

CHAPTER FOUR: AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

Chapter Overview

Chapters Four (Affected Environment) and Five (Environmental Consequences) comprise the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this Special Resource Study. The descriptions, data, and analysis presented focus on the specific conditions or consequences that may result from implementing the alternatives. However, this EIS should not be considered a comprehensive description of all aspects of the human environment within or surrounding the site.

Chapter Four begins with a short description of how mandatory environmental impact topics required by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations and NPS policy are addressed in the EIS. A description of existing environmental conditions follows to give the reader a better understanding of planning issues and establish a benchmark by which the magnitude of environmental effects of the various alternatives can be compared. For easier cross-referencing, the information in Chapter Four is organized by the same impact groups used to organize the impact analysis in Chapter Five.

Mandatory Environmental Impact Topics

CEQ regulations and NPS policy require that certain environmental impact topics be addressed in every EIS. This document addresses the mandatory topics in one of two ways: either a rationale is provided for dismissing the topic from further consideration or the topic is included in the assessment and analysis process.

Mandatory environmental impact topics dismissed from further analysis

The following mandatory environmental impact topics were dismissed from further analysis:

Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations

Executive Order 12898, "General Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," requires that all Federal agencies address the effects of policies on minorities and low-income populations and communities. None of the alternatives analyzed in this EIS would have disproportionate effects on said populations as defined by the U.S. Environmental Agency's 1996 guidance on environmental justice.

Floodplains and Wetlands

Executive Orders 11988 and 11990, "Floodplain Management" and "Wetlands," respectively, require analysis of impacts on floodplains and regulated wetlands. None of the alternatives would occur within or affect a floodplain. There are no wetlands regulated under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or areas designated as wetlands using the classification system of Cowardin *et al.* (1979), within any of the areas proposed for possible development under the three action alternatives. More detailed wetland surveys would need to be completed prior to any actual development activity.

Prime and Unique Agricultural Lands

Prime farmland has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops. Unique agricultural land is land other than prime farmland that is used for production of specific high-value food and fiber crops. Both categories require that the land is available for farming uses. Lands within the Fort King site are not available for farming and therefore do not meet the definitions.

Endangered or Threatened Plants and Animals and their Habitats

Coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission revealed that no federally or state-listed threatened or endangered species are known to exist at the Fort King site, nor does any known critical habitat exist in the area. No further consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is required.

Indian Sacred Sites

Executive Order 13007, "Indian Sacred Sites," states that those with statutory or administrative responsibilities for the management of federal lands shall accommodate ceremonial use of and access to Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners, as well as avoid affecting the physical integrity of the sacred site. There are no known Indian sacred sites at the Fort King site.

Indian Trust Resources

Indian trust assets are owned by American Indians but are held in trust by the United States. Requirements are included in the Secretary of the Interior's Secretarial Order No. 3206, "American Indian Tribal Rites, Federal – Tribal Trust Responsibilities, and the Endangered Species Act," and Secretarial Order No. 3175,

“Departmental Responsibilities for Indian Trust Resources.” No Indian trust assets occur within the Fort King site. Therefore, there would be no effects on Indian trust resources from any of the alternatives.

Energy Requirements and Conservation Potential; Natural or Depletable Resource Requirements and Conservation Potential

This special resource study presents only conceptual alternatives for managing and developing the Fort King site. Therefore, a detailed analysis of energy requirements and potential for energy conservation is not possible at this time. The same applies for natural or depletable resource requirements and conservation potential. These topics will be addressed in future compliance documents, as appropriate.

Ecologically Critical Areas

There are no ecologically critical areas or resources at the Fort King site. Accordingly, this impact topic was dismissed from further analysis.

In addition, a number of discretionary impact topics were dismissed from further analysis. For each of these topics, it was determined that the alternatives would have no discernible impact, or that any impacts would be negligible. The impact topics dismissed from further analysis are: air quality, water quality, geology, and lightscape management.

Mandatory Environmental Impact Topics Discussed in Study

The following mandatory topics warrant more detailed discussion within the body of the study and are addressed specifically or in association with a closely related factor in the analysis:

- Integration with local planning processes
- Urban quality, historic and cultural resources, and design of the built environment
- Important scientific, archeological, and other cultural resources, including historic properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places
- Public health and safety

In addition, the following discretionary impact topics receive detailed treatment in Chapter Five:

- Cultural resources
- Natural resources
- Visitor use and experience
- Socioeconomic environment

Description of Existing Conditions

Cultural Resources

Cultural landscape

The site of Fort King is situated in the middle of Marion County in north-central Florida (Figure 1). The site is located in the eastern portion of the present-day City of Ocala in a low-density subdivision. More specifically, the Fort King site consists of 36.2 acres located in the northwestern quarter of Section 14 of Township 15 South, Range 22 East on the Ocala East (1991) USGS quadrangle map. The topography of the Fort King site can best be described as “rolling,” with vegetation consisting mostly of scattered oaks and pine.

The Fort King site contains the archaeological remains of the original Fort King (1827) destroyed by the Seminoles in 1836, the rebuilt Fort King (1837), and several outlying buildings associated with the fort, including the tentatively identified sutler’s store (1837). All of these elements have been identified through the presence of intact features, such as posts, refuse pits, stockade trenches, and artifact concentrations. These archaeological elements are all located on a sandy hill now partially vegetated with grass and oak and pine trees. Additionally, archaeological remains associated with many military groups and Seminole Indians who bivouacked and/or camped around Fort King have been recovered throughout the site (Neill 1955; Gallant 1968; Hunt and Piatek 1991; Piatek 1995b, c; Ellis 1995; GARI 1998, 1999).

The environmental setting of the Fort King site is significant as it directly affected the choice of the specific area used for the construction of the fort. Archaeological investigations have documented that Fort King was constructed on the top of a hill located near the south-central portion of the Fort King site. This location is surrounded on three sides by a natural slope. This topographic setting would have been strategically ideal. Attack from the east, north, or south upon this location would have required that the enemy progress uphill towards the palisade of the fort. The location would also have provided a commanding view once surrounding vegetation was cleared. The top of the hill is relatively level and roughly square in shape, measuring approximately 150 feet by 175 feet. This level area equates closely to the dimensions of the first Fort King, 152 feet by 162 feet, as documented by Glassell’s 1827 plan for Fort King (Hunt and Piatek 1991:186).

The Fort King site has been used for agriculture for much of the time since the end of the Second Seminole War. At one time agricultural activities extended to the top of the hill where the fort had been located. However, an aerial photograph from 1955 (Hunt and Piatek 1991:199) demonstrates that the agricultural activities from the first half of the 20th century seem to have been limited to the approximate southwestern quarter of the Fort King National Historic Landmark as well as a relatively narrow strip in the north-central portion of the tract. No portions of the property have been used for agriculture for over 30 years.

