in August and September while the collection is cleaned. Each item is checked against a list and cleaned. Each item has its own folder where the cleaning process is documented. Changes, damages or repairs are recorded in these folders.

While the park's cleaning process is thorough and follows the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation (36 CFR, Part 800), the overall process used by the park for archival cleaning of various types of collection items is not documented in written form for ongoing reference.

The cultural sites table contains the name, reference number, culture or period, and brief description of all the cultural sites within the park that are listed in the FMSF. The table summarizes each site's level of significance, existing condition and recommended management treatment. An explanation of the codes is provided following the table.

Cultural Sites Listed in the Florida Master Site File					
Site Name and FMSF #	**Culture/Period**	**Description**	**Significance**	**Condition**	**Treatment**
Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings House **8AL479a**	Historic/Late 19th to Mid-20th Century	Historic Structure	NRL	F	P

Cultural Sites Listed in the Florida Master Site File					
Site Name and FMSF #	**Culture/Period**	**Description**	**Significance**	**Condition**	**Treatment**
Rawlings Homesite with Aboriginal Component **8AL479b**	Middle Archaic and Alachua periods	Archaeological Site	NE	G	P
Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Barn **8AL2558**	Mid-Archaic, Deptford and the historic period	Archaeological Site	NE	G	P
Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Pump House **8AL5630**	1930	Historic Structure	NR	G	P
Brice Tenant House **8AL5631**	1940	Historic Structure	NE	G	P

Significance**:**

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

Condition

G	Good
F	Fair
P	Poor
NA	Not accessible
NE	Not evaluated

Recommended Treatment:

RS	Restoration
RH	Rehabilitation
ST	Stabilization
P	Preservation
R	Removal
N/A	Not applicable

Objective A: Annually assess and evaluate three of five recorded cultural resources.

- Action 1 - Complete three assessments/evaluations of historic structures.
- Action 2 - Complete the compilation of the Rawlings house drawings.
- Action 3 - Complete a documentation of the historic cultural landscape of the Rawlings homestead.

The park has three recorded historic structures. They should be assessed and evaluated over the course of this plan. In particular, the Rawlings house needs an assessment of its foundation. The other structures should have condition changes documented.

A Historic Structures Report has been completed for the Rawlings house, as well as other drawings done by former University of Florida architecture students and contractors. The documents need to be compiled for reference access.

While a historic structures report has been completed for the Rawlings house, the layout of the cultural landscape has not been documented. This documentation will include the location of animal pens, garden and fence lines, in addition to the homestead structures.

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

- Action 1 - Ensure all known sites are recorded or updated in the FMSF.
- Action 2 - Photo-document the layout of the rooms and collection items as they are displayed.
- Action 3 - Prepare an updated archival listing providing any historic documentation for both original Rawlings collection items as well as any added period pieces.
- Action 4 - Develop and adopt a Scope of Collections Statement.
- Action 5 - Enhance the use of the tenant house and the cultural landscape to broaden the interpretation of the African American legacy as recorded in Rawlings' writings.
- Action 6 - Record and submit to the FMSF the locations of the outhouse, the farm bell, the original fences, the berm and the structure remains on the north park boundary.

The rooms and furnishings of the Rawlings house are laid out and decorated as they were during Rawlings' lifetime based on the information provided by her former employee Idella Parker. Each room and its contents as they are currently displayed should be documented to preserve this information for future curators.

The park needs to develop a scope of collections that delineates what types of items are appropriate to accept into the collection. Items accepted should have clear historic documentation. The park history archives should be compiled for accessibility to staff.

Objective C: Bring three of three recorded cultural resources into good condition.

- Action 1 - Implement annual monitoring programs for three historic structures.
- Action 2 - Continue annual archival cleaning as the critical part of the cyclical maintenance program for each cultural resource.
- Action 3 - Evaluate the Rawlings house foundation for issues relating to shifting and general integrity.

