Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park

Approved
Unit Management Plan

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Division of Recreation and Parks
September 30, 2016

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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

Rick Scott
Governor

Carlos Lopez-Cantera
Lt. Governor

Jonathan P. Steverson
Secretary

September 30, 2016

Mr. Ralph Perkins
Division of Recreation and Parks
Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth boulevard, MS 525
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

RE: Yellow Bluff Historic State Park- Lease No. 3646

Dear Mr. Perkins:

The Division of State Lands, Office of Environmental Services, acting as agent for the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, hereby approves the Yellow Bluff Historic State Park management plan. The next management plan update is due September 30, 2026.

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

Sincerely,

Paula L. Allen
Office of Environmental Services
Division of State Lands
Department of Environmental Protection

TABLE OF CONTENTS

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMPONENT

LAND USE COMPONENT

IMPLEMENTATION COMPONENT

TABLES

MAPS

LIST OF ADDENDA

INTRODUCTION

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is located in Duval County (see Vicinity Map). Access to the park is from New Berlin Road by way of Heckscher Drive (see Reference Map). The Vicinity Map also reflects significant land and water resources existing near the park.

The park was initially acquired in 1950 as a donation from the North Shore Corporation. In 1955, the Board of County Commissioners of Duval County vacated a portion of Soloman Road, which was subsequently added to the park. With the addition of the road right-of-way, the park is currently 1.72 acres.

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is designated as a single-use property to provide resource-based public outdoor recreation and other related uses. The property must be used for the sole purpose of a historic site and memorial. If the property is used for any other purpose, the conveyance shall become void and the property shall revert to the North Shore Corporation or its successor.

Purpose and Significance of the park

The purpose of the Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is to protect the site and educate Florida residents and visitors about the history of Florida and the role this part of the State played in the Civil War.

Park Significance

- The park protects the Yellow Bluff Fort, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The site is significant as the only known remaining component of the Civil War defenses constructed in and around Jacksonville.

- The site is significant to African American history. Companies of the 8th U.S. Colored Troops, 34th U.S. Colored Troops and the 54th Massachusetts were all stationed at Yellow Bluff at various times in 1864.

- The park protects the remaining physical evidence of the original earthwork fortifications Confederate forces constructed on the bluff in order to establish artillery positions along the river at strategic locations in an attempt to deny invading Union gunboats access to the St. Johns River.

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is classified as a “Special Feature Site” in the DRP’s unit classification system. A special feature is a discrete and well-defined object or condition that attracts public interest and provides recreational enjoyment through visitation, observation and study. A special feature site is an area which contains such a feature, and which 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.

Purpose and Scope of the Plan

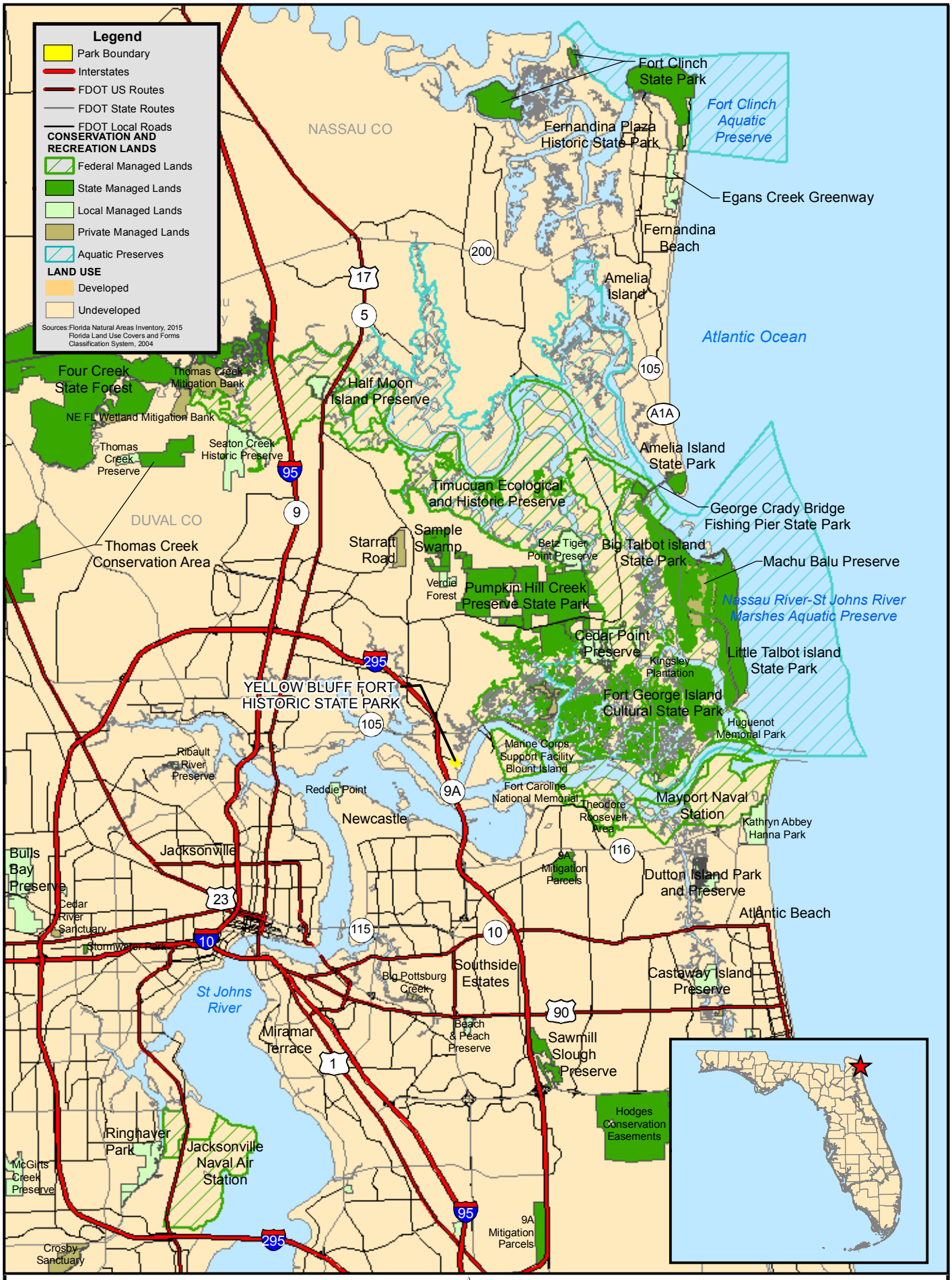
This plan serves as the basic statement of policy and direction for the management of Yellow Buff Fort Historic State Park as a unit of Florida's state park system. It identifies the goals, objectives, actions and criteria or standards that guide each aspect of park administration, and sets forth the specific measures that will be implemented to meet management objectives and provide balanced public utilization. The plan is intended to meet the requirements of Sections 253.034 and 259.032, Florida Statutes, Chapter 18-2, Florida Administrative Code, and is intended to be consistent with the State Lands Management Plan. Upon approval, this management plan will replace the 2004 approved plan.

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

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

The Implementation Component consolidates the measurable objectives and actions for each of the park's management goals. An implementation schedule and cost estimates are included for each objective and action. Included in this table are (1) measures that will be used to evaluate the DRP's implementation progress, (2) timeframes for completing actions and objectives, (3) estimated costs to complete each action and objective.

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



YELLOW BLUFF FORT HISTORIC STATE PARK

N

0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks

VICINITY MAP

YELLOW BLUFF FORT
HISTORIC STATE PARK

N

0 0.04750.095 0.19 Miles

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks
Date of aerial; 2011

REFERENCE MAP

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

The potential for generating revenue to enhance management was also analyzed. Because of the location and small size of the park, the park does not charge any visitor fees. It was determined that multiple-use management activities would not be appropriate as a means of generating revenues for land management.

The DRP may provide the services and facilities outlined in this plan either with its own funds and staff or through an outsourcing contract. Private contractors may provide assistance with natural resource management and restoration activities or a concessionaire may provide services to park visitors in order to enhance the visitor experience. For example, a concessionaire could be authorized to sell merchandise and food and to rent recreational equipment for use in the park. A concessionaire may also be authorized to provide specialized services, such as interpretive tours, or overnight accommodations when the required capital investment exceeds that which the DRP can elect to incur. Decisions regarding outsourcing, contracting with the private sector, the use of concessionaires, etc. are made on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the policies set forth in the DRP's Operations Manual (OM).

Management Program Overview

Management Authority and Responsibility

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

> *It shall be the policy of the Division of Recreation and Parks to promote the state park system for the use, enjoyment, and benefit of the people of Florida and visitors; to acquire typical portions of the original domain of the state which will be accessible to all of the people, and of such character as to emblemize the state's natural values; conserve these natural values for all time; administer the development, use and maintenance of these lands and render such public service in so doing, in such a manner as to enable the people of Florida and visitors to enjoy these values without depleting them; to*

contribute materially to the development of a strong mental, moral, and physical fiber in the people; to provide for perpetual preservation of historic sites and memorials of statewide significance and interpretation of their history to the people; to contribute to the tourist appeal of Florida.

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

Park Management Goals

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

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

Management Coordination

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

The Florida Department of State (FDOS), Division of Historical Resources (DHR) assists staff to ensure protection of archaeological and historical sites.

Public Participation

DRP provided an opportunity for public input by conducting a public workshop and an Advisory Group meeting to present the draft management plan to the public. These meetings were held on July 12, 2016 and July 13, 2016, respectively. Meeting notices were published in the Florida Administrative Register, July 1, 2016 Volume 42 Number 128, included on the Department Internet Calendar, posted in clear view at the park, and promoted locally. The purpose of the Advisory Group

meeting is to provide the Advisory Group members an opportunity to discuss the draft management plan (see Addendum 2).

Other Designations

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is not within an Area of Critical State Concern as defined in Section 380.05, Florida Statutes, and it is not presently under study for such designation. This park is not within or adjacent to an aquatic preserve. The park is a component of the Florida Greenways and Trails System, administered by the Department's Office of Greenways and Trails.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMPONENT

Introduction

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

The DRP's philosophy of resource management is natural systems management. Primary emphasis is placed on restoring and maintaining, to the degree possible, the natural processes that shaped the structure, function and species composition of Florida's diverse natural communities as they occurred in the original domain. Single species management for imperiled species is appropriate in state parks when the maintenance, recovery or restoration of a species or population is complicated due to constraints associated with long-term restoration efforts, unnaturally high mortality or insufficient habitat. Single species management should be compatible with the maintenance and restoration of natural processes, and should not imperil other native species or seriously compromise park values.

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

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

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

Table 1. Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park Management Zones			
Management Zone	**Acreage**	**Managed with Prescribed Fire**	**Contains Cultural Resources**
YB-1	1.72	N	Y

Resources Description and Assessment

Natural Resources

Topography

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is located in the Coastal Lowlands physiographic zone of the Atlantic Coastal Plain, just south of a section of the southeastern United States coast known as the Sea Islands (White 1970). The 1.72-acre park sits atop a low, wooded sandy ridge overlooking the St. Johns River. The natural topography of the site was radically altered during the Civil War when the Confederate army constructed earthwork fortifications there. Trenches from those earthworks persist at the site today. Elevations range from five feet above mean sea level (msl) within the excavated earthworks to 20 feet msl at the southwest boundary of the park.

Geology

The geomorphology of Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is similar to that of Fort George Island, located three miles to the east. Underlying the Yellow Bluff Fort site are Undifferentiated Post-Hawthorn Sediments comprised of deposits of late Miocene age (13-25 million years old), Pliocene age (2-13 million years old), and Pleistocene-Recent age (11,000 to 2 million years old) (Scott 1983). The uppermost deposits, which are Pleistocene sediments of marine origin, accumulated as terraces during the sea level fluctuations of the Great Ice Age. Whenever sea levels dropped during that period, the terraces stood exposed to the elements for long intervals. Weathering and erosion then gradually transformed them into sand ridges such as the one at Yellow Bluff Fort.