Existing structures

In 1927, the Daughters of the American Revolution purchased a one-acre tract near the location of the two Fort Kings and erected a monument to honor those who died during the Second Seminole War. This small parcel is located in the extreme southwestern portion of the Fort King site (see Figure 2). Although this parcel is known as the Fort King Burial Grounds, to date, no archaeological evidence has been recovered to support an interpretation of this area as a cemetery.

In 1942, the McCall family constructed a rectangular, south-facing, one story cement block residence in the south-central portion of the site. The McCall family maintained the agricultural use of the previously mentioned farm fields. At some point, they also constructed a small swimming pool and undersized basketball court behind (to the north of) their house. Circa 1970, they constructed an open shed or “pole barn” a little to the northeast of their residence. Finally, circa 1991, they constructed a circular asphalt-paved driveway connecting SE Fort King Street to their residence.

All of the foregoing structures and features associated with the McCall family are still present on the Fort King site, although the swimming pool is now overgrown. Former agricultural fields and/or pastures are now covered with dense thickets of secondary growth. The spring that provided fresh water for Fort King still flows and serves to fill a small pond located along the northeastern edge of the property. Finally, some low density housing developments are now located near some of the edges of the site.

Thus, it is certain that some aspects of the current physical environment do not reflect the use of Fort King during the Second Seminole War and the period leading up to it. However, a number of aspects of the current environment are still reflective of the period of historic significance. For instance, the hill upon which the site is located remains relatively unchanged and is partially vegetated. The spring that served as the water supply for the fort is also still extant and is located on the edge of the property. Although some low-density housing is present along some of the edges of the Fort

King site, the site itself is large and wooded enough to minimize the visual effects of these intrusions.

Archeological resources

The archaeological resources at the Fort King site verify the existence of the fort. Archeological resources are important for understanding the nationally significant events that occurred here and the broader themes of the Second Seminole War, Indian removal, military life during this period, and the colonization and settlement of this area of the United States.

No above-ground physical remains of Fort King are present. Archaeological remains exist in the form of artifact concentrations and subsurface features, such as post molds, post fragments, refuse pits, and stockade trenches. As such, the Fort King site consists of the archaeological remains of two nineteenth-century U.S. military fortifications, various military and Seminole camps, and those outlying structures associated with the forts that have been located to date. The Fort King site has been subject to a number of natural and human processes that have impacted the archaeological record. Due to the natural slope of the property towards the streambed in the northern tract, down slope erosion has resulted in the displacement of some cultural material. Agricultural activity also was noted to the west of a fence line at 5275 East. Re-vegetation of the area following agriculture and animal burrowing disturbed cultural materials as well (Ellis 1995:6).

The site has also been subjected to looting and artifact hunting. Generally, the artifact hunters are reported to have concentrated their activities along the streambed where artifacts were most likely to be exposed due to erosion. There was also some evidence of digging into the stream banks for artifacts. According to Ellis (1995:50), most looting has been focused on the eastern third of the northern tract, although large looters’ pits were also noted all the way to the western property line. Despite this activity, it is not believed that there has been a “profound loss of cultural information owing to the diffuse and deeply buried nature of the site contents (Ellis 1995:3).”

The vegetative cover on the top of the hill, where evidence indicates the forts were located, has protected the area from erosion (Ellis 1995:81). This area of the site, however, also has been subjected to agricultural activity. Piatek (1995c:214) notes that the property here, at grid coordinates 4700 North, 5325 East, was plowed to a possible depth of 18 to 24 inches. Nonetheless, Ellis’ work has demonstrated that significant intact deposits and the buried remains of architectural structures remain preserved below the disturbed upper layers.

Thus, although there have been some impacts on the site affecting the archaeological record, the condition of

the site remains good. Indeed, compared to other archaeologically investigated Seminole War sites, it contains the greatest abundance of intact subsurface features documented to date (Hellmann and Prentice 2000).

Findings of past archeological investigations

The archeological investigations of the Fort King site (Neill 1955; Gallant 1968; Ellis 1995; Piatek 1995b, c; Hunt and Piatek 1991; GARI 1998, 1999) provide ample evidence that both Fort King components are located in the proposed boundary. Evidence includes concentrations of artifacts typical of a military fort assemblage dating to the Fort King time period. Such artifacts include an abundance of wrought and cut nails, military buttons, liquor bottles and bottle fragments, ceramic sherds, and gunflints. The best subsurface evidence for the fort's location is in the form of post molds and intact in-situ post fragments associated with the stockade walls of the fort. Burned materials indicative of the burning of the first Fort King in 1836 and refuse pits containing typical faunal remains from a frontier outpost, such as cattle, hogs, and wild game, also have been documented.

Archeological remains of palisades from at least one of the 19th century forts have been located on a small hill in the McCall Tract. The hill-top location is relatively level and roughly square in shape, measuring approximately 150 feet by 175 feet which equates closely to the 152 feet by 162 feet dimensions of the first Fort King as documented by Glassell's 1827 plan (Hunt and Piatek 1991:186).

Compared to other Second Seminole War sites, Fort King contains the greatest wealth of intact subsurface features and artifacts presently documented (Hellman and Prentice 2000:58). The archaeological investigations conducted over the last 50 years have produced subsurface architectural evidence of the fort stockade and a great many metal, ceramic, and glass artifacts. The types and distribution of architectural remains and artifacts overlaps the period of use (1827–1843) and strongly indicates that this location is indeed the site of the two Fort Kings rather than a site of some other civilian settlement or activity.

Subsurface Architectural Evidence

During the most recent investigations of the McCall Tract (GARI 1998, 1999), intact burned posts and postholes in linear and semi-circular alignments were documented on the summit of the hill. Such evidence indicates that at least one structure was located here and that this structure was destroyed by fire, as the first Fort King was in 1836. The semi-circular alignments documented in a few of the GARI excavations may locate portions of the first Fort King which apparently included several semi-circular or curved elements.

Metal Artifacts

Nails dominate the metal artifact assemblage. Many of the collected nails are spikes and other large- and medium-duty types typically used for the fabrication and repair of large wooden structures. Such nails would be an expected component of an early- to mid-eighteenth century fort, like Fort King. As detailed by GARI (1998, 1999), the distribution of these large- and medium-duty nails is centered on the summit of the hill in the McCall Tract. As Ellis points out, it is important to note that hand-wrought nails have been recovered almost exclusively from the highest portion of the Fort King tract (GARI 1999:56). Wrought nails are generally dated to before 1800, although late examples of wrought nails have been recovered from sites dating to about 1830 (Adams 1995:94; Noble 1973:127; Ferguson 1977).