- Action 4 - Replace the roof with pressure treated heart pine shingles.
- Action 5 - Replace the carport cement piers with historically correct material.
- Action 6 - Paint the Rawlings house and the pumphouse professionally at least once over the life of this plan

To maintain historic continuity, the park should begin to include annual documentation of the three historic structures during the cleaning process in the same manner that is done for each collection item. This would entail documenting the structure repairs needed and completed, as well as the method used to clean the structures. Each structure should have its own file. Annual monitoring for termites should be part of this process. Methods and guidelines for the archival cleaning of the collection items should be documented.

Additional Considerations

Management of resources at Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park requires careful planning, and a proper balancing of cultural and natural resource management activities is needed to ensure long-term preservation of the site's cultural landscape. It is important to maintain the visual integrity of the Rawlings homestead. Once a visitor has entered the historic landscape, they should not see the county park, the park office or other park components that are not part of the original Rawlings cultural landscape.

Rawlings' writings may prove to be helpful references for staff when making management decisions. For example, Rawlings (1942, p.36) writes in her novel, "Cross Creek," "The east grove, across the road from the farmhouse, is bounded on the east and south by hammock. This lies around it in a protective crescent." Maintaining at least a narrow strip of woodland along the south boundary of the park's cultural landscape and orange grove west of County Road 325 will create a similar landscape while also screening the site from any development in the portion of the park which is managed by the county and contains the Orange Lake boat ramp and picnic area.

In addition, roadkill records for this portion of County Road 325 collected in past decades verify that this narrow, wooded strip is a viable wildlife corridor that connects Orange Lake and Lochloosa Lake, as well as the hammocks that border the two lakes. Snakes traveling through this corridor are particularly vulnerable. Again, Rawlings (1942, p.36) mentions this area in her novel, "Cross Creek." She writes, "…the snakes cross. Twice each year the moccasins and rattlers move…taking the same path, and back and forth between the east and west groves is a known crossing. It must be so, for I see more snakes on the road there than in any other place I frequent."

Any cultural landscape restoration at the site should consider this wildlife concern. The remainder of the park to the east and west of the house complex should remain hammock. "Down through the west grove, which is the house grove, is the hammock on the shore of Orange Lake that has been from the beginning a true retreat…", Rawlings (1942, p.36) writes in "Cross Creek."

The Rawlings house is now more adequately buffered from adjacent land use changes since the Hightower parcel to the north of the house has been acquired. Any future development on current park property or future acquisitions should be conducted in such a manner as to preserve the cultural landscape of the Rawlings property. The growth of screening types of vegetation along the new north boundary of the park should be encouraged since it is still relatively close to the Rawlings house. Staff

should select native plants that reflect the atmosphere of the landscape during Rawlings' residence and avoid using invasive plants.

The park should continue to maintain the East Grove Trail for visitor use. When staffing permits, the west hammock trail to the shore of Orange Lake should be maintained and interpreted as well. The park would benefit from the purchase of property on the east side of County Road 325, north of the former University of Florida Foundation (UFF) property that once contained Rawlings' east grove. This property is within the visual zone of the Rawlings house. Acquisition would help protect the park's cultural landscape from the effects of possible land use changes on adjacent parcels in the future.

LAND USE COMPONENT

VISITATION

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park allows visitors to step back in time and experience life on a 1930s cracker-style home and farm where acclaimed writer Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings lived and worked from 1928 to 1953. The park preserves the Cross Creek community's peaceful rural surroundings, which inspired much of Rawlings' work. Guided tours of the farmhouse are offered by park staff, while visitors may explore the surrounding gardens, citrus grove and two hiking trails at their own pace. A directly adjacent county-managed park provides picnic tables, a playground and a boat ramp onto Orange Lake.

Trends

Visitation at Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park tends to be highest from late winter to spring, with peak visitation usually occurring in March. Visitation declines through the summer, reaching a low point during August and September when the farmhouse is closed for annual cleaning and inventory. Visitation picks back up in October and November and remains strong through the winter.

EXISTING FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Visitor parking is located directly to the south of the Rawlings house and grounds. Signage directs visitors to an unpaved parking area that can accommodate about 16 vehicles. The Alachua County sublease offers a large, paved lot used mostly for boat trailer parking and contains public restrooms near the entrance to the state park. Visitor circulation allows the public to experience the cultural landscape by walking through the orange grove to the barn and eventually to the Rawlings house.

The barn provides an outdoor orientation area where visitors gather for guided tours. The replica barn, raised in 1990, was constructed of the same sort of rough-cut pine as the barn that was torn down in the 1960s and is located approximately where the original barn stood. Park staff dressed in period costume guide visitors through the house and farmyard recounting stories of Rawlings' life in Cross Creek. The house is maintained in essentially the same condition the author kept it while living here.

Once through the Rawlings house, visitors can walk through the Brice tenant house. While not original to Rawlings' property, this relocated tenant house provides visitors a glimpse of the living quarters typical of the hired help in this area during Rawlings' time. Other structures around the farmyard include an original pump house, outhouse, animal pens, garden, and the footings of an absent water tower.

To the west of the Rawlings and Brice tenant houses, a short nature trail known as the Jungle Hammock Trail winds through the hammock landscape that is scattered with various species of orange trees established over the years by seed dispersion. The western end of the trail affords a view of the adjacent marshland. Directly across the county road from the Rawlings house, the East Grove Trail provides an additional short trail loop to the north of several park management support facilities.

Support facilities to the east of County Road 325 include a residence and a small pole barn. To the west of the county road and north of the Rawlings house, additional support facilities include an administrative office, shop and volunteer sites.

Facilities Inventory

Interpretive Homestead	
Rawlings House	1
Farmyard Barn	1
Tenant House	1
Garden and Pens	1
Pumphouse	1
Orange Grove	1
Parking Area	1
Alachua County Sublease	
Parking Area	1
Boat Ramp	1
Restroom	1
Trails	
Jungle Hammock Trail Mileage	0.24
East Grove Trail Mileage	0.38
Office Area	
Administrative Office	1
Shop	1
Volunteer Sites	1
Residence Area	
Staff Residence	1
Storage Structures	3
Shop	1

CONCEPTUAL LAND USE PLAN

Detailed Conceptual Land Use Plan Objectives

Three use areas at Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park are listed below for improvements to be implemented within the 10-year planning cycle. Specific plan details are available in the next section.

Interpretive Homestead Entrance
Objective: Enhance the visitor experience through interpretation.
Action:

- Construct a new interpretive area.

An interpretive area is proposed in a location to the west of the existing entrance parking area. The interpretive area should be situated outside of the interpretive homestead fence line to preserve the immersive time-period experience of the NHL farmstead site. This will require coordination with Alachua County for implementation.

Trails
Objective: Maximize trail connectivity with adjacent public lands.
Action:

- Develop new trail connections.

Trail connectivity with the Lochloosa Wildlife Conservation Area should be pursued in the eastern portion of the park to facilitate longer-distance hiking opportunities.

Office Area

Objective: Support resource management needs through the construction of new infrastructure.

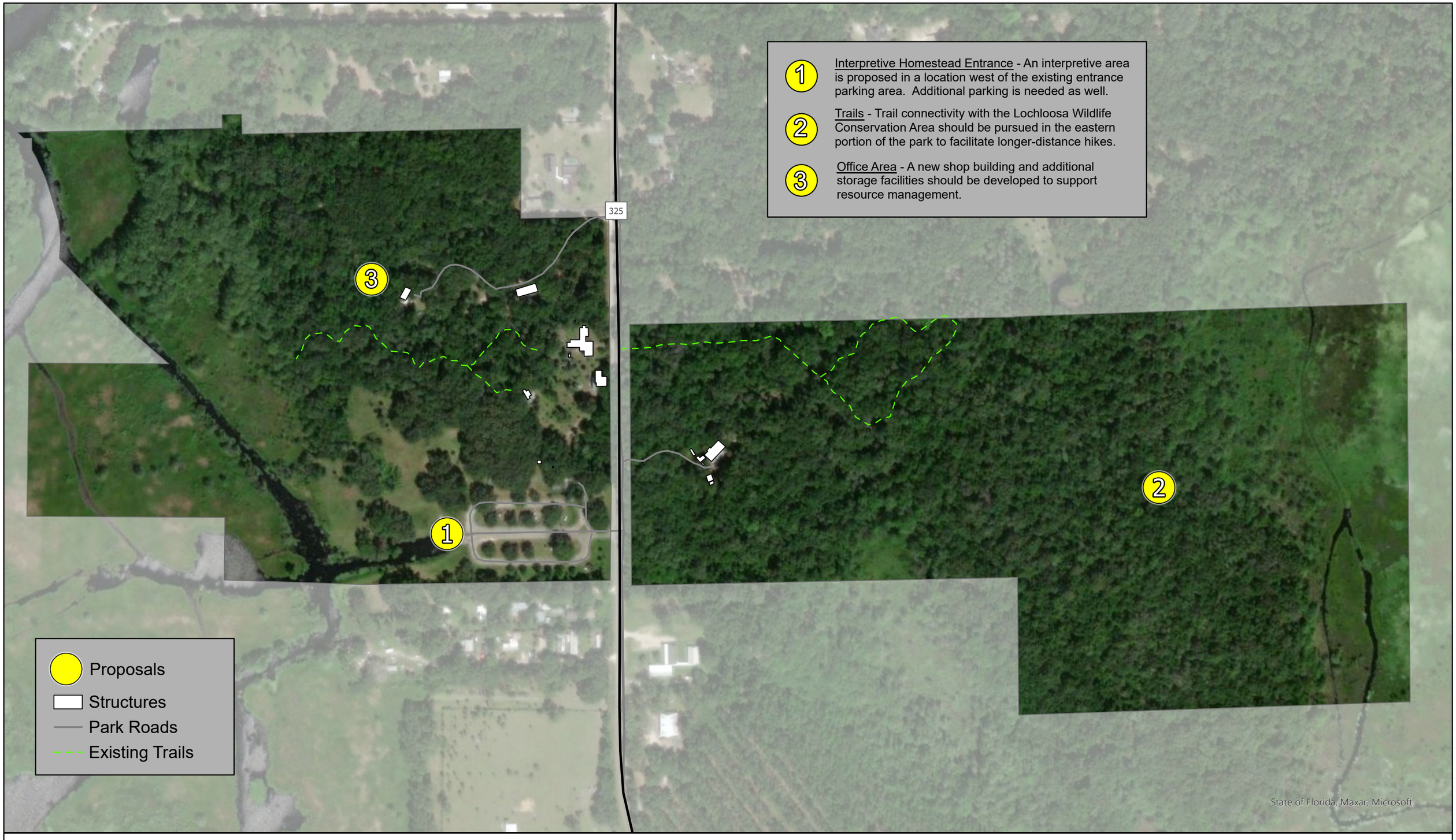
Action:

- Construct a new shop building and storage facilities.

In the office area to the north of the interpretive homestead, a new shop building and additional storage facilities should be developed to support resource management.

OPTIMUM BOUNDARY

Parcels totaling approximately 52 acres to the north of the park on the east side of County Road 325 have been identified as desirable for acquisition. The addition of this land will ensure the continuation of a rural setting around the historic Rawlings homestead. This optimum boundary will also provide a buffer from future surrounding private development and expand the potential for public interpretation of the site. At this time, there are no lands considered surplus to the management needs of the park.



Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park

Conceptual Land Use Plan

0 500 1,000 Feet

N

Optimum Boundary (ARC-Approved)
Optimum Boundary (Proposed Additions)

Existing Park Boundary
Other Existing Conservation Lands

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park

Optimum Boundary Map

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

N