Underlying the Pleistocene sediments are unconsolidated sand, clay, shell, and limestone from the Pliocene and late Miocene. Below these unconsolidated sediments is the Hawthorn Group, dating from the middle Miocene, which contains varying mixtures of clay, quartz sand, carbonate (mainly dolomite), and phosphate. The Hawthorn holds the surficial aquifer and serves as the confining layer above the deeper Floridan aquifer (Toth 1990). Below the Hawthorn Group lies the Eocene-age Ocala Limestone.

Soils

According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the only soils found at Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park are Lynn Haven fine sand and Ortega

YELLOW BLUFF FORT
HISTORIC STATE PARK

N

0 20 40 80 Feet

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks
Date of aerial; 2011

MANAGEMENT ZONES
MAP

YELLOW BLUFF FORT
HISTORIC STATE PARK

N

0 20 40 80 Feet

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks
Date of aerial; 2011

SOILS MAP

fine sand (NRCS, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) 1998) (see Soils Map). The Lynn Haven soil covers almost the entire site. The classification of the chief soil type at Yellow Bluff Fort as Lynn Haven sand represents a major departure from its former identification as Kershaw fine sand (Soil Conservation Service, USDA 1978). Unfortunately, the reclassification from Kershaw to Lynn Haven seems to be in error. Kershaw fine sand is an excessively drained soil that occurs on gently sloping broad ridges and isolated knolls. The Yellow Bluff Fort site, despite considerable historical disturbance, retains significant elements of its original nature, including an elevated topography and a well-drained sandy soil. These characteristics place it at the opposite end of the spectrum from Lynn Haven soils, which drain very poorly and occur on flats and in seepage areas. Perhaps interpretation of aerial photography resulted in misidentification of the deeply excavated earthworks as wetland depressions. The previous classification of the Yellow Bluff Fort soil by the NRCS as Kershaw fine sand seems a much more appropriate choice. Nevertheless, the 1998 NRCS soils classification for the Yellow Bluff Fort site is still the official version, so it is the one used in this management plan. Addendum 3 contains complete descriptions of Lynn Haven fine sand and Ortega fine sand.

Limited soil erosion currently occurs in the park, primarily at the bases of some of the larger oaks. In particular, an old sand live oak at the northwest edge of the trench system is in danger of toppling if erosion at its base continues unabated. Persistent human actions such as digging and climbing have accelerated the erosion. Staff will prevent further impacts to the tree by redirecting visitors away from the tree and monitor the condition of the tree. If it shows signs of decline or falling, it will be professionally removed. The steep slopes of the earthworks are susceptible to erosion, but most are now reasonably stable due to dense vegetative growth, particularly yaupon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*) and young hardwood trees. Unfortunately, this vegetation tends to obscure the outlines of the trench system, making interpretation of the site problematic. If the DRP determines that it would be best to remove the hardwoods to enhance visual aspects of the cultural landscape, then some low-growing substitute groundcover will be needed on the slopes to mitigate the increased erosion that will likely result. Management activities will follow generally accepted best management practices to prevent soil erosion and conserve soil resources on site.

Minerals

There are no known commercial mineral deposits in this park.

Hydrology

There are no surface water features in the park, and there are no groundwater concerns.

Natural Communities

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

The system of classifying natural communities employed in this plan was developed by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI). The premise of this system is that physical factors such as climate, geology, soil, hydrology and fire frequency generally determine the species composition of an area, and that areas that are similar with respect to those factors will tend to have natural communities with similar species compositions. However, obvious differences in species composition can occur, despite similar physical conditions. In other instances, physical factors are substantially different, yet the species compositions are quite similar. For example, coastal strand and scrub, two communities with similar species compositions, generally have quite different climatic environments, and these necessitate different management programs. Some physical influences, such as fire frequency, may vary from FNAI's descriptions for certain natural communities in this plan.

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

The park contains one distinct natural community, as well as altered landcover types (see Natural Communities Map). A list of plants and animals known to occur in the park is contained in Addendum 5.

Xeric Hammock

Desired Future Condition: Typically considered a late successional stage of scrub or sandhill, xeric hammock generally occurs in small isolated patches on excessively well drained soils. Vegetation in a typical xeric hammock will form a low closed canopy, dominated by sand live oak (*Quercus geminata*), that provides shady conditions. Other common plant species may include Chapman's oak (*Quercus chapmanii*), turkey oak (*Quercus laevis*), sand post oak (*Quercus margaretta*), and laurel oak (*Quercus laurifolia*). Longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris)* may also be a minor component. Understory species may include saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*),

YELLOW BLUFF FORT HISTORIC STATE PARK

N

0 20 40 80 Feet

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks
Date of aerial; 2011

NATURAL COMMUNITIES MAP

fetterbush (*Lyonia lucida*), myrtle oak (*Quercus myrtifolia*), wild olive (*Osmanthus americanus*), yaupon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*), Hercules' club (*Zanthoxylum clava herculis*), and Florida rosemary (*Ceratiola ericoides*). A sparse groundcover of wiregrass (*Aristida stricta* var. *beyrichiana*) and other herbaceous species may exist, but typically will be absent. A continuous layer of leaf litter may be present (FNAI 2010).

Description and Assessment: A small patch of xeric hammock, currently in two discrete fragments, occupies the southwestern corner of the park. Sand live oak dominates the relatively open canopy. Turkey oak and laurel oak are among the other species present. The mid-story contains widely scattered sparkleberry (*Vaccinium arboreum*), wild olive, and sweetleaf (*Symplocos tinctoria*). The very sparse groundcover includes Florida Indian plantain (*Arnoglossum floridanum*) and soft greeneyes (*Berlandiera pumila*).

The well-drained sands underlying the park would normally have supported a sandhill community, but the very few sandhill species still present at the site occur mainly outside of the Confederate earthworks. Fire exclusion and other human influences at the site over the past 150 years have resulted in the loss of most of the original sandhill and the succession of the small sandhill remnant to xeric hammock. The long-term viability of the small patch of xeric hammock is greatly compromised by the continued dominating presence of the earthworks and by management activities required to maintain picnic facilities and trails within the park. Consequently, the xeric hammock is considered to be in poor condition.

General Management Measures: The current management of the park, with its goal of maintaining landscape features associated with the Civil War fortifications, continues to hinder normal development of the xeric hammock natural community. At this site, however, the preservation of cultural resources takes precedence over management of natural resources. Still, a minor change in management of the site could benefit the xeric hammock without compromising the integrity of the cultural resources. Merely ceasing to mow the wide pathway that currently cuts through the hammock at the southwest corner of the park would unite the two fragments of xeric hammock and ultimately improve its condition from poor to fair.

Personnel from the Talbot Islands State Parks and Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park assist in providing management for Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park and visit the site periodically. Staff presence at the park is very limited, however, and public access is self-guided and largely unregulated. Consequently, unauthorized footpaths may appear in the xeric hammock on occasion. Park staff will continue to close off unauthorized footpaths as needed. Although invasive exotic plants are not currently established in the xeric hammock, staff will check the community regularly to ensure that no exotics have invaded from neighboring properties.

<u>Altered Landcover Types: Developed</u>
Desired Future Condition: The developed areas within the park will be managed to minimize the effect of the developed areas on adjacent natural areas. Priority

invasive plant species Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC) Category I and II species) will be removed from all developed areas. Other management measures include proper stormwater management and development guidelines that are compatible with adjacent natural areas.

Description and Assessment: Developed areas at Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park include the remnant earthworks of Confederate fortifications dating back to 1862 and a small parking area with a commemorative obelisk adjacent. The earthworks have endured a significant amount of unauthorized and damaging uses over the years, including digging and bike riding.

General Management Measures: While the site has improved greatly in the past decade, minor erosion continues on some of the trench slopes and a few unauthorized footpaths persist. Management measures for the earthworks will include erosion control as needed and the elimination of unauthorized footpaths.

A considerable number of trees and shrubs grow on "islands" of higher ground within the trench system. Among the more common species are southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*), laurel oak, cabbage palm (*Sabal palmetto*), and yaupon. Several species of invasive exotic plants were once well established in the earthworks portion of the park. Personnel from Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park regularly treat these species with herbicide and currently have them under control. A more detailed discussion about measures used to control these plants appears in the Exotic Species section of this plan.

Imperiled Species

Imperiled species are those that are (1) tracked by FNAI as critically imperiled (G1, S1) or imperiled (G2, S2); or (2) listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) or the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) as endangered, threatened or of special concern.

To date, no imperiled species have been recorded within Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park. However, there is one active gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) burrow about 10 yards west of the park's west boundary.

Exotic and Nuisance Species

Exotic species are plants or animals not native to Florida. Invasive exotic species are able to out-compete, displace or destroy native species and their habitats, often because they have been released from the natural controls of their native range, such as diseases, predatory insects, etc. If left unchecked, invasive exotic plants and animals alter the character, productivity and conservation values of the natural areas they invade.

Exotic animal species include non-native wildlife species, free ranging domesticated pets or livestock, and feral animals. Because of the negative impacts to natural

systems attributed to exotic animals, the DRP actively removes exotic animals from state parks, with priority being given to those species causing the greatest ecological damage.

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

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

Exotic plant species recorded in the park during the past decade include the highly invasive mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*), air-potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*), and camphortree (*Cinnamomum camphora*), all classified by the FLEPPC as Category I invasive plants, plus Caesarweed (*Urena lobata*) and Chinese wisteria (*Wisteria sinensis*), both classified by FLEPPC as Category II invasive plants (FLEPPC 2011). Apparently, air-potato and mimosa are the only two species still present. Each requires at least annual treatment over a multi-year period. The gross area of infestation for both species in the park is about 0.03 acre.

The preferred method for controlling invasive exotic species at a cultural resource site such as Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is the regular application of herbicide. Before 2009, exotic plants in the park received only sporadic herbicide treatment. However, a routine annual treatment program was established in the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Since approval of the park's previous unit management plan in 2004, a total of 2.318 acres of exotic plants have been treated at the park. That total includes some multiple treatments of persistent infestations within a given year. Staff now monitors the site twice a year to assess the effectiveness of herbicide treatments and to check for possible invasions by additional exotic plants. The staff is also encouraging a cooperative effort with adjacent homeowners to eradicate invasive exotics on their properties.

Table 2 contains a list of the FLEPPC Category I and II invasive, exotic plant species found within the park (FLEPPC 2013). The table also identifies relative distribution for each species and the management zones in which they are known to occur. An explanation of the codes is provided following the table. For an inventory of all exotic species found within the park, see Addendum 5.

Table 2. Inventory of FLEPPC Category I and II Exotic Plant Species			
Common and *Scientific* Name	**FLEPPC Category**	**Distribution**	**Management Zone (s)**
PLANTS			
Mimosa *Albizia julibrissin*	I	2	YB-1
Camphortree *Cinnamomum camphora*	I	0	YB-1
Air-potato *Dioscorea bulbifera*	I	2	YB-1
Caesarweed *Urena lobata*	II	0	YB-1
Chinese wisteria *Wisteria sinensis*	II	0	YB-1

Distribution Categories:

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

Special Natural Features

There are no special natural features at Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park.

Cultural Resources

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

structure or historic landscape refer to all resources that will become 50 years old during the term of this plan.

Condition Assessment

Evaluating the condition of cultural resources is accomplished using a three-part evaluation scale, expressed as good, fair and poor. These terms describe the present condition, rather than comparing what exists to the ideal condition. Good describes a condition of structural stability and physical wholeness, where no obvious deterioration other than normal occurs. Fair describes a condition in which there is a discernible decline in condition between inspections, and the wholeness or physical integrity is and continues to be threatened by factors other than normal wear. A fair assessment is usually a cause for concern. Poor describes an unstable condition where there is palpable, accelerating decline, and physical integrity is being compromised quickly. A resource in poor condition suffers obvious declines in physical integrity from year to year. A poor condition suggests immediate action is needed to reestablish physical stability.

Level of Significance

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

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

The following is a summary of the FMSF inventory for the park. This inventory contains an evaluation of significance of the site.

<u>Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites</u>
Desired Future Condition: All significant archaeological sites within the park that represent Florida's cultural periods or significant historic events or persons are preserved in good condition in perpetuity, protected from physical threats and interpreted to the public.

Description: According to the FMSF, the northeast corner of DU00123 (Yellow Bluff Fort), an archaeological site from the American Civil War period, falls within the boundaries of Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park. That corner of DU00123 constitutes the only known cultural site in the park. In 1970, the U.S. Department of Interior added Yellow Bluff Fort to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve, a unit of the National Park Service, assigns its own number to the fort, TIMU 96.

Yellow Bluff Fort gained prominence in September 1862, after the Union capture of Fernandina, when Confederate forces constructed fortifications on the bluff in an attempt to deny invading enemy gunboats access to the St. Johns River (Bearss 1964). The Confederates had established artillery positions along the river at strategic locations such as St. Johns Bluff, on the south bank about five miles from the mouth of the river, and at Dames Point, specifically Yellow Bluff Fort, near New Berlin on the north bank of the river. At least some of the Confederate ordnance evacuated from Fernandina was transported to those sites by railroad. The St. Johns Bluff positions were established earlier than those at Yellow Bluff Fort, although neither installation had been completed by the time federal forces began the assault. The Union first attacked with cannon from gunships in the channel and then landed troops to flank the defenders. Neither of the fortifications was able to withstand the Union forces for longer than 20 days.

Yellow Bluff Fort came to notice again late in the Civil War (Nulty 1990). In February 1864, Union forces received orders to build a communications tower “on the blockhouse” at Yellow Bluff Fort. The 110-foot tower, which was among several that the Union forces used to relay communications throughout the area, seems to have remained active until the end of the war. The site faded from public attention shortly afterward.

According to the NRHP nomination form recorded by Randy Nimnicht of the Florida Department of State in March 1971, the Yellow Bluff Fort “fortifications consisted of triangular earthen works dug to provide protection for the guns.” The little physical evidence of Yellow Bluff Fort that persists today consists of an extensive trench system within the boundaries of the state park. The trenches are often at least ten feet deep and in places are fifteen feet wide. One may infer that these are the physical remains of the Confederate installation. A June 20, 2012 update to the FMSF, based on shovel-testing and metal detector sweeps during a one-day field visit by Barry Wharton of HDR Engineering, did little to expand knowledge of the site. The field report did note, however, that DU00123 covered about 290,000 square meters, that earth-moving activities had impacted the south portion of the site, that the remainder of the site appeared minimally disturbed, and that only the northeast corner of the site lay within Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park.

Although the park has not been the subject of a comprehensive, coordinated cultural resources survey, a predictive model for the site was completed by University of South Florida researchers in 2012 (Collins et al. 2012). Not surprisingly, the archaeological sensitivity model developed for the site resulted in the entire park being designated a high sensitivity area. Digital Elevation Model

(DEM) analysis and GPS data collected during the modeling exercise revealed that the boundaries of DU00123 as described in the current FMSF listing did not extend far enough to the northeast, in effect excluding the northwest corner of the park. To rectify that, the modeling team submitted an updated FMSF form that added the missing area to the FMSF-listed boundary.

Analysis of historic maps geo-referenced for the park has indicated that there were "related historic landscape sites and features inside and outside the current park boundary" (Collins et al. 2012). Consequently, one can only infer the significance of the trench system within the context of the Confederate installation in its entirety. Details about other significant features of the installation, such as the communications tower, remain obscure. One old photograph purporting to show the communications tower at New Berlin actually reveals a middle distance landscape crowded with multi-story houses and other structures on a scale not usually associated with the area.

Condition Assessment: Yellow Bluff Fort is in fair condition. The earthworks/trench system appears stable, but human use and misuse over time have in fact caused some significant impacts. Trees, mostly oaks, grow throughout the park, and a few are located on unexcavated islands of higher ground within the trench system. Some of the offspring of these trees are spreading into the trench system. Thickets of yaupon holly are also appearing on the islands and along slopes of the trenches. While this vegetative growth helps stabilize the soils, it also obscures the earthworks to the point that it is becoming difficult to visualize the historical layout of the trenches.

Visitors once used the larger oaks within the trench system as play areas, mainly for climbing and for supporting swings. Those traditional activities, which caused damage to the trees and encouraged erosion of the earthworks, occur much less frequently now. Nevertheless, evidence of past abuse is still visible. At least half the roots of one large sand live oak at the northwest edge of the trench system are exposed and may be in danger of toppling if erosion at its base continues unabated. The best method to stop the erosion and potentially stabilize the tree should be determined and implemented.

A 4-foot tall chain link fence currently runs along most of the park boundary. Past issues with loss of fence integrity along the 400-foot long south boundary appear to have been resolved. The unauthorized access that once was prevalent at the southwest corner of the park is apparently no longer an issue. An 80-foot stretch at the formal entrance to the park remains unfenced. Here a series of fence posts set 12 -18 inches apart serve as bollards that provide limited protection from entry by wheeled vehicles such as bicycles. In the first several decades of the park's existence, damage from wheeled vehicles ranging from bicycles to off-road motorcycles was commonplace. However, in recent years, such incidents have become much less frequent due to significant assistance from neighborhood volunteers, who have improved site maintenance and security. Still, the park would greatly benefit from an increased presence of uniformed personnel.

Level of Significance: Yellow Bluff Fort is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The site is significant as the only known remaining component of the Civil War defenses constructed in and around Jacksonville. Recent research also has added to this significance for its connection to African-American troops stationed there. Companies of the 8th U.S. Colored Troops, 34th U.S. Colored Troops and the 55th Massachusetts were all stationed at Yellow Bluff Fort at various times in 1864, this is significant in African-American history.

General Management Measures: Professional guidance is needed regarding management of the native hardwoods that are invading the earthworks. Staff will work with BNCR to develop a management plan. While the root systems of the hardwoods likely help deter erosion on the slopes, they also obscure the outlines of the earthworks and may damage the integrity of the cultural site. The preferred method of dealing with these native invasive species is to cut the young saplings and treat the stumps with herbicide.

There may be other means of preserving the physical remains of Yellow Bluff Fort than merely continuing to maintain the hardwood growth on the earthworks. An action plan to achieve stabilization of the site and prevent further erosion should be developed. It may include limiting access to the earthworks to only a few paths and managing the vegetation, using brush piles to prevent visitors from accessing the most impacted parts of the park, and placing informational panels around the park so visitors can be educated about how to enjoy the park, while also protecting it. Staff will also redirect visitors' play activities to areas outside the earthworks and consider placement of additional boundary barriers of some sort designed to prevent access to the site by bicycles and off-road vehicles.

The area west of Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is now occupied by several large parking areas associated with the trucking industry. There is a definite need to protect the remaining aesthetics of the park from additional impacts of encroaching development. One measure that might help insulate the park from neighboring industrial development would be to maintain a well-vegetated buffer along the west boundary of the park. Another measure that might protect the viewshed of the park would be to acquire, or obtain a conservation easement for unimproved property south of the park in order to preserve its wooded character.

Historic Structures

Desired Future Condition: All significant historic structures and landscapes that represent Florida's cultural periods or significant historic events or persons are preserved in good condition in perpetuity, protected from physical threats and interpreted to the public. There are no historic structures at Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park.

Collections

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

Description: A low obelisk monument, erected in 1951, marks the site of Yellow Bluff Fort. The monument, donated by the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC), is located at the south edge of the parking lot. A plaque on the monument commemorates the Confederate soldiers who defended Jacksonville during the Civil War. Five cannons mounted on concrete pedestals flank the parking lot and the perimeter of the earthworks. The cannons, which are of inappropriate vintage and are perhaps salvage from shipwrecks, were also donated in the 1950s and appear to be substitutes for genuine ordnance of the Civil War era. The FMSF file for DU00123 contains a data sheet for each cannon where detailed measurements and the condition of each cannon can be found. The park does not have any informal collections.

Condition Assessment: The commemorative plaque has experienced vandalism by apparent small arms gunfire. According to park neighbors, the incidents occurred sometime prior to the 1990s. The plaque is in fair condition. The cannons, however, are in poor condition. They also appear to have suffered vandalism, although much of their decline may be attributable to the ravages of age and chemical reaction with salt. All cannons were in a persistent state of decline until staff from Little Talbot Island State Park treated them with a clear rust inhibitor and then painted them with black Rustoleum.

Level of Significance: The cannons were installed in 1950s shortly after the park was acquired. While they are of interest as a curiosity, the cannons are of little significance to the site. They are not of the correct period and are severely deteriorated.

General Management Measures: Now that the cannons have received a thorough stabilization treatment, they will need periodic reapplication of preservatives to minimize additional weathering. To keep the commemorative plaque from deteriorating, staff should continue the regular maintenance regime that has been in place in recent years. The maintenance regime should be written down and maintained at staff headquarters.

No Scope of Collections Statement has been developed for the park but a determination should be made regarding whether or not the cannons are appropriate for the park and should remain. If they remain, information regarding the cannons should be incorporated in the interpretive panels that will be placed in the park.

Detailed management goals, objectives and actions for the management of cultural resources in this park are discussed in the Cultural Resource Management Program section of this component. Table 3 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 also summarizes each site's level of significance, existing condition and recommended management treatment. An explanation of the codes is provided following the table.

Table 3. Cultural Sites Listed in the Florida Master Site File					
Site Name and FMSF #	**Culture/Period**	**Description**	**Significance**	**Condition**	**Treatment**
DU00123	Historic/Civil War	Archaeological Site	NRL	F	ST, 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

Resource Management Program

Management Goals, Objectives and Actions

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

While, the DRP utilizes the ten-year management plan to serve as the basic statement of policy and future direction for each park, a number of annual work plans provide more specific guidance for DRP staff to accomplish many of the resource management goals and objectives of the park. Where such detailed planning is appropriate to the character and scale of the park's natural resources, annual work plans are developed for prescribed fire management, exotic plant management and imperiled species management. Annual or longer- term work plans are developed for natural community restoration and hydrological restoration. The work plans provide DRP with crucial flexibility in its efforts to generate and implement adaptive resource management practices in the state park system. The work plans are reviewed and updated annually. Through this process, the DRP's resource management strategies are systematically evaluated to determine their effectiveness. The process and the information collected is used to refine techniques, methodologies and strategies, and ensures that each park's prescribed management actions are monitored and reported as required by Sections 253.034 and 259.037, Florida Statutes.

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

Natural Resource Management

Hydrological Management

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

The natural hydrology of most state parks has been impaired prior to acquisition to one degree or another. Florida's native habitats are precisely adapted to natural drainage patterns and seasonal water level fluctuations, and variations in these factors frequently determine the types of natural communities that occur on a particular site. Even minor changes to natural hydrology can result in the loss of plant and animal species from a landscape. Restoring state park lands to original natural conditions often depends on returning natural hydrological processes and conditions to the park. This is done primarily by filling or plugging ditches, removing obstructions to surface water "sheet flow," and installing culverts or low-water crossings on roads, and water control structures to manage water levels.

Objective: Conduct/obtain an assessment of the park's hydrological restoration needs.

There are no hydrological restoration needs at Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park. Unless there is some major unforeseen future disturbance on this site, no changes are anticipated in the hydrology of the site. No hydrological issues need to be addressed to improve natural communities in the park. Although no specific hydrological management is necessary at the park, staff will comply with best management practices to prevent soil erosion or other impacts to water resources off site.

Natural Communities Management

Goal: Restore and maintain the natural communities/habitats of the park.
The DRP practices natural systems management. In most cases, this entails returning fire to its natural role in fire-dependent natural communities. Other methods to implement this goal include large-scale restoration projects as well as smaller scale natural communities' improvements.

Natural Communities Restoration

There is currently no need for large-scale natural community restoration at this park. Natural community management activity at this small, mostly developed cultural site is limited to invasive exotic species control. There is no need for natural community restoration measures and prescribed fire is neither appropriate nor necessary for this small site.

Natural Communities Improvement

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

Objective A: Conduct natural community/habitat improvement activities on 0.1 acres of xeric hammock community.

Action 1 Discontinue mowing of pathway in xeric hammock.

Currently, the xeric hammock in the park consists of two small patches separated from one another by a wide mowed pathway. Staff should discontinue the practice of mowing the pathway in order that the two discrete fragments may coalesce.

Imperiled Species Management

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

The DRP strives to maintain and restore viable populations of imperiled plant and animal species primarily by implementing effective management of natural systems. DRP staff consulted with staff of the FWC's Imperiled Species Management or that agency's Regional Biologist and other appropriate federal, state and local agencies for assistance in developing imperiled animal species management objectives and actions. Likewise, for imperiled plant species, DRP staff consulted with FDACS. Data collected by the USFWS, 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 at the park.

Ongoing inventory and monitoring of imperiled species in the state park system is necessary to meet the DRP's mission. At this time, no imperiled plant or animal species have been documented in the park. DRP staff will continue to monitor for the absence or presence of imperiled species at this site and notify District staff of any imperiled animal species occurrence.

Exotic Species Management

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

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

Objective A: Annually treat 0.03 acres of exotic plant species in the park.

Action 1 Annually treat all known infestations of exotic plan species in the park.

Action 2 Conduct a full survey of the park at least biennially to monitor results of previous treatments and to document the appearance of any new exotic infestations.

Because the park has relatively few invasive exotic plants, DRP staff should be able to treat all the known infestations annually. If possible, each species should be treated before it begins to reproduce. All local DRP staff should become familiar with the exotic species that occur in the park and should implement the best treatment options available. Staff will conduct a full survey of the park at least biennially to monitor results of previous treatments and to document the appearance of any new exotic infestations.

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

There is no regular occurrence of exotic animal species in the park. Staff will work with the appropriate state or local agency to remove any exotic or nuisance animals from the park as they are encountered.

Cultural Resource Management

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

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

The management of cultural resources is often complicated because these resources are irreplaceable and extremely vulnerable to disturbances. The advice of historical and archaeological experts is required in this effort. All activities related to land clearing, ground disturbing activities, major repairs or additions to historic structures listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places must be submitted to the FDOS, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) for review and comment prior to undertaking the proposed project. Recommendations may include, but are not limited to concurrence with the project as submitted, monitoring of the project by a qualified professional archaeologist, cultural resource assessment survey by a qualified professional archaeologist, modifications to the proposed project to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effect. In addition, any demolition or substantial alteration to any historic structure or resource must be

submitted to the DHR for consultation and the DRP must demonstrate that there is no feasible alternative to removal and must provide a strategy for documentation or salvage of the resource. Florida law further requires that the DRP consider the reuse of historic buildings in the park in lieu of new construction and must undertake a cost comparison of new development versus rehabilitation of a building before electing to construct a new or replacement building. This comparison must be accomplished with the assistance of the DHR.

Objective A: Assess and evaluate 1 of 1 recorded cultural resources in the park.

Action 1 Develop and follow a protocol for monthly site assessment in order to protect the park from further deterioration.

Staff will develop and follow a routine protocol for the site assessments, which should occur at least once a month. Staff will document impacts that may have occurred at Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park such as vandalism, damage from wheeled vehicles (including bicycles), the development of unauthorized footpaths through the earthworks, and erosion. Photo-documentation of significant impacts should be part of the standard procedure. A file of recorded Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park assessments and observations will be maintained at either the Talbot Islands park office or the Pumpkin Hill Creek office.

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

Action 1 Improve the park's interpretation through a comprehensive research project to document the fort's history through historical research and a more in-depth archaeological investigation.

Action 2 Develop a Scope of Collections statement for the park in order to establish clear guidelines for acquisition or acceptance of items for a collection.

The only known cultural site in the park has already been recorded in the FMSF. The site file was updated in 2012 following completion of the predictive model for Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park. If any new sites are discovered in the park, they will be submitted to the FMSF promptly. The park and its interpretation would benefit from a comprehensive research project to document the fort's history through historical research and a more in-depth archaeological investigation.

The park currently does not have any collections other than the five cannons and the obelisk monument. Nevertheless, staff should develop a Scope of Collections statement for Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park. This statement should describe the focus of the park and establish clear guidelines for acquisition or acceptance of items for a collection. Having a Scope of Collections does not mean that the park must acquire or accept items for a collection. It merely guides the development of any additional collections or acceptance of donations.

Objective C: Bring 1 of 1 recorded cultural resources into good condition.

Action 1 Establish a routine maintenance program to help prevent further deterioration and promote stabilization of the earthworks and historic items in the park.

Action 2 Develop a plan to maintain the earthworks and prevent further deterioration through vegetation removal, redirecting visitors, and erosion control and stabilization of the earthworks.

Preventing further erosion and deterioration of the earthworks will stabilize the park. Stabilization and prevention of further deterioration will halt decline and the site will then be considered to be in good or fair condition. The park should continue to improve maintenance procedures for the earthworks, cannons, and monument, and should expand maintenance efforts as needed. The park should develop a plan to control the native hardwoods that are invading the earthworks, encroaching on the trench system, and obscuring the outlines of the earthworks. In question is the amount of vegetation that staff would be able to remove while maintaining the earthworks as a viable cultural resource without causing a significant increase in erosion or encouraging a proliferation of unauthorized pathways throughout the site. Research by historic preservationists is needed to determine appropriate methodologies for stabilizing the earthworks with groundcover plants while strictly adhering to established standards for historic structures of this type.

Park staff will develop a plan to redirect visitor to less sensitive portions of the site outside the present footprint of the earthworks. This may be done using brush piles to block access to highly impacted areas. Another protective measure might be to erect additional boundary barriers at the walk-in entrance to the park to prevent access by bicycles and off-road vehicles.

Special Management Considerations

Timber Management Analysis

Chapters 253 and 259, Florida Statutes, require an assessment of the feasibility of managing timber in land management plans for parcels greater than 1,000 acres if the lead agency determines that timber management is not in conflict with the primary management objectives of the land. The feasibility of harvesting timber at this park during the period covered by this plan was considered in context of DRP's statutory responsibilities and an analysis of the park's resource needs and values. The long-term management goal for forest communities in the state park system is to maintain or re-establish old-growth characteristics to the degree practicable, with the exception of those communities specifically managed as early successional.

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

Arthropod Control Plan

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

The DRP has coordinated with the City of Jacksonville regarding arthropod control at Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park, and there is no arthropod control plan in place at this time.

Sea Level Rise

Potential sea level rise is now under study and will be addressed by Florida’s residents and governments in the future. The DRP will stay current on existing research and predictive models, in coordination with other DEP programs and federal, state and local agencies. The DRP will continue to observe and document the changes that occur to the park’s shorelines, natural features, imperiled species populations, and cultural resources. This ongoing data collection and analysis will inform the Division’s adaptive management response to future conditions, including the effects of sea level rise, as they develop.

Resource Management Schedule

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

Land Management Review

Section 259.036, Florida Statutes, established land management review teams to determine whether conservation, preservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and in accordance with their approved land management plans. DRP considered recommendations of the land management review team and updated this plan accordingly.

At less than 1,000 total acres, Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park does not meet the size threshold for the land management review requirement. Therefore, a land management review was not conducted there.

LAND USE COMPONENT

Introduction

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

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

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

External Conditions

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

The Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is located in Duval County, northeast of downtown Jacksonville, adjacent to the Jacksonville Port Authority on Dames Point. The park is located approximately 15 miles northeast of Jacksonville and 30 miles south of Fernandina Beach. The access to the park is from New Berlin Road, a few miles from Interstate 295 and Heckscher Drive. The park is bounded on the east and north by residential uses, on the west by industrial use, and on the south by vacant land. Approximately 1.2 million people live within 30 miles of the park (US Census 2010).

According to the Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) 2014 population estimate update of the 2010 Census, Duval County’s residential

population has increased approximately 3.8 %, with an estimated population of 890,066. According to the US Census data (2013), approximately 56 % of residents in the county identify as white, approximately 8 percent identifying as Hispanic or Latino and 30 percent as black. Over 12 % of residents can be described as seniors over 65, with approximately 30 % being under 18 years of age. Duval County ranked 14th state-wide with a per capita personal income of $42,423, higher than the state-wide average of $41,497 (U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis 2013).

The park is located in the Northeast Vacation Region, which includes Nassau, Baker, Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Putnam, and Flagler counties (VISIT FLA! 2013). According to the 2013 Florida Visitor Survey, approximately 7 % of domestic visitors to Florida visited this region. Of the estimated over 544,425 domestic visitors who came to this region, approximately 86 % traveled for leisure. Visiting friends/relatives and beach/waterfront activities were the most popular activities for those visitors to the region. Summer was the most popular season for visitors, with the fall season coming in second. Most visitors traveled by non-air (81%), reporting an average stay of 3.5 nights and spending an average of $115 per person per day.

There are a number of resource-based recreation opportunities such as aquatic preserves, local parks, federal parks, and museums in proximity to the Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park. These include Nassau River-St. Johns River Marshes Aquatic Preserve, Fort Caroline National Memorial, Kingsley Plantation and Theodore Roosevelt Area. Additional parks in proximity to the Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park include Kathryn Abby Hanna Park, Huguenot Memorial Park, Reddie Point Preserve and Cedar Pointe Park. Within a few miles of Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park are other state parks, such as Fort George Island Cultural State Park, Little Talbot Island and Big Talbot Island state parks, Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park and Amelia Island State Park. These parks and preserves offer picnicking, swimming, fishing, paddling, boating, camping, cabins, birding, and hiking, as well as excellent educational opportunities related to area ecosystems, history, and archaeological sites.

Existing Use of Adjacent Lands

The park is located northeast of the City of Jacksonville, a few miles from Interstate 295, and is surrounded by industrial and port-related uses and some older residential homes. There is industrial use on the western boundary of the property, residential uses to the north and east and vacant land adjoining the park to the south.

Planned Use of Adjacent Lands

Duval County currently has the highest county projected populations of the counties in north Florida and is projected to grow at 3.8% in 2014. Duval County is projected to grow approximately 18% by 2040 (BEBR 2013). The future development pattern in the area will reflect in the County's

comprehensive plan. Currently, the Duval County/City of Jacksonville Comprehensive Plan future land use category for the property surrounding the park is Water Dependent-Water Related (WD-WR). The primary purpose of this category is to protect, support and permit orderly expansion of the port of Jacksonville. This land use category contains protection for existing residential neighborhoods through the use of buffering, site design, transitional uses, open space, height restrictions, landscaping, and more.

The zoning designation of adjacent land is consistent with the future land use designation. The area adjoining and surrounding the park is zoned Industrial Water (IW). This category permits a large number of uses such as docks, freight terminals, facilities for vessel repair, bulk material/wholesale establishments, military installations and a lengthy list of uses directly related to port activities.

There are several large tracts of land adjoining or in close proximity to the park which may potentially impact the park. These properties are zoned for port-related activities and are currently being marketed for this purpose. The DRP will need to work with adjoining property owners to protect the existing aesthetics of Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park from additional impacts of encroaching development. The DRP may want to consider approaching the owners of the parcel to the south of the park to see if they are willing to establish a conservation easement or buffer along the southern boundary of the park.

Florida Greenways and Trails System (FGTS)

The Florida Greenways and Trails System (FGTS) is made up of existing, planned and conceptual non-motorized trails and ecological greenways that form a connected, integrated statewide network. The FGTS serves as a green infrastructure plan for Florida, tying together the greenways and trails plans and planning activities of communities, agencies and non-profit organizations throughout Florida. Trails include paddling, hiking, biking, multi-use and equestrian trails. The Office of Greenways and Trails maintains a priority trails map and gap analysis for the FGTS to focus attention and resources on closing key gaps in the system.

In some cases, existing or planned priority trails run through or are adjacent to state parks, or they may be in close proximity and can be connected by a spur trail. State parks can often serve as trailheads, points-of-interest, and offer amenities such as camping, showers and laundry, providing valuable services for trail users while increasing state park visitation. The Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is a designated component of the Florida Greenways and Trails System.

Property Analysis

Effective planning requires a thorough understanding of the unit's natural and cultural resources. This section describes the resource characteristics and existing uses of the property. The unit's recreation resource elements are examined to identify the opportunities and constraints they present for recreational development. Past and present uses are assessed for their effects on the property, compatibility with the site, and relation to the unit's classification.

Recreation Resource Elements

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

Land Area

The Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is located in northeast Duval County and Jacksonville in close proximity to the mouth of the St. Johns River, in the area known as Dames Point. There are no notable natural features on the site, the resources of the park are primarily cultural. Because of the small size of the park and historical feature on the site, there is limited ability for expansion of recreational uses. Historic interpretation, picnicking, and limited hiking are the recreational uses the park can accommodate.

Archaeological and Historical Features

The northeast corner of DU00123, an archaeological site from the American Civil War period (Yellow Bluff Fort), falls within the boundaries of Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park. That corner of DU00123 constitutes the only known cultural site in the park. A 2012 update to the FMSF did little to expand knowledge of the site but did note that DU00123 covered about 290,000 square meters, earth-moving activities had impacted the south portion of the site, the remainder of the site appeared minimally disturbed, and only the northeast corner of the site lay within Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park. Additional information panels placed on the site would greatly enhance visitor understanding of the history and significance of the site.

Assessment of Use

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

Past Uses

This site was donated to the state in 1950 by the North Shore Corporation. Following this donation, Duval County vacated part of a road right-of-way, which was added to the park, making its current configuration. The property was vacant prior to state acquisition.

Future Land Use and Zoning

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

The park is currently designated WD-WR, Water Dependent-Water Related, on the future land use map in the Duval County/City of Jacksonville Comprehensive Land Use Plan. This category is primarily intended for land uses that require deep water access to the St. Johns River. The primary purpose of the category is to protect, support, and permit orderly expansion of the Port of Jacksonville.

The zoning on this park property is currently Public Building and Facilities-1 (PBF-1). The zoning category allows all lawful government uses, with the exception of the following: essential services (water, sewer, gas, telephone, and towers), solid wastes facilities, and structures greater than 40,000 square feet, and more than one principal structure, which must be approved by special exception.

Current Recreational Use and Visitor Programs

Natural and cultural resource interpretation and picnicking are the primary recreational uses at the Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park. The historic interpretation of the Confederate earthworks and the park's natural and cultural environs are a priority for the park.

Other Uses

This site has not been used for any purpose other than an historic site.

Protected Zones

A protected zone is an area of high sensitivity or outstanding character from which most types of development are excluded as a protective measure. Generally, facilities requiring extensive land alteration or resulting in intensive resource use, such as parking lots, camping areas, shops or maintenance areas, are not permitted in protected zones. Facilities with minimal resource impacts, such as trails, interpretive signs and boardwalks are generally allowed. All

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

Because of the size of the park and the historic earthworks, the entire park is within a protection zone. Facility development would be limited to very low impact. The park's current protected zone is delineated on the Conceptual Land Use Plan.

Existing Facilities

The recreation facilities at Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park include 2 picnic tables and a trash container, a monument to commemorate the historic significance of the site, 5 cannons, and unauthorized foot-paths. Because of the small size and cultural and natural features in the park, recreation facilities are limited. The support facilities consist of a parking area in the northeast corner of the park which contains seven parking spaces, including one ADA parking space.

Recreation Facilities

Picnic tables (2) and trash container
Historic monument
Cannons (5)

Support Facilities

Parking area (7 spaces)

Conceptual Land Use Plan

The following narrative represents the current conceptual land use proposal for this park. As new information is provided regarding the environment of the park, cultural resources, recreational use, and as new land is acquired, the conceptual land use plan may be amended to address the new conditions (see Conceptual Land Use Plan). A detailed development plan for the park and a site plan for specific facilities will be developed based on this conceptual land use plan, as funding becomes available. During the development of the management plan, the Division assessed potential impacts of proposed uses or development on the park resources and applied that analysis to decisions on the future physical plan of the park as well as the scale and character of proposed development. Potential impacts are more thoroughly identified and assessed as part of the site planning process once funding is available for facility development. At that stage, design elements (such as existing topography and vegetation, sewage disposal and stormwater management) and design constraints (such as imperiled species or cultural site locations) are more thoroughly investigated. Municipal sewer connections, advanced wastewater treatment or best available technology systems are applied for on-site sewage disposal. Stormwater management systems are designed to minimize impervious surfaces to the greatest extent feasible, and all facilities are designed and constructed using best management practices to avoid impacts

YELLOW BLUFF FORT
HISTORIC STATE PARK

N

0 20 40 80 Feet

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks
Date of aerial; 2016

BASE MAP

and to mitigate those that cannot be avoided. Federal, state and local permit and regulatory requirements are met by the final design of the projects. This includes the design of all new park facilities consistent with the universal access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). After new facilities are constructed, the park staff monitors conditions to ensure that impacts remain within acceptable levels.

Potential Uses

Public Access and Recreational Opportunities

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

Objective A: Maintain the park's current recreational carrying capacity of 71 users per day.

Natural and cultural resource interpretation and picnicking are the primary recreational uses at the Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park.

Objective B: Expand the park's recreational carrying capacity by 8 users per day.

Currently there are 2 picnic tables in the park for visitor use, which provides an area to enjoy a break or have a picnic while visiting the park. Park staff proposes to add interpretive panels in order to better educate visitors about the history and significance of the park and redirect visitors to improved trails and away from unauthorized paths.

Objective C: Develop 1 new interpretive, educational and recreational programs.

The DRP staff will foster public stewardship of Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park by developing interpretive materials and programs specific to the site and increasing efforts to educate the public about the unique cultural resources contained within the park. Information about Yellow Bluff Fort should be incorporated into interpretive programs developed and presented by staff at other state parks in the area such as Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park, Fort George Island Cultural State Park, and Little Talbot Island State Park. Staff should also develop exhibits for placement at the Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park that will educate visitors about the historical features and significance of the park.

Several additional interpretive panels are proposed in the park. They are proposed near the park entrance, on the earthworks using a method sensitive

to the nature of the area, and in other appropriate areas of the park. Interpretive panels will enhance visitor understanding and appreciation of the earthworks and educate the visitors about the significance of the park in context to its history and the surrounding area.

Proposed Facilities

Capital Facilities and Infrastructure

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

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

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

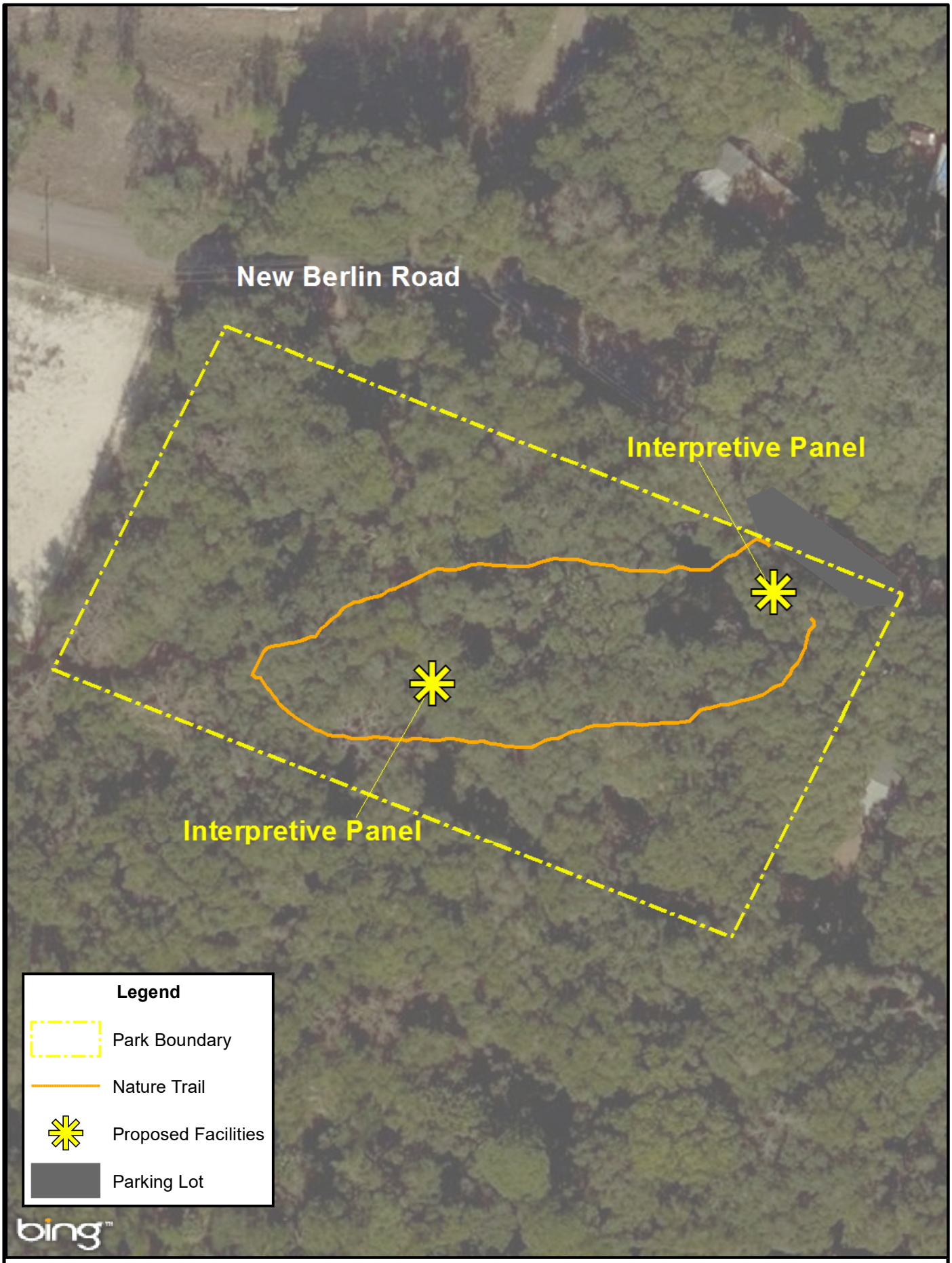
All capital facilities, trails, and roads within the park will be kept in proper condition through the daily or regular work of park staff or volunteer help.

Objective B: Improve 1 existing facility and repair 0.5 miles of trail in the park.

There are currently a number of unauthorized footpaths throughout the park. Staff proposes to limit access to the footpaths that are adversely impacting the earthworks and the xeric hammock natural community by the use of brush piles or other means. The intent is to direct visitors to the trails that will safely allow access to the area. This will help protect the park from erosion and unauthorized uses, while still allowing visitors to explore the earthworks area. There is a 7 space parking area at the entrance to the park that needs repair and repaving.

Facilities Development

Preliminary cost estimates for these recommended facilities and improvements are provided in the Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates (Table 5) located in the Implementation Component of this plan. These cost CLUP Map estimates are based on the most cost-effective construction standards available at this time. The preliminary estimates are provided to assist DRP in budgeting future park improvements, and may be revised as more information is collected through the planning and design processes. New



YELLOW BLUFF FORT
HISTORIC STATE PARK

N

0 15 30 60 Feet

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks
Date of aerial; 2011

CONCEPTUAL
LAND USE MAP

facilities and improvements to existing facilities recommended by the plan include:

Parkwide Facilities
Interpretive panels (2)
Nature trail (0.5 miles)
Repave Parking Area (7 spaces)

Recreational Carrying Capacity

Carrying capacity is an estimate of the number of users a recreation resource or facility can accommodate and still provide a high quality recreational experience and preserve the natural values of the site. The carrying capacity of a unit is determined by identifying the land and water requirements for each recreation activity at the unit, and then applying these requirements to the unit's land and water base. Next, guidelines are applied which estimate the physical capacity of the unit's natural communities to withstand recreational uses without significant degradation. This analysis identifies a range within which the carrying capacity most appropriate to the specific activity, the activity site and the unit's classification is selected (see Table 4).

The recreational carrying capacity for this park is a preliminary estimate of the number of users the unit could accommodate after the current conceptual development program has been implemented. When developed, the proposed new facilities would approximately increase the unit's carrying capacity as shown in Table 4.

TABLE 4
Recreational Carrying Capacity

	Existing Capacity		Proposed Additional Capacity		Future Capacity	
Activity / Facility	**One Time**	**Daily**	**One Time**	**Daily**	**One Time**	**Daily**
Picnicking			4	8	8	16
Historic Grounds / Trails	21	63			21	63
TOTALS					**28**	**79**

Optimum Boundary

The optimum boundary map reflects lands considered desirable for direct management by the DRP as part of the state park. These parcels may include public or privately owned land that would improve the continuity of existing parklands, provide the most efficient boundary configuration, improve access to the park, provide additional natural and cultural resource protection or allow for future expansion of recreational activities. Parklands that are potentially surplus to the management needs of DRP are also identified. As additional needs are identified through park use, development, and research, and as land use changes on adjacent property, modification of the park's optimum boundary may be necessary.

At this time, no additional property is needed to support the resources or operations of the park. There are no lands considered surplus.

IMPLEMENTATION COMPONENT

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

Management Progress

Since the approval of the last management plan for Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park in 2004, significant work has been accomplished and progress made towards meeting the DRP's management objectives for the park. These accomplishments fall within three of the five general categories that encompass the mission of the park and the DRP.

Park Administration and Operations

- The park continues to actively work with organizations and members of the public that wish to volunteer their time.
- The Talbot Island Citizen Support Organization (CSO) supports the Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park when needed.

Resource Management

Natural Resources

- Park staff has worked to maintain the natural resources in the park through protection, enhancement and public education.
- Staff has worked to protect the remnant natural communities and earthworks, by removing invasive exotic plants and monitoring excessive use of earthworks and rerouting public trails.
- Exotic plant work days are carried out several times a year at this park to keep it in maintenance mode.

Cultural Resources

- Interpretive panels are being designed and developed to educate visitors about the significance of the site.

Recreation and Visitor Services

- Two picnic tables and a trash can rack were installed in the park.

Park Facilities

- Entrance sign added at the entrance to the park, near the parking area.

Management Plan Implementation

This management plan is written for a timeframe of ten years, as required by Section 253.034 Florida Statutes. The Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates (Table 5) summarizes the management goals, objectives and actions that are recommended for implementation over this period, and beyond. Measures are identified for assessing progress toward completing each objective and action. A time frame for completing each objective and action is provided. Preliminary cost estimates for each action are provided and the estimated total costs to complete each objective are computed. Finally, all costs are consolidated under the following five standard land management categories: Resource Management, Administration and Support, Capital Improvements, Recreation Visitor Services and Law Enforcement.

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

Statewide priorities for all aspects of land management are evaluated each year as part of the process for developing the DRP's annual legislative budget requests. When preparing these annual requests, the DRP considers the needs and priorities of the entire state park system and the projected availability of funding from all sources during the upcoming fiscal year. In addition to annual legislative appropriations, the DRP pursues supplemental sources of funds and staff resources wherever possible, including grants, volunteers and partnerships with other entities. The DRP's ability to accomplish the specific actions identified in the plan will be determined largely by the availability of funds and staff for these purposes, which may vary from year to year. Consequently, the target schedules and estimated costs identified in Table 5 may need to be adjusted during the ten-year management planning cycle.

Table 5
Yellow Bluff Fort HSP Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimate

NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES.

Goal I: Provide administrative support for all park functions.		**Measure**	**Planning Period**	**Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)**
Objective A	**Continue day-to-day administrative support at current levels.**	Administrative support ongoing	C	**$560**
Objective B	**Expand administrative support as new lands are acquired, new facilities are developed, or as other needs arise.**	Administrative support expanded	C	**$63**

Goal II: Protect water quality and quantity in the park, restore hydrology to the extent feasible, and maintain the restored condition.	**Measure**	**Planning Period**	**Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)**
No assessment is needed. Staff will use best management practices to prevent soil erosion/impacts off site.			

Goal III: Restore and maintain the natural communities/habitats of the park.		**Measure**	**Planning Period**	**Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)**
Objective A	**Conduct habitat/natural community improvement activities on 0.1acres of Xeric hammock community.**	# Acres improved or with improvements underway	C	**$1,000**
Action 1	Park staff will discontinue mowing the pathway between the patches of xeric hammock so the two areas can coalesce.	Mowing discontinued	C	**$1,000**

Goal IV: Maintain, improve or restore imperiled species populations and habitats in the park.	**Measure**	**Planning Period**	**Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)**
There are currently no imperiled species at the park. Staff will monitor for new imperiled species occurrences and report any new occurrences to District staff.			

Goal V: Remove exotic and invasive plants and animals from the park and conduct needed maintenance-control.		**Measure**	**Planning Period**	**Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)**
Objective A	**Annually treat 0.03 acres of exotic plant species in the park.**	# Acres treated	C	**$3,680**
Action 1	Annually treat all exotic species on site.	All exotic plants treated annually	C	$3,270
Action 2	Park staff will conduct biennial survey of park for appearance of new infestation of invasive exotic Plants	Survey conducted	C	$410

* 2016 Dollars
ST = actions within 2 years
LT = actions within 10 years
C = long term or short term actions that are continuous or cyclical
UFN = currently unfunded need

Table 5
Yellow Bluff Fort HSP Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimate
Sheet 2 of 3

NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES.				
Objective B	**Implement control measures on exotic animal species in the park. There are currently no exotic animals in the park**			**$0**
Goal VI: Protect, preserve and maintain the cultural resources of the park.		**Measure**	**Planning Period**	**Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)**
Objective A	**Assess and evaluate 1 of 1 recorded cultural resources in the park.**	Documentation complete	ST	**$12,000**
Action 1	Develop and follow a protocol for monthly site assessment in order to protect the park from further deterioration.	Protocal developed and implemented	ST	$12,000
Objective B	**Compile reliable documentation for all recorded historic and archaeological sites.**	Documentation complete	LT	**$21,000**
Action 1	Develop and implement a comprehensive research project to document the fort's history through historical research and complete additional archaeological investigation.	Research project developed, additional historical research and archaeological investigation completed	UFN	$20,000
Action 2	Develop and adopt a Scope of Collections Statement.	Scope of collections developed/adopted	ST	$1,000
Objective C	**Bring 1 of 1 recorded cultural resources into good condition.**	Sites in good condition	ST	**$2,400**
Action 1	Establishing a routine cyclical maintenance program to help prevent further deterioration of the earthworks and historic items in the park.	Maintenance program developed	ST	$400
Action2	Develop a plan to maintain the earthworks and prevent further erosion through vegetation removal, redirecting visitors, and erosion control and stabilization.	Stabilization plan complete	ST	$2,000
Goal VII: Provide public access and recreational opportunities in the park.		**Measure**	**Planning Period**	**Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)**
Objective A	**Maintain the park's current recreational carrying capacity of 71 users per day.**	# Recreation/visitor	C	**$896**
Objective B	**Expand the park's recreational carrying capacity by 8 users per day.**	# Recreation/visitor	C	**$101**
Objective C	**Develop 1 new interpretive, educational and recreational programs.**	Statement developed	ST	**$7,500**
Action 1	Develop and implement Statement for Interpretation.	Document completed/implemented	LT	$5,000
Action 2	Develop Interpretive sign plan and add five new interpretive panels in the park.	Plan developed and implemented	ST	$2,500

* 2016 Dollars
ST = actions within 2 years
LT = actions within 10 years
C = long term or short term actions that are continuous or cyclical
UFN = currently unfunded need

Table 5
Yellow Bluff Fort HSP Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimate
Sheet 3 of 3

NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES.

Goal VIII: Develop and maintain the capital facilities and infrastructure necessary to meet the goals and objectives of this management plan.		**Measure**	**Planning Period**	**Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)**
Objective A	**Maintain all public and support facilities in the park.**	Facilities maintained	C	**$5,121**
Objective B	**Continue to implement the park's transition plan to ensure facilities are accessible in accordance with the American with Disabilities Act of 1990.**	Plan implemented	C	**$8,000**
Objective C	**Improve 1 existing facility and repair .25 miles of trail as identified in the Land Use Component.**	Trail completed /parking area paved	ST	**$64,960**
Action 1	**Close off unauthorized trails and direct visitors to the trails that will safely allow access to the area**	Trails complete	ST	$36,960
Action 2	**Repair and repave existing parking area**	Paking area repaved	UFN	$28,000
Objective D	Expand maintenance activities as existing facilities are improved and new facilities are developed.	Facilities maintained	C	**$584**

Summary of Estimated Costs

Management Categories		**Total Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)**
Resource Management		**$40,703**
Administration and Support		**$623**
Capital Improvements		**$64,960**
Recreation Visitor Services		**$14,202**
Law Enforcement Activities[1]		
	1Law enforcement activities in Florida State Parks are conducted by the FWC Division of Law Enforcement and by local law enforcement agencies.	

* 2016 Dollars
ST = actions within 2 years
LT = actions within 10 years
C = long term or short term actions that are continuous or cyclical
UFN = currently unfunded need

Addendum 1—Acquisition History

Purpose of Acquisition:

The State of Florida initially acquired Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park to manage the property as a historic site and memorial.

Sequence of Acquisition:

On September 12, 1950, the State of Florida acquired title to an approximately 1.50-acre property that later became Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park. The property was donated to the state by the North Shore Corporation for sole use and benefit of the Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials (FBPHM), predecessor in interest to the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP).

On May 2, 1955, the Board of County Commissioners of Duval County closed, vacated and abandoned a certain portion of Solomon Street (Lots 4 and 5, in Division "F") and donated the .23 acre property to be added to the state park. Since these two acquisitions, the state has not acquired any new lands to add to Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park and the area of the park has not changed, which is about 1.72 acres.

Title Interest:

The Trustees hold fee simple title to the Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park.

Lease Agreement:

On September 28, 1967, FBPHM transferred its title interest in Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida (TIIF), predecessor in interest to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida (BTIITF or Trustees). On January 23, 1968, TIIF leased the park to FBPHM under a ninety-nine (99)-year term generic lease, Lease No. 2324.

On August 24, 1988, the State of Florida Department of Natural Resources (DNR), predecessor in interest to the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Uplands Management, changed Lease No. 2324 as applied to Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park to Lease No. 3646 without making any changes to the terms and conditions of Lease No. 2324. Lease No. 3646 is scheduled to expire on January 22, 2067.

According to Lease No. 3646, DRP manages Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park to develop, improve, operate, maintain and otherwise manage the property for public outdoor recreational, park, historic, conservation and related purposes.

Special Conditions on Use:

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park is designated as a single-use property to provide resource-based public outdoor recreation and other related uses. Uses such as water resource development projects, water supply projects, storm-water management projects, linear facilities and sustainable agriculture and forestry are not consistent with the purposes for which DRP manages the property.

Outstanding Reservations:

Following is a listing of issues such as deed restrictions and encumbrances pertaining to Yellow Bluff Historic State Park:

Type of Instrument:	Deed (OB 1463, page 215, Duval County, Florida)
Grantor:	The North Shore Corporation
Grantee:	State of Florida for sole use and benefit of DRP
Beginning Date:	September 12, 1950
Ending Date:	Perpetuity

Outstanding Encumbrance**:** The subject property must be used for the sole purpose of historic site and memorial. If the property is used for any other purpose, the conveyance shall become void and the property shall revert to the North Shore Corporation, its successors and assigns, and it or they shall have the right to re-enter and repossess the same.

Addendum 2—Advisory Group Members and Summary Report

Local Government Representatives

Daryl Joseph, Director
City of Jacksonville
Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department

Brian Burket
City of Jacksonville
Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department

Agency Representatives

Michelle Waterman, Manager
Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park

Scotland Talley, Biologist
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Daniel Evans
Duval Soil and Water Conservation District

Jason O'Donoughue
Florida Department of State
Division of Historical Resources

Environmental and Conservation Representatives

Hank Lengfellner
Florida Native Plant Society
Ixia Chapter

Tourism and Economic Development Representatives

Annette Hastings, Executive Director
Duval County Tourist Development Council

Historical and Cultural Resources Representatives

Linda Moffitt, President
United Daughters of the Confederacy

Emily Lisska, Executive Director
Jacksonville Historical Society

Adjacent Landowners

Daniel Carey, Local Private Property Owner

Citizens Support Organization

Corey Determan, President
Friends of Talbot Islands State Parks

The Advisory Group meeting to review the proposed land management plan for Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park was held at the Fort George Island Ribault Club on July 13, 2016.

Daryl Joseph and Brian Burket represented Mayor Lenny Curry. Daniel Evans represented Shannon Blankinship for the Duval Soil and Water Conservation District. Hank Lengfellner represented Sally Steinauer for the Florida Native Plant Society. Scotland Talley, Jason O'Donoughue, Annette Hastings, and Corey Determan were not in attendance. Scotland Talley and Jason O'Donoughue sent written comments prior to the meeting. All other appointed Advisory Group members were present, as well as Sandra Driggers.

Attending Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) staff were Clif Maxwell, Michelle Waterman, Craig Parenteau, and Tyler Maldonado.

Mr. Maldonado began the meeting by explaining the purpose of the Advisory Group and reviewing the meeting agenda. He provided a brief overview of the Division's planning process and summarized public comments received during the previous evening's public workshop. He then asked each member of the advisory group to express his or her comments on the plans.

Summary of Advisory Group Comments

Brian Burket (City of Jacksonville, Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department) commended the DRP on a well-written plan and approved of the proposed developments. He suggested that two city parks, New Berlin Boat Ramp and Dames Point Park, should be added to the reference map. He stated that the Florida Master Site File should be consulted to determine if the entire park can be represented as a cultural site on the reference map. In regards to the large tree in need of stabilization due to soil erosion, he commented that the tree may need to be removed before any damage is done to the earthworks. Mr. Burket offered critiques to the language in the plan referring to the other parks in the area and unauthorized footpaths. He recommended that the plan should define the approved footpaths that the park would like visitors to use. He supported the improvement of historical interpretation and suggested that the park should partner with historical and cultural organizations to hold interpretive events at the park. He stated that the DRP should consider revising the optimum boundary to include the property to the south of the park.

Daniel Evans (Duval Soil and Water Conservation District) inquired about the current conditions of the soil at the park and asked if the soil assessment in the plan was up-to-date. He stated that he would observe the meeting and discuss the proceedings with the other board members of the Duval Soil and Water Conservation District.

Daniel Carey (Local Property Owner) commented that any developments at the park should be sustainable. He stated that there are limits and challenges to

managing the park given its small size and remote location. He suggested the park should consider hiring an arborist for selective tree removal that minimizes environmental impact. Mr. Carey inquired about ADA compliance and the steps that would be taken to ensure the park is accessible. He suggested interpretive activities including a QR code that is scanned by smartphones and provides visitors with a tour of the park through an audio recording, as well as interpretive signage that educates visitors on the location of the St. Johns River during the days of Confederate occupation of the site. He stated that interpretive panels should be developed instead of interpretive kiosks.

Hank Lengfellner (Florida Native Plant Society) appreciated the opportunity to attend the advisory group and work with the DRP on the planning process. He expressed his desire to assist with park maintenance and offered his support of volunteer workdays at the park.

Linda Moffitt (United Daughters of the Confederacy – Martha Reid 19) inquired about the maintenance procedures for the cannons and monumental obelisk at the park. It was stated that the cannons have been treated with a clear rust inhibitor and painted with black Rustoleum. She discussed the need for a restroom facility at the park in the event of large group gatherings or historical reenactments. She supported the proposed developments that include improvements to the trail loop and enhanced historical interpretation.

Emily Lisska (Jacksonville Historical Society) commented on the historical component associated with the natural resources at the park and the desire to interpret the natural landscape as it was during the days of Confederate occupation. She stated that the historical and cultural sections of the management plan should be more prominent given the purpose of preserving the site. She suggested that the proposed interpretive developments should highlight the different perspectives of the Confederate and Union troops that controlled the site at different points in the Civil War.

Summary of Written Comments from Advisory Group Members

Scotland Talley (Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission) provided comments related to an undefined acronym and an incorrect reference to the DEP Division of Law Enforcement.

Jason O'Donoughue (Florida Department of State Division of Historical Resources) described the description of the single recorded archaeological site within the park as accurate. He supported the goals and objectives outlined in the cultural resources section. He encouraged the proposed improvements to the historical interpretation of the cultural resources and offered to assist or advise the DRP on these matters.

Summary of Public Comments

Sandra Driggers inquired about how the type of soil at the park might affect the proposed developments. She discussed the possible damage to the earthworks in the event of an uprooted tree and suggested it may be necessary to remove the tree if it represents a risk to the cultural site. She suggested that native vegetation should be used to block the usage of unauthorized footpaths. She expressed a desire to attempt to identify the location of the Union communications tower referred to in the management plan. She recommended acquiring adjacent property to create a buffer zone that would ensure the visitor's experience remains intact.

Staff Recommendations

The staff recommends approval of the proposed management plans for Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park as presented, with the following significant changes:

- Two city parks, the New Berlin Boat Ramp and Dames Point Park, will be added to the reference map.

- The natural communities map in the resource management component will be updated in order to accurately portray the natural communities found at the park.

- The Conceptual Land Use Plan and map will be updated to change the proposed development of interpretive kiosks to interpretive panels and further clarify the trail that will be improved.

Notes on Composition of the Advisory Group

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

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

Advisory groups that are composed in compliance with these requirements complete the review of State park management plans. Additional members may be appointed to the groups, such as a representative of the park's Citizen Support Organization (if one exists), representatives of the recreational activities that exist in or are planned for the park, or representatives of any agency with an ownership interest in the property. Special issues or conditions that require a broader

representation for adequate review of the management plan may require the appointment of additional members. The Division's intent in making these appointments is to create a group that represents a balanced cross-section of the park's stakeholders. Decisions on appointments are made on a case-by-case basis by Division of Recreation and Parks staff.

Addendum 3—References Cited

Bearss, Edwin C. 1964. Military operations on the St. Johns, September - October 1862 (Part I). Florida Historical Quarterly, 42:3, 232-248.

City of Jacksonville, City Council. City of Jacksonville (Duval County) Comprehensive Plan updated April 2015. Accessed May 2015.

Collins, L. D., S. Fernandez, J. P. Du Vernay, K. A. Driscoll and T. Doering. 2012. Archaeological Resource Sensitivity Modeling in Florida State Parks District 2: the Northeast Florida Region. Alliance for Integrated Spatial Technologies, University of South Florida. 1063 pp.

FLEPPC. 2011. List of invasive plant species. Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council. Internet: http://www.fleppc.org/list/2011PlantList.pdf or Wildland Weeds Vol. 14(3-4):11-14. Summer/Fall 2011.

FNAI. 2010. Guide to the natural communities of Florida: 2010 edition. Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Tallahassee, FL.

Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA. 1998. Soil Survey of City of Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida.

Nulty, William H. 1990. Confederate Florida, the Road to Olustee. Tuscaloosa, AL.

Scott, Thomas M. 1983. The Hawthorn Formation of northeastern Florida. Part I - The geology of the Hawthorn Formation of northeastern Florida. Report of Investigation No. 94. Florida Bureau of Geology, Tallahassee, FL.

Soil Conservation Service, USDA. 1978. Soil Survey of City of Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida.

Toth, D. J. 1990. Geohydrologic summary of the Floridan aquifer in coastal areas of Nassau, Duval, and northern St. Johns counties. St. Johns River Water Management District Technical Publication SJ90-5. 51 pp.

White, W. 1970. The geomorphology of the Florida peninsula. Florida Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Geology. Geological Bulletin 51.

Addendum 4—Soil Descriptions

(35) Lynn Haven fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes - This series consists of nearly level and gently sloping, very poorly drained, sandy soils. These soils formed in thick beds of sandy marine sediments. They are on flats and in seep areas on side slopes. The soils are moderately permeable and moderately rapidly permeable. Generally, the high water table is at or near the surface. Slopes are concave. The Lynn Haven soils are sandy, siliceous, thermic Typic Aloquods. Mapped areas range between 3 and 75 acres.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Boulogne, Leon, Evergreen, Wesconnett, and Pottsburg soils. Boulogne and Leon soils are poorly drained soils that do not have umbric epipedons. Evergreen soils have histic epipedons and are in depressions. Wesconnett soils do not have eluvial horizons are in depressions. Pottsburg soils have spodic horizons below a depth of 50 inches. Included areas make up less than 15 percent of any mapped area.

(46) Ortega fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes - This series consists of nearly level and gently sloping, moderately well drained, sandy soils. These soils formed in thick sandy marine sediments. They are on rises and knolls. The soils are rapidly permeable. Generally, the high water table is at a depth of 42 to 72 inches. Slopes are smooth or convex and range from 0 to 5 percent. The Ortega soils are thermic, uncoated Typic Quartzipsamments. Mapped areas range from 3 to 85 acres.

The Ortega soils are closely associated on the landscape with Albany, Ridgewood, Hurricane, and Kershaw soils. Similar soils include those with a dark organically stained subsoil within a depth of 80 inches and are on landforms similar to those of the Ortega soil. Ortega soils and similar components make up 88 to 98 percent of the soil unit. Dissimilar soils include Albany, Ridgewood, and Hurricane soils, which are somewhat poorly drained; Hurricane soils, which are somewhat poorly drained and have spodic horizons below a depth of 50 inches; and Kershaw soils, which are excessively drained. Dissimilar soils make up 2 to 12 percent of the mapped area.

Note: Refer to text in the <u>Soils</u> section of the Resource Management Component for discussion about an apparent error in reclassifying one of the Yellow Bluff soils as Lynn Haven fine sand in the 1998 soil survey rather than Kershaw fine sand as it was named in the 1978 edition of the soil survey.

(46) Kershaw fine sand, 2 to 8 percent slopes – This is a gently sloping to sloping, excessively drained soil on broad ridges and isolated knolls. The surface layer is very dark gray fine sand about 3 inches thick. The next layer extends to a depth of 51 inches. It is light yellowish brown fine sand. Below this, to a depth of 80 inches or more, is a layer of brownish yellow fine sand.

Addendum 5--Plant and Animal List

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park

Plants

Common Name	*Scientific Name*	Codes Primary Habitat (for designated species)

PTERIDOPHYTES

Tailed bracken ..... *Pteridium aquilinum* var. *pseudocaudatum*

GYMNOSPERMS

Red cedar ..... *Juniperus virginiana*

ANGIOSPERMS

MONOCOTS

Air-potato ..... *Dioscorea bulbifera* *
Centipedegrass ..... *Eremochloa ophiuroides* *
Cabbage palm ..... *Sabal palmetto*
Nutrush ..... *Scleria* sp.
Saw palmetto ..... *Serenoa repens*
Cat greenbrier ..... *Smilax glauca*
Sarsaparilla vine ..... *Smilax pumila*
Smutgrass ..... *Sporobolus indicus* *
Ballmoss ..... *Tillandsia recurvata*
Spanish moss ..... *Tillandsia usneoides*
Spanish bayonet ..... *Yucca aloifolia*

DICOTS

Silktree; Mimosa ..... *Albizia julibrissin* *
Beggarticks ..... *Bidens alba*
American beautyberry ..... *Callicarpa americana*
Pignut hickory ..... *Carya glabra*
Eastern redbud ..... *Cercis canadensis*
Camphortree ..... *Cinnamomum camphora* *
Tread-softly ..... *Cnidoscolus stimulosus*
Flowering dogwood ..... *Cornus florida*
Elephantsfoot ..... *Elephantopus* sp.
Coralbean; Cherokee bean ..... *Erythrina herbacea*
Yellow jessamine ..... *Gelsemium sempervirens*
Innocence ..... *Houstonia procumbens*
St. Andrew's-cross ..... *Hypericum hypericoides*
Carolina holly; Sand holly ..... *Ilex ambigua*
American holly ..... *Ilex opaca*
Yaupon ..... *Ilex vomitoria*
Southern magnolia ..... *Magnolia grandiflora*

*** Non-native Species**

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park

Plants

Common Name	*Scientific Name*	Codes Primary Habitat (for designated species)
Wild olive	*Osmanthus americanus*	
Virginia creeper	*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*	
Red bay	*Persea borbonia*	
Carolina laurelcherry	*Prunus caroliniana*	
Black cherry	*Prunus serotina*	
Spanish oak; Southern red oak	*Quercus falcata*	
Sand live oak	*Quercus geminata*	
Turkey oak	*Quercus laevis*	
Laurel oak; Diamond oak	*Quercus laurifolia*	
Winged sumac	*Rhus copallinum*	
Goldenrod	*Solidago* sp.	
Common sweetleaf	*Symplocos tinctoria*	
Caesarweed	*Urena lobata* *	
Sparkleberry	*Vaccinium arboreum*	
Shiny blueberry	*Vaccinium myrsinites*	
Deerberry	*Vaccinium stamineum*	
Muscadine	*Vitis rotundifolia*	
Chinese wisteria	*Wisteria sinensis* *	

*** Non-native Species**

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park

Animals

Common Name	*Scientific Name*	Codes / Primary Habitat (for all species)

BIRDS

Pigeons and Doves

Mourning Dove	*Zenaida macroura*	DV

Woodpeckers

Red-bellied Woodpecker	*Melanerpes carolinus*	XH, DV
Downy Woodpecker	*Picoides pubescens*	XH, DV
Pileated Woodpecker	*Dryocopus pileatus*	XH, DV

Vireos

White-eyed Vireo	*Vireo griseus*	XH, DV
Red-eyed Vireo	*Vireo olivaceus*	XH, DV

Crows and Jays

Blue Jay	*Cyanocitta cristata*	XH, DV

Tits and Allies

Carolina Chickadee	*Poecile carolinensis*	XH, DV
Tufted Titmouse	*Baeolophus bicolor*	XH, DV

Wrens

Carolina Wren	*Thryothorus ludovicianus*	XH, DV

Kinglets

Ruby-crowned Kinglet	*Regulus calendula*	XH, DV

Thrushes

American Robin	*Turdus migratorius*	DV

Mockingbirds and Thrashers

Northern Mockingbird	*Mimus polyglottos*	DV

New World Warblers

American Redstart	*Setophaga ruticilla*	XH, DV
Northern Parula	*Setophaga americana*	XH, DV
Yellow-rumped Warbler	*Setophaga coronata*	DV

Cardinals, Grosbeaks and Buntings

Northern Cardinal	*Cardinalis cardinalis*	XH, DV

***** **Non-native Species**

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park

Animals

Common Name	*Scientific Name*	Codes / Primary Habitat (for all species)
MAMMALS		
Didelphids		
Virginia Opossum	*Didelphis virginiana*	XH, DV
Edentates		
Nine-banded Armadillo	*Dasypus novemcinctus* *	DV
Rodents		
Eastern Gray Squirrel	*Sciurus carolinensis*	XH, DV
Carnivores		
Raccoon	*Procyon lotor*	XH, DV
Feral Cat	*Felis catus* *	DV

* Non-native Species

TERRESTRIAL

Beach Dune	BD
Coastal Berm	CB
Coastal Grassland	CG
Coastal Strand	CS
Dry Prairie	DP
Keys Cactus Barren	KCB
Limestone Outcrop	LO
Maritime Hammock	MAH
Mesic Flatwoods	MF
Mesic Hammock	MEH
Pine Rockland	PR
Rockland Hammock	RH
Sandhill	SH
Scrub	SC
Scrubby Flatwoods	SCF
Shell Mound	SHM
Sinkhole	SK
Slope Forest	SPF
Upland Glade	UG
Upland Hardwood Forest	UHF
Upland Mixed Woodland	UMW
Upland Pine	UP
Wet Flatwoods	WF
Xeric Hammock	XH

PALUSTRINE

Alluvial Forest	AF
Basin Marsh	BM
Basin Swamp	BS
Baygall	BG
Bottomland Forest	BF
Coastal Interdunal Swale	CIS
Depression Marsh	DM
Dome Swamp	DS
Floodplain Marsh	FM
Floodplain Swamp	FS
Glades Marsh	GM
Hydric Hammock	HH
Keys Tidal Rock Barren	KTRB
Mangrove Swamp	MS
Marl Prairie	MP
Salt Marsh	SAM
Seepage Slope	SSL
Shrub Bog	SHB
Slough	SLO
Slough Marsh	SLM
Strand Swamp	STS

Wet Prairie ..... WP

LACUSTRINE

Clastic Upland Lake ..... CULK
Coastal Dune Lake ..... CDLK
Coastal Rockland Lake ..... CRLK
Flatwoods/Prairie ..... FPLK
Marsh Lake ..... MLK
River Floodplain Lake ..... RFLK
Sandhill Upland Lake ..... SULK
Sinkhole Lake ..... SKLK
Swamp Lake ..... SWLK

RIVERINE

Alluvial Stream ..... AST
Blackwater Stream ..... BST
Seepage Stream ..... SST
Spring-run Stream ..... SRST

SUBTERRANEAN

Aquatic Cave ..... ACV
Terrestrial Cave ..... TCV

ESTUARINE

Algal Bed ..... EAB
Composite Substrate ..... ECPS
Consolidated Substrate ..... ECNS
Coral Reef ..... ECR
Mollusk Reef ..... EMR
Octocoral Bed ..... EOB
Seagrass Bed ..... ESGB
Sponge Bed ..... ESPB
Unconsolidated Substrate ..... EUS
Worm Reef ..... EWR

MARINE

Algal Bed ..... MAB
Composite Substrate ..... MCPS
Consolidated Substrate ..... MCNS
Coral Reef ..... MCR
Mollusk Reef ..... MMR
Octocoral Bed ..... MOB
Seagrass Bed ..... MSGB
Sponge Bed ..... MSPB
Unconsolidated Substrate ..... MUS
Worm Reef ..... MWR

ALTERED LANDCOVER TYPES

Abandoned field ..... ABF
Abandoned pasture ..... ABP
Agriculture ..... AG
Canal/ditch ..... CD
Clearcut pine plantation ..... CPP
Clearing CL
Developed ..... DV
Impoundment/artificial pond ..... IAP
Invasive exotic monoculture ..... IEM
Pasture - improved ..... PI
Pasture - semi-improved ..... PSI
Pine plantation ..... PP
Road ..... RD
Spoil area ..... SA
Successional hardwood forest ..... SHF
Utility corridor ..... UC

MISCELLANEOUS

Many Types of Communities ..... MTC
Overflying ..... OF

Addendum 6—Imperiled Species Ranking Definitions

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

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

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

FNAI GLOBAL RANK DEFINITIONS

G1..... Critically imperiled globally because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or less than 1000 individuals) or because of extreme vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or fabricated factor.

G2..... Imperiled globally because of rarity (6 to 20 occurrences or less than 3000 individuals) or because of vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.

G3..... Either very rare or local throughout its range (21-100 occurrences or less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or vulnerable to extinction of other factors.

G4..... apparently secure globally (may be rare in parts of range)

G5..... demonstrably secure globally

GH ..... of historical occurrence throughout its range may be rediscovered (e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker)

GX..... believed to be extinct throughout range

GXC..... extirpated from the wild but still known from captivity or cultivation

G#?..... Tentative rank (e.g.,G2?)

G#G# ..... range of rank; insufficient data to assign specific global rank (e.g., G2G3)

G#T# ..... rank of a taxonomic subgroup such as a subspecies or variety; the G portion of the rank refers to the entire species and the T portion refers to the specific subgroup; numbers have same definition as above (e.g., G3T1)

G#Q ..... rank of questionable species - ranked as species but questionable whether it is species or subspecies; numbers have same definition as above (e.g., G2Q)

G#T#Q ..... same as above, but validity as subspecies or variety is questioned.
GU ..... due to lack of information, no rank or range can be assigned (e.g., GUT2).
G? ..... Not yet ranked (temporary)
S1 ..... Critically imperiled in Florida because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or less than 1000 individuals) or because of extreme vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
S2 ..... Imperiled in Florida because of rarity (6 to 20 occurrences or less than 3000 individuals) or because of vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
S3 ..... Either very rare or local throughout its range (21-100 occurrences or less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or vulnerable to extinction of other factors.
S4 ..... apparently secure in Florida (may be rare in parts of range)
S5 ..... demonstrably secure in Florida
SH..... of historical occurrence throughout its range, may be rediscovered (e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker)
SX..... believed to be extinct throughout range
SA..... accidental in Florida, i.e., not part of the established biota
SE..... an exotic species established in Florida may be native elsewhere in North America
SN..... regularly occurring but widely and unreliably distributed; sites for conservation hard to determine
SU..... due to lack of information, no rank or range can be assigned (e.g., SUT2).
S? ..... Not yet ranked (temporary)
N ..... Not currently listed, nor currently being considered for listing, by state or federal agencies.

LEGAL STATUS

FEDERAL

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

LE ..... Listed as Endangered Species in the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act. Defined as any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
PE ..... Proposed for addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants as Endangered Species.
LT ..... Listed as Threatened Species. Defined as any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the near future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
PT ..... Proposed for listing as Threatened Species.
C ..... Candidate Species for addition to the list of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants. Defined as those species for which the USFWS currently has on file sufficient information on biological

vulnerability and threats to support proposing to list the species as endangered or threatened.

E(S/A) ..... Endangered due to similarity of appearance.

T(S/A) ..... Threatened due to similarity of appearance.

EXPE, XE .... Experimental essential population. A species listed as experimental and essential.

EXPN, XN ... Experimental non-essential population. A species listed as experimental and non-essential. Experimental, nonessential populations of endangered species are treated as threatened species on public land, for consultation purposes.

STATE

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

FE ..... Federally-designated Endangered

FT ..... Federally-designated Threatened

FXN ..... Federally-designated Threatened Nonessential Experimental Population

FT(S/A) ..... Federally-designated Threatened species due to similarity of appearance

ST ..... Listed as Threatened Species by the FWC. Defined as a species, subspecies, or isolated population, which is acutely vulnerable to environmental alteration, declining in number at a rapid rate, or whose range or habitat, is decreasing in area at a rapid rate and therefore is destined or very likely to become an endangered species within the near future.

SSC ..... Listed as Species of Special Concern by the FWC. Defined as a population which warrants special protection, recognition or consideration because it has an inherent significant vulnerability to habitat modification, environmental alteration, human disturbance or substantial human exploitation that, in the near future, may result in its becoming a threatened species.

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

LE ..... Listed as Endangered Plants in the Preservation of Native Flora of Florida Act. Defined as species of plants native to the state that are in imminent danger of extinction within the state, the survival of which is

unlikely if the causes of a decline in the number of plants continue, and includes all species determined to be endangered or threatened pursuant to the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973,as amended.

LT ..... Listed as Threatened Plants in the Preservation of Native Flora of Florida Act. Defined as species native to the state that are in rapid decline in the number of plants within the state, but which have not so decreased in such number as to cause them to be endangered.

Addendum 7—Cultural Information

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

A. General Discussion

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

B. Agency Responsibilities

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

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

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

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

C. Statutory Authority

Statutory Authority and more in depth information can be found at:
http://www.flheritage.com/preservation/compliance/guidelines.cfm

D. Management Implementation

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

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

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

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

E. Minimum Review Documentation Requirements

In order to have a proposed project reviewed by the Division, certain information must be submitted for comments and recommendations. The minimum review documentation requirements can be found at: http://www.flheritage.com/preservation/compliance/docs/minimum_review_documentation_requirements.pdf .

* * *

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

Deena S. Woodward
Division of Historical Resources
Bureau of Historic Preservation
Compliance and Review Section
R. A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Phone: (850) 245-6425

Toll Free: (800) 847-7278
Fax: (850) 245-6435

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

1) Districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects may be considered to have significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and/or culture if they possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- **a)** are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; and/or
- **b)** are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; and/or
- **c)** embody the distinctive characteristics of type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; and/or
- **d)** have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

2) Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures; properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes; structures that have been moved from their original locations; reconstructed historic buildings; properties primarily commemorative in nature; and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the *National Register*. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- **a)** a religious property deriving its primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- **b)** a building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
- **c)** a birthplace or grave of an historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building directly associated with his productive life; or
- **d)** a cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, distinctive design features, or association with historic events; or

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

f) a property achieving significance within the past 50 years, if it is of exceptional importance.

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

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

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

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