A less numerous, yet important, component of the metal artifact assemblage consists of buttons. Almost all of the buttons recovered from the Fort King site to date are conclusively associated with military activity. They include buttons that would have been a standard component of artillery, dragoon, infantry, and officer uniforms during the time that Fort King was in use. The distribution of these military buttons is also centered on the summit of the hill in the McCall Tract (GARI 1998, 1999).

Ceramic Artifacts

Where as whitewares, ironstones, and coarser earthenwares, especially lead glazed redwares and inexpensive stoneware crocks and jugs, would be expected to dominate the ceramic assemblage of a civilian site, the Fort King site contains a low density of domestic/utilitarian lead-glazed redware or salt-glazed stoneware, and no ironstones (GARI 1998, 1999).

The ceramic assemblage from the Fort King site has a military character heavily skewed towards mess/subsistence behaviors. The ceramics are generally of fairly high quality and are dominated by cream-bodied wares, especially variously decorated pearlwares. The distribution of pearlwares on the Fort King site is again centered on the summit of the hill in the McCall Tract.

Several types of pearlware have been recovered including Hand-Painted, Flow Blue, Blue Banded, Blue Shell-Edge, and Transfer-Printed specimens. Hand-painted pearlware specimens are generally considered to have been produced between 1720 and 1840 (Hamilton 2002). Flow Blue pearlwares were most popular in the middle of the nineteenth century, particularly between 1825 and 1862 (Sutton and Arkush 1996:208; Hamilton 2002). The Banded pearlware specimens, often called "annular ware," recovered from the Fort King site are almost exclusively Blue Banded. Blue Banded pearlware was manufactured from 1780 to

1830 (Grange 1977:70; Ferguson 1977). Blue Shell-Edge pearlware was produced from 1780 to the 1830s (Grange 1977:27-28, 70; Ferguson 1977; Hamilton 2002). The Transfer-Printed pearlware specimens recovered from the Fort King site are generally blue, most of which are Blue Willow. Dark Blue Transfer-Printed pearlware generally dates to between 1795 and 1840. Transfer-Printed pearlware in colors other than dark blue have a later range, generally spanning the period between 1818 and 1864 (Grange 1977:28, 70; Hamilton 2002). Only one pearlware sherd recovered from the Fort King site has a diagnostic maker's mark firmly dating its manufacture. The Lippert and Haas Company of Schlaggenwald, Germany, manufactured this specimen between 1832 and 1846 (GARI 1999:61).

Glass Artifacts

All archeological investigations of the Fort King site have recovered glass bottle fragments. However, the most intriguing discovery of glass artifacts was made in 1968 when a pine tree toppled during Hurricane Gladys exposed a large cache of stored glass bottles beneath its roots. Approximately 130 early 19th century wine, champagne, whiskey, and beer bottles were uncovered from a location very near the presumed Fort stockade. Much speculation has been made about whether the bottle cache marks the location of the Sutler's Store where Osceola is said to have killed Wiley Thompson. Until more detailed archeological research can be undertaken, this theory will remain one of the more colorful conjectures associated with the site.

Miscellaneous Military Artifacts

In addition to military buttons, several miscellaneous artifacts recovered from the Fort King site indicate a Second Seminole War military presence. These artifacts include gunflints, unfired and fired lead balls and shot, gun picks, lead flint crimps, lead slag, sheet lead, lead bar, and lead military seals. A single 1838 U.S. Liberty seated half-dime was also recovered (GARI 1999:58-60).

Ethnographic resources

Park ethnographic resources are the cultural and natural features of a park that are of traditional significance to traditionally associated peoples. These peoples are the contemporary park neighbors and ethnic or occupational communities that have been associated with a park for two or more generations (40 years), and whose interests in the park's resources began prior to the park's establishment. Living peoples of many cultural backgrounds— American Indians, Inuit (Eskimos), Native Hawaiians, African Americans, Hispanics, Chinese Americans, Euro- Americans, and farmers, ranchers, and fishermen— may have a traditional association with a particular park (NPS, Management Policies 2001§5.3.5.3.)

Fort King's cultural association with certain American Indian tribes is well documented in this study. A strong interest in participating in future efforts to protect and interpret the site has been expressed by the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, the Miccosuki Tribe of Indians of Florida, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town. It is highly likely that other federally recognized tribes with cultural associations to the site would be likewise interested if Congress designated the site as a unit of the National Park System.

Fort King has ethnographic significance for Florida African Americans as a place commemorating events that shaped a political landscape allowing re-enslavement or perpetuation slavery in 19th century North Central Florida (Rivers 2000). The events that unfolded at the Fort King site influenced the peopling of the West by Floridian people of African origins as a corollary of the relocation and subsequent western dispersal of Black Seminole. The connections of 19th century Black Seminole and their contemporary African American descendants in Oklahoma, Bracketteville, Texas and El Nacimiento del los Negros in Coahuila, Mexico, is well documented (Porter 1996). Ethnographic research is needed to uncover the linkages between contemporary Florida African Americans, 19th century maroons, enslaved people, and Black Seminole. These lines of inquiry are of interest to Floridian African Americans.

One of the principle goals of National Park Service Research is to ensure appropriate protection, preservation, treatment, and interpretation of cultural resources, employing the best current scholarship (Management Policies 2001§5.1.1). There is considerable untapped potential for ethno-historical research into the events at Fort King that were associated with the re-enslavement of Florida African Americans. Further cultural knowledge of maroon communities in North Central Florida would be another productive direction for ethno-historical research that would enhance interpretation of the site.

Natural Resources

Physiography

Fort King lies within that part of Florida known as the Central Highlands. The Central Highlands were formed from the Florida Platform, which in turn is an extension of the Southeastern Coastal Plain. Over time, the Florida Platform was subjected to structural uplift, aggradations, and fluctuations in sea level, which have sculpted the topography of present day Florida (Schmidt 1997:4). Marine currents moving along Florida's shores have formed coastal beaches, barrier islands, tidal flats, marshes and coral reefs. Inland, the movement of water from the highlands to coastal areas has produced river systems that basically follow swales

between relict beach ridges, which are generally oriented north-to-south (Schmidt 1997:4). Two examples of these drainage systems, the Oklawaha and Withlacoochee rivers, are located immediately east and southwest, respectively, of the Fort King site and figure prominently in its history. Between these two river systems, the uplands around Ocala are primarily made up of clayey, phosphatic Miocene deposits. Soils are characterized as mostly Alfisols and Utisols, over which lay pine flatwoods and temperate hardwood forests (Brown, Stone, and Carlisle 1990:41).

Climate

Florida's climate is marked by two main seasons – a cool dry season, and a warm rainy season (Chen and Gerber 1990:11). Because of Florida's great length from north to south and its extensive coastline, these two main seasonal conditions are somewhat variable throughout the state. For example, central Florida tends to be drier than either north or south Florida (Chen and Gerber 1990:19). Generally seasonal climatic events also tend to affect certain portions of the state more than others, such as freezing temperatures and tropical storms or hurricanes (Chen and Gerber 1990:12).

Springtime, the end of the dry season in Florida, begins in March and lasts through May. Spring weather patterns are affected by the occurrence of the Bermuda High out in the Atlantic. Normally, the presence of this system keeps precipitation away until May, when it begins to weaken and allows the beginning of summer rains. The rainy summer season, which lasts from June to September, has the least temperature variation along the peninsula, although inland areas tend to have slightly higher temperatures and less rain, particularly in central Florida. Autumn, and the onset of gradually cooler temperatures, begin in October and lasts through November, and is marked by decreasing rainfall, a trend which continues to the end of spring.

The greatest temperature variation across the state occurs in the winter, with temperatures naturally being cooler farther north. The average temperature and rainfall for Ocala in January is 57.5° F and 3.15 inches, respectively. In July, the average temperature is 81.5° F and rainfall is 7.79 inches (FLDNR 2000). Thus, for much of the year ambient mid-day temperatures in Ocala are high. For many people, particularly visitors to the area from other climates, indoor activities are favored, especially during the summer months.

Soils and Geology

The soils typical of the Fort King site are derived from the underlying limestone deposits which make up the Crystal River Formation, which is part of the larger physiographic region known as the Ocala Uplift (Brown et al. 1990:37). The two main types of soils in this region are Alfisols and Ultisols which are

“dominated by gently sloping, well-drained sandy soils with loamy subsoils underlain by phosphatic limestone” (Brown et al. 1990:45). Within the boundaries of the Fort King site and land adjacent to the site, the soil types consist of well-drained varieties of Arredondo, Gainesville, Kendrick, Hague, and Zuber series (Thomas et al. 1979:150). All of these soil types are described as being well to moderately suitable to most general farm crops and are located at the highest elevations on the site. Poorly drained soils of the Pompano and Wacahoota series are located in or adjacent to the stream bed to the east of the site. They are described as moderately or not well suited to most local crops (Thomas et al. 1979:53, 59).

Water Resources

Undoubtedly, the proximity to a source of fresh water would have been a necessary precondition for the final selection of the exact location of Fort King. Along the eastern edge of the Fort King site is a small gully which once held a spring-fed creek or stream. This was probably the freshwater source for the fort. The stream still flows and feeds a small pond located along the northeastern edge of the property.

Flora and Fauna

The botanical species normally found in the study area are those typically associated with pine flatwoods and southern hardwood forests. Southern hardwood forests, which are not extensive in the Central Highlands, are referred to locally as hammocks. Flatwoods tend to be dominated by various species of pine such as longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*), and slash pine (*Pinus elliotii*) (Abrahamson and Hartnett 1990:105). Hardwood hammocks are dominated by live oak (*Quercus virginiana*), sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), and different types of hickory such as mockernut hickory (*Carya alba*) and pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*). The understory of these hammocks contain minor tree species such as southern red cedar (*Juniperus silicola*), dogwood (*Cornus florida*), saw palmetto (*Serena repens*), wax myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*), and southern red maple (*Acer rubrum*) (Platt and Schwartz 1990:198).

Historically, the study area burned frequently and was much more open than is the case today. The following description from Lt. John T. Sprague gives an idea of how Fort King and environs appeared in 1839:

We find ourselves comfortably in camp upon the extended plain west of Fort King and in full sight of it. Two companies of Dragoons are encamped in a semicircular form in our rear. Upon our left is a thick Hammock, and upon our right is an undulating pine barren, representing a cultivated park. Fort King is immediately in front. The Fort is upon an eminence [sic] overlooking the forrest

[sic] that surrounds it, and its peculiar construction and its flag contrasting with the wilderness around, gives it quite a picturesque appearance (White 1956:161).

Over time, and with the cessation of agriculture, the site gradually became covered in a thick growth of secondary forest. However, recent storms and pine beetle outbreaks have killed a number of trees at the site, opening it up considerably.

Animal species common to southern hardwood hammocks, although not necessarily found on the Fort King site itself, are also generally found throughout Florida. These include: opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), cotton mouse (*Peromyscus gossypinus*) white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), black bear (*Ursus americanus*), wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), red cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*), pine woods snake (*Rhadinaea flavilata*), and eastern diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus adamanteus*), to name just a few. Some animal species having a direct impact on the archeological record are burrowing animals such as the southeastern pocket gopher (*Geomys pinetis*), gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*), and the relatively recent non-native arrival, armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*).

Soundscape

The Fort King site is located in a residential neighborhood in the City of Ocala. The existing soundscape exhibits a mixture of natural and human-caused sounds typical of such areas. Natural sounds such as those of birds, insects, wind, and weather are punctuated by the sounds of light traffic, yard maintenance, car doors slamming, and people talking. While not entirely consistent with the historic soundscape, the existing soundscape exhibits a relatively high degree of natural quiet that does not detract from the historic character of the Fort King site.

Visitor Use and Experience

The Fort King site is cooperatively managed by the City of Ocala, Marion County, and the DAR. At present the site remains essentially undeveloped for visitor use. The monument tract is maintained by the City of Ocala for the DAR, and public access to the remainder of the site is allowed by appointment only. Apart from the driveway to the former McCall family dwelling, no roads exist to the interior of the site and no public parking areas have been constructed. No formal interpretive plan for site visitors has been developed.

Socioeconomic Conditions

The City of Ocala is located in central Marion County, Florida. At the time of the 2000 census, Ocala had a population of 45,943. In that same year the total population of Marion County was 258,916. From 1990 to 2000 the population of the county grew 32.9%, ranking it in the top 20 percent for growth nationwide.

The population of Marion County is predominantly white (84%) and African American (12%). Most industrial workers in the county are employed in manufacturing, health care, retail and government. In 2002, average annual earnings per worker in selected occupations ranged from \$19,788 for agricultural/forestry workers to \$40,000 for workers in insurance and finance. The county is also one of four major centers in the world for breeding and training thoroughbred horses. In 1997, Marion County led all U.S. counties in the number of horses and ponies in residence. Nearly 29,000 residents are employed in the county's thoroughbred industry.

Ocala actively promotes historic preservation within its city limits. The city has included a Historic Preservation Element in its Comprehensive Plan, has revitalized the downtown area, and has designated three historic districts. In addition, the city has nominated a portion of west Ocala to the National Register of Historic Places.

Diverse recreational opportunities are available to residents and visitors. Besides city and county parks, Silver River State Park and nearly three-quarters of Ocala National Forest are located within the county.

CHAPTER FIVE: ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Chapter Overview

NEPA requires that federal agencies, before taking an action, discuss the environmental impacts of that action, feasible alternatives to that action, and any adverse environmental effects that cannot be avoided if the proposed action is implemented. This section of the EIS describes the potential environmental impacts of implementing each of the alternatives (i.e., the No Action alternative and the three action alternatives) on natural and cultural resources, visitor use and experience, and the socioeconomic environment. These impacts provide a basis for comparing the advantages and disadvantages of the three action alternatives.

This analysis of environmental consequences consists largely of a qualitative assessment of the effects of the four alternatives with respect to 4 major impact topics. The first part of this section discusses the methodology used to identify impacts and includes definitions of terms. The impact topics are then analyzed with reference to each of the four alternatives. The discussion of each impact topic includes a description of the positive and negative effects of the alternatives, a discussion of cumulative effects, if any, and a conclusion. The conclusion includes a discussion of whether, and to what extent, the alternative would impair site resources and values.

Assessment Methodology

Generally, the methodology for resource impact assessments follows direction provided in the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act, Parts 1502 and 1508. The impact analysis and the conclusions in this part are based largely on a review of existing literature, information provided by experts within the NPS and other agencies, and professional judgment.

The impacts from the four alternatives were evaluated in terms of the context, duration, and intensity of the impacts, as defined below, and whether the impacts were considered beneficial or adverse to site resources and values.

Context

Each impact topic addresses effects on resources inside and outside the landmark boundary; to the extent those effects are traceable to the actions set forth in the alternatives.

Duration and Intensity of Impacts

Impacts are analyzed in terms of their intensity (negligible, minor, moderate, or major) and duration (short- or long-term). The criteria used to define the duration and intensity of impacts associated with the analyses are presented in Figure 14.

Impact Types

Impacts would be beneficial or adverse. In some cases, impacts would be both beneficial and adverse.

CEQ regulations and the NPS's *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis and Decision-making* (Director's Order #12) call for a discussion of the appropriateness of mitigation, as well as an analysis of how effective the mitigation would be in reducing the intensity of a potential impact, e.g. reducing the intensity of an impact from major to moderate or minor. The preferred alternative assumes that site managers would apply mitigation measures to minimize or avoid impacts. If appropriate mitigation measures were not applied, the potential for resource impacts would increase and the magnitude of those impacts would rise.

Direct versus Indirect Impacts

Direct effects would be caused by an action and would occur at the same time and place as the action. Indirect effects would be caused by the action and would be reasonably foreseeable but would occur later in time, at another place, or to another resource.

Cumulative Impacts

Regulations implementing NEPA issued by the CEQ require the assessment of cumulative impacts in the decision-making process for federal actions. Cumulative impacts are defined as "the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions" (40 CFR 1508.7). Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

The cumulative impacts analyzed in this document consider the incremental effects of the four alternatives in conjunction with past, current, and future actions at the site. Cumulative impacts were determined by

Impact Threshold Definitions					
Impact Topic	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major	Duration
Cultural Resources	The impact is at the lowest levels of detection – barely perceptible and not measurable.	For archeological resources, the impact affects an archeological site(s) with modest data potential and no significant ties to a living community's cultural identity. The impact does not affect the character defining features of a National Register of Historic Places eligible or listed structure, district, or cultural landscape.	For archeological resources, the impact affects an archeological site(s) with high data potential and no significant ties to a living community's cultural identity. For a National Register eligible or listed structure, district, or cultural landscape, the impact changes a character defining feature(s) of the resource but does not diminish the integrity of the resource to the extent that its National Register eligibility is jeopardized.	For archeological resources, the impact affects an archeological site(s) with exceptional data potential or that has significant ties to a living community's cultural identity. For a National Register eligible or listed structure, district, or cultural landscape, the impact changes a character defining feature(s) of the resource, diminishing the integrity of the resource to the extent that it is no longer eligible to be listed in the National Register.	Short term- Treatment effects on the natural elements of a cultural landscape may be comparatively short-term (e.g., three to five years until new vegetation grows or historic plantings are restored, etc.) Long term- Because most cultural resources are non-renewable, any effects on archaeological, historic, or ethnographic resources, and on most elements of a cultural landscape would be long term.
Natural Resources	Soils, vegetation, and wildlife would not be affected or the effects would be at or below the level of detection, would be short-term, and the changes would be so slight that they would not be of any measurable or perceptible consequence to populations of plants and animal species. Any effects to soil productivity or fertility would be slight and no long-term effects to soils would occur.	Effects to soils, vegetation, and wildlife would be detectable, although the effects would be localized, and would be small and of little consequence to populations of plant and animal species. Effects to soil productivity or fertility would be small, as would the area affected.	Effects to soils, vegetation, and/or wildlife would be readily detectable, long-term and localized, with consequences at the population level for plants and/or animals. The effect on soil productivity or fertility would be readily apparent, long-term, and result in a change to the soil character over a relatively wide area.	Effects to soils, vegetation, and/or wildlife would be obvious, long-term, and would have substantial consequences to populations of plants and animals in the region. The effect on soil productivity or fertility would be readily apparent, long-term, and substantially change the character of the soils over a large area in and out of the site.	Short term - Effects last less than 1 year Long term - Effects last more than 1 year
Visitor use and experience	Visitors would not be affected or changes in visitor use and/or experience would be below or at the level of detection. Any effects would be short-term. The visitor would not likely be aware of the effects associated with the alternative.	Changes in visitor use and/or experience would be detectable, although the changes would be slight and likely short-term. The visitor would be aware of the effects associated with the alternative, but the effects would be slight.	Changes in visitor use and/or experience would be readily apparent and likely long-term. The visitor would be aware of the effects associated with the alternative and would likely be able to express an opinion about the changes.	Changes in visitor use and/or experience would be readily apparent and have important long-term consequences. The visitor would be aware of the effects associated with the alternative and would likely express a strong opinion about the changes.	Short term - occurs only during the treatment effect. Long term - occurs after the treatment effect.

Figure 14. Impact Threshold Definitions

Impact Threshold Definitions					
Impact Topic	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major	Duration
Facilities, Operations, and Admin.	Site operations would not be affected or the effect would be at or below the lower levels of detection, and would not have an appreciable effect on site operations.	The effect would be detectable and likely short-term, but would be of a magnitude that would not have an appreciable effect on site operations.	The effects would be readily apparent, be long-term, and would result in a substantial change in site operations in a manner noticeable to staff and the public.	The effects would be readily apparent, long-term, would result in a substantial change in site operations in a manner noticeable to staff and the public and be markedly different from existing operations.	Short term - effects lasting for the duration of the treatment action. Long term - effects lasting longer than the duration of the treatment action.
Socio-economic environment	No effects would occur or the effects to socioeconomic conditions would be below or at the level of detection. The effect would be slight and no long-term effects to socioeconomic conditions would occur.	The effects to socioeconomic conditions would be detectable. Any effects would be small.	The effects to socioeconomic conditions would be readily apparent and likely long-term. Any effects would result in changes to socioeconomic conditions on a local scale.	The effects to socioeconomic conditions would be readily apparent, long-term, and would cause substantial changes to socioeconomic conditions in the region.	Short term - occurs only during the treatment effect Long term - occurs after the treatment effect

Figure 14 (Continued). Impact Threshold Definitions

combining the effects of a given alternative with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. Cumulative impacts were assessed in the context of the Fort King site itself and the immediately surrounding residential portion of the City of Ocala. This portion of Ocala is largely built-out and no major land use changes are anticipated in the reasonably foreseeable future. Traffic on area streets is typical of residential areas, but appears to be increasing due to growth in the Ocala area overall. Any additional changes to traffic loads would likely be noticeable by neighborhood and city residents.

The cumulative impact analysis and conclusions in this document are based on information available in the literature, data from NPS studies and records, and information provided by experts within the National Park Service and other agencies. Unless otherwise stated, all impacts are assumed to be direct and long-term.

Impacts of Alternative A: No Action

Impacts on Cultural Resources

Impacts would be minor, long-term, and potentially adverse. The site would remain in public ownership (apart from the DAR tract) and would continue to be protected and managed by the City of Ocala and Marion County. However, funding for archeological investigations, research and curatorial activities would likely be extremely limited. In addition, there would be no management buildings located at the site apart from the existing home structure and no full time staff available to monitor site resources. Archeological resources would be monitored and protected primarily by local law enforcement agencies on routine patrols. As a result, the risk of looting and other loss or damage to site resources is greater under this alternative than under the three action alternatives.

Impacts to Natural Resources

Impacts would be minor to moderate, long-term, and potentially adverse. In the absence of full-time staff and a dedicated funding source, monitoring of the health of natural systems would be virtually non-existent. The site would continue to be vulnerable to invasion by exotic (i.e., non-native) species from neighboring subdivisions. No efforts would be made to rehabilitate the site's original plant communities as they existed at the time of the Seminole wars.

Impacts on Visitor Experience

Impacts to existing visitor use and experience would be negligible. The DAR monument site and surrounding area would continue to be open for public visitation. A small wayside exhibit describing the monument and its relation to Fort King would remain in place. Access to

the remainder of the site would remain restricted. Opportunities for meaningful interpretation of the site would be very limited.

Impacts on Facilities, Operations, and Administration

Impacts would be negligible given that no changes from current management would be implemented. No facilities would be constructed, and visitor access to the site would be restricted, except for the area around the DAR monument. No staff dedicated solely to management of the site would be hired.

Impacts on Socioeconomic Conditions

Impacts would be negligible so long as access to the site remains restricted. Under this alternative, opportunities for promoting the site would not be pursued and possible increases in tourism and associated economic benefits would not be realized. Visitation to the site would not increase by much, if at all. Maintaining current traffic levels might be perceived as a benefit by residents of neighboring subdivisions.

Cumulative Impacts

This alternative would maintain the status quo and would not result in additional, cumulative impacts.

Conclusions

Alternative A would not result in additional permanent impacts to the site and its natural resources. Because no additional major facilities are proposed under this alternative, future action would not be foreclosed and there would be no irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources. Cultural resources would receive less intensive oversight and protection under this alternative than under the action alternatives. Thus, some cultural resources could be lost at a future date. Impacts to socioeconomic conditions would not change.

Impacts of Alternative B

Impacts on Cultural Resources

Impacts would be minor, long-term, and potentially adverse or beneficial, depending on the availability of funding and location of buried archeological resources. The volume of earth moving associated with the construction of site infrastructure poses a greater risk of disturbing unknown archeological remains than Alternative A but less than Alternatives C and D.

Archeological resources would be monitored and protected by local law enforcement agencies. No full time staff would be available to monitor site resources but the presence of walking trails and the possibility of chance encounters with visitors could serve to deter

looters, resulting in minor beneficial impacts to cultural resources.

No new construction of trails, parking areas, or structures would go forward until a thorough study had been made of the affected areas for previously undiscovered cultural resources. Archeological studies for other research purposes could be conducted as funding and state policy allows. All of these measures, taken together, would result in increased protection of cultural resources at the site.

The undeveloped site may be an attractive resource for higher education institutions in the State of Florida to conduct archeological investigations, research and curatorial activities in partnership with the park's management authority. Potential to receive technical assistance or funding from other federal and non-federal sources would be enhanced.

Impacts on Natural Resources

Impacts would be essentially the same as under the No Action alternative, i.e., minor to moderate, long-term, and adverse or beneficial, depending on the particular action being taken. In the absence of full-time staff and a dedicated funding source, monitoring of the health of natural systems would be limited, with emphasis placed instead on monitoring existing plants and animals to assure safe use by the public. Some soils, vegetation, and wildlife would be disturbed by new hiking trails, an expanded driveway, and minimal parking facilities. Additional soils, plants and animals would be destroyed in the vicinity of the fort location due to the thinning of vegetation to enhance interpretation of the site. Because this alternative involves less construction of visitor service infrastructure and, consequently, less ground disturbing activity than the other action alternatives, more vegetation would likely be preserved in an undisturbed condition. Efforts would be made to combat invasion of the site by exotic (i.e., non-native) species from neighboring areas, with impacts that would be long-term, moderate, and beneficial.

Impacts on Visitor Experience

Impacts to visitor use and experience would be moderate, long-term, and beneficial. The existing DAR monument would be complemented over time by new, basic visitor facilities, such as self-guided interpretive trails, wayside exhibits, and brochures. Active interpretation would be conducted by trained volunteers as demand warrants. The resulting impacts to visitor use and experience would be beneficial in that the visiting public would have free access to the site and better understanding of the site's history. However, outreach to local schools and other groups would be very limited. This alternative would likely result in increased visitation to the site, with an attendant increase in "non-historic" sounds such as those from

traffic, school buses, car doors slamming, children laughing, and the like. However, such sounds would be less prevalent under this alternative than under the other action alternatives.

Impacts on Facilities, Operations, and Administration

Impacts would be long-term, moderate and beneficial. In contrast to Alternative A, the site would be made directly available to visitors and certain basic visitor service facilities would be constructed. The existing driveway entrance would be expanded and paved, and a 15-vehicle parking lot would be constructed. However, day-to-day operation of the site would be largely overseen by volunteers and no staff dedicated solely to management of the site would be hired. Impacts would thus be beneficial, but moderate in intensity.

Impacts on Socioeconomic Conditions

Impacts would be negligible to minor, long-term, and beneficial. As a fundamentally local park with relatively few visitor services, the site would be unlikely to attract large numbers of long-distance travelers – the types of visitors who patronize hotels, restaurants, and other commercial establishments. Most visitors would likely come from the Ocala area and nearby region. Accordingly, direct and indirect economic impacts to the area would likely be negligible to minor. However, the park would provide a new amenity to the local area and thereby beneficially impact local community life. Traffic would increase from current levels, but impacts would be minimized since access to the site would be from East Fort King Avenue, a major connecting artery. Noise levels would increase somewhat during the day due to visitor use, resulting in impacts that some could perceive as adverse.

Cumulative Impacts

This alternative would result in slightly increased visitation levels over those experienced under Alternative A. The resulting automobile traffic could combine with increasing traffic counts on East Fort King Avenue to result in somewhat greater congestion. Increased traffic, as well as visitor activities at the site itself, could result in slightly higher noise levels for neighboring residents.

Conclusions

Alternative B would result in permanent impacts to the site in the form of a widened paved driveway and a small parking area. Other than these facilities, no additional major facilities are proposed under this alternative. Thus, to a limited extent, this alternative would foreclose future action and result in irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources. Cultural resources would receive more intensive oversight and

protection under this alternative than under alternative A, but less than under alternatives C and D. On the other hand, alternatives C and D would have greater impacts on natural resources than would this alternative. Impacts to socioeconomic conditions would be beneficial, but less intense than under alternatives C and D. However, the relatively minor impacts to socioeconomic conditions would be counterbalanced by lower operating and maintenance costs for local governing authorities.

Impacts of Alternative C

Impacts on Cultural Resources

Impacts would be moderate, long-term, and potentially adverse or beneficial, depending on the availability of funding and location of buried archeological resources. The volume of earth moving associated with the construction of site infrastructure poses a greater risk of disturbing unknown archeological remains than Alternative A and B but less than Alternative D.

The site would remain in public ownership (apart from the DAR tract) and would be protected and managed by the City of Ocala and Marion County. As with Alternative B, archeological resources would be monitored and protected primarily by local law enforcement agencies, but a small professional interpretive staff would be present on-site during the day. Technical assistance may be available from NPS under the National Historic Landmark program, to the extent federal funds are available. This funding, or funding from other sources, would guide the care of artifacts, which would be stored at an off-site facility, resulting in an increased level of protection for cultural resources than may be available under Alternative B.

No new construction of trails, parking areas, or structures would go forward until a thorough study had been made of the affected areas for previously undiscovered cultural resources. Archeological studies for other research purposes could be conducted as funding and state policy allows. All of these measures, taken together, would result in increased protection of cultural resources at the site.

Impacts on Natural Resources

Impacts would be minor to moderate, long-term, and either adverse or beneficial, depending on the particular action being taken. Most new developments, such as renovation of the existing residence into a visitor contact station, would occur in areas of existing disturbance. However, some soils, plants, and animals would be displaced or destroyed by the construction of trails, parking areas, and a new entranceway. Somewhat more extensive disturbance of vegetation and wildlife would occur at the fort's historic location, where a 100-foot diameter area would be cleared of

trees and other large woody vegetation. On the whole, these impacts would be long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse. Efforts would be made to control exotic species if they threaten park resources, visitor safety, adjacent properties, or community values. Impacts from controlling exotic vegetation would be minor to moderate, long-term and beneficial.

Impacts on Visitor Experience

Impacts to visitor use and experience would be moderate to major, long-term, and beneficial. Local site managers, in conjunction with a professional consultant, would develop a park master plan for the site, which would provide for renovation and re-use of existing structures for visitor use and site administration. As with Alternative B, this alternative could result in an increase in "non-historic" sounds such as those from traffic, school buses, car doors slamming, children laughing, and the like. Such sounds would be more prevalent under this alternative than under Alternative B, but less prevalent than under Alternative D.

Impacts on Facilities, Operations, and Administration

Impacts would be moderate to major, long term, and beneficial. The existing residence would be renovated for use as a visitor contact station and administration building. The entranceway would be paved and expanded and parking for 15 vehicles would be provided, with the understanding that a 55-space parking area could be constructed in the rear of the property as visitation increases over time. Trails and other visitor service facilities would be installed. Day to day operation of the site would be entrusted to a small professional interpretive staff, which would be responsible for providing interpretive services to visitors and patrolling the grounds. As a result, improved visitor facilities would be made available and protection of site resources would be enhanced.

Impacts on Socioeconomic Conditions

Impacts would be moderate to major, long-term, and beneficial. This alternative, with its call for more intensive development and permanent staff, could attract larger numbers of long-distance travelers than would alternatives A and B, assuming the site was effectively marketed to a broad audience. These visitors would be more likely than local residents to need hotels, restaurants, and other commercial services, thereby generating economic benefits for the local community. On the other hand, development and day-to-day operation of the site would place significant economic demands on the local community in the long term because costs of site development and annual operation costs would be borne primarily by local governments and/or a management entity set up to

operate the site. The park would provide a major new amenity to the local area and could provide some limited recreational opportunities in the form of walking trails. Traffic would increase from current levels, but impacts would be minimized since access to the site would be from East Fort King Avenue, a major connecting artery. Noise levels would increase somewhat during the day due to visitor use, resulting in impacts that some could perceive as adverse.

Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts would generally be the same as under Alternative B. Impacts could be somewhat higher due to higher levels of visitation under this alternative than Alternative B.

Conclusions

Alternative C would result in permanent impacts to the site in the form of a widened paved entranceway and parking areas. In addition, the existing on-site residence structure would be renovated and expanded. These facilities are more extensive than the facilities called for under Alternative B and would, to a proportionately greater extent, foreclose future action and result in irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources. Cultural resources would receive more intensive oversight and protection under this alternative than under alternatives A and B, but less than under Alternative D. However, the construction of facilities to protect and interpret these resources for the public would result in greater impacts to natural resources than would occur under alternatives A and B. Beneficial impacts to socioeconomic conditions would be greater under this alternative than under alternatives A and B, but operation and maintenance costs would be substantially higher for local communities and/or the managing entity.

Impacts of Alternative D

Impacts on Cultural Resources

Impacts would be moderate, long-term, and potentially adverse or beneficial, depending on the availability of funding and location of buried archeological resources. The volume of earth moving associated with the construction of site infrastructure poses a greater risk of disturbing unknown archeological remains than Alternatives A, B, and C.

Ownership of the site (except for the DAR tract) would be retained by the City of Ocala and Marion County. These entities would retain a professional consultant to develop a park master plan for the site, which most likely would include on-site facilities for visitor use, site administration, and artifact storage and curation. Full-time trained staff would be employed to protect the site's cultural resources. These steps, together with

increased site visitation, would considerably reduce the risk of looting and other loss or damage to site resources. Existing and newly-discovered artifacts would be stored in accordance with accepted standards for artifact storage and museum collections.

No new construction of trails, parking areas, or structures would go forward until a thorough study had been made of the affected areas for previously undiscovered cultural resources. Archeological studies for other research purposes could be conducted as funding and state policy allows. All of these measures, taken together, would result in increased protection of cultural resources at the site.

Impacts on Natural Resources

Impacts would be minor to moderate, long-term, and either adverse or beneficial, depending on the particular action being taken. On-site staff would be able to monitor the health of natural systems and recommend treatments as necessary, resulting in improved conservation of natural resources. Over time, studies could be completed of the site's original vegetative communities and efforts could be made to rehabilitate the site's plant communities as they existed at the time of the Seminole wars. Exotic species would be systematically removed from the buffer area around the fort location and existing vegetation would be supplemented with native plant materials representative of species that existed during the period of historic significance. However, this alternative would result in more destruction or displacement of soils, plants, and animals than the other alternatives due to construction of larger parking areas, an entrance road, and a visitor center. In addition, substantially more disturbance of vegetation and wildlife would occur at the fort's historic location under this alternative than Alternative C because twice as much land area (an area 200 feet in diameter) would be cleared of trees and other large woody vegetation. Impacts to natural resources from construction and clearing activities would be long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse.

Impacts on Visitor Experience

Impacts to visitor use and experience would be major, long-term, and beneficial. The existing DAR monument would remain in place, but would be supplemented in the short term by new visitor facilities such as self-guided interpretive trails, wayside exhibits, and brochures. In the intermediate term, a visitor center/museum facility would be constructed to interpret the site and its role in the Seminole wars. A dedicated interpretive facility would result in greater understanding of the site by park visitors, especially local schools and other groups. Active interpretation of the site would be conducted by trained staff members, and these interpreters would interpret more complex

themes than would be offered under Alternatives B and C. Visitors would be able to participate in a wider range of interpretive programs as well, including living history demonstrations and archeological research and demonstration programs. As with Alternatives B and C, this alternative could result in an increase in “non-historic” sounds such as those from traffic, school buses, car doors slamming, children laughing, and the like. Such sounds would be more prevalent under this alternative than under Alternatives A, B, or C.

Impacts on Facilities, Operations, and Administration

Impacts would be major, long term, and beneficial. A new visitor center and administration building would allow enhanced interpretation for visitors as well as improved site administration. The building would be served by a new paved entrance road and parking for 70 vehicles. This alternative assumes that the managing entity will have secured a more or less predictable level of base funding from year to year prior to constructing extensive park infrastructure, thereby permitting greater management stability. Assuming adequate annual funding remains in place over time, Alternative D would make available the most extensive visitor facilities of all the alternatives and would afford the greatest protection of site resources. It would also be the costliest to administer for local governments and/or the managing entity.

Impacts on Socioeconomic Conditions

Impacts would be moderate to major, long-term, and beneficial. As an intensively managed historical site, with specially-designed facilities and substantial interpretive services, the site would likely attract more regional and national attention than would the other alternatives, assuming an aggressive marketing effort to a wide audience. This greater level of publicity could very well attract a greater number of long-distance travelers (including travelers on Interstate 75) than would the other three action alternatives. These visitors would be more likely than local residents to need hotels, restaurants, and other commercial services, thereby generating economic benefits for the local community. Development and operation of the site would place increased economic demands on the local community in the short and long terms because site development and operation would entail partnerships between and among local governments, interested Indian tribes, and organizations. These partnerships

would necessitate significant financial contributions from local interests. Given that Alternative D calls for more intensive development than Alternative C, long-term costs to the local community in the form of annual operating expenses would be proportionately higher. The park would provide a major new amenity to the local area and could provide some limited recreational opportunities in the form of walking trails. As with Alternative C, traffic would increase from current levels, but impacts would be minimized since access to the site would be from East Fort King Avenue, a major connecting artery. Noise levels would increase somewhat during the day due to visitor use, resulting in impacts that some could perceive as adverse.

Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts would generally be the same as under Alternatives B and C. Impacts could be somewhat higher due to higher levels of visitation under this alternative than alternatives B and C.

Conclusions

Alternative D would result in permanent impacts to the site in the form of a new paved entrance road, parking for 70 vehicles, and a new visitor center/administration building. These facilities are more extensive than the facilities called for under alternatives B and C, and would, to a proportionately greater extent, foreclose future action and result in irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources. Cultural resources would receive more intensive oversight and protection under this alternative than under any of the other alternatives; however, of all the alternatives, this alternative would have the most intense adverse impacts on natural resources. Beneficial impacts to socioeconomic conditions would likewise be greater under Alternative D than the other alternatives, but operations and maintenance costs would be greater as well. The need to supply funding for these functions could have important long-term impacts on local governments and/or the managing entity for the site.

CHAPTER SIX: CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

Chapter Overview

Solicitation of public comment on EISs is required under NEPA and by NPS policy. More importantly however, public input helps the NPS shape and improve its preliminary ideas to better meet the mission of the NPS, the goals of NEPA, and the interests of the American public.

This chapter describes the public involvement program employed during this project and documents the role public participation played in identifying and refining the management alternatives included in the FSRs/EIS.

Questions about the FSRs/EIS

Persons wishing to submit written comments about the Fort King FSRs/EIS should forward them to:

National Park Service, Southeast Region
Attn: Tim Bemisderfer / Fort King SRS
100 Alabama Street, 6th Floor, 1924 Building
Atlanta, GA 30303

Comments may be sent via E-mail to:
tim_bemisderfer@nps.gov

Additional copies of the FSRs/EIS and the exact dates of the official waiting period may be obtained by:

- writing the NPS at the above address
- telephone request - please call 404-562-3124 ext. 693
- visiting the project website
www.nps.gov/sero/planning/fortking or the NPS park planning website:
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov>

NPS Policy on Disclosure and Anonymity

It is the policy of the NPS not to consider anonymous comments. Please note that it is the practice of the NPS to make comments, including names and addresses of respondents available for public review following the conclusion of the NEPA process. