Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park

Planning Region: Atlantic Coast

County: Duval

Lease/Management Agreement Number: 3646

Overview

Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park protects the Yellow Bluff Fort and the site of previous encampments used in the Civil War. This site protects the only known remaining component of the Civil War defenses constructed in and around Jacksonville.

Total Acreage: 1.74

| Natural Communities | Acres |
|---------------------|-------|
| Xeric Hammock | 0.17 |
| | |
| Alternational | _ |
| Altered Landcover | Acres |

Acquisition: Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park was initially acquired on September 12, 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. Currently, the park comprises 1.72 acres. The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (Trustees) hold fee simple title to the park and on January 23, 1968, the Trustees leased (Lease Number 3646) the property to DRP under a 99-year lease. The current lease will expire on January 22, 2067.

Resource Management Component Objectives

Natural Communities

• Conduct natural community improvement activities on .1 acres of xeric hammock community. Discontinue mowing of path in xeric hammock.

Invasive and Nuisance Species

• Annually treat .03 acres of invasive plant species.

Cultural Resources

- Assess/evaluate the recorded cultural resources in the park (Yellow Bluff Fort, DU0123).
- Compile reliable documentation for all recorded historic and archaeological resources. Improve park's interpretation of the fort's history.

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• Bring 3 of 3 recorded cultural resources into good condition including the earthworks, cannons, and monument.

Land Use Component Objectives

Conceptual Land Use

Park Boundary

Encourage native vegetative buffering to screen adjacent properties.

Entrance

- Install interpretation near the park entrance.
- Prevent makeshift paths on the historic landscape.

Parking Area

• Level, repave, and organize parking lot.

Optimum Boundary

One parcel, approximately 47 acres is proposed for the optimum boundary of Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park. A part of the Florida Master Site File, this parcel has the potential to 1) increase recreational opportunities by interpreting this area's history regarding it's role in the American Civil War, 2) preserve the historic landscape and any collected cultural resources, 3) restore the land and prevent future development in an already heavily industrialized area, 4) increase habitats that have been fragmented in the past, and 5) provide more greenspace and the chance to interpret past activities along the St. Johns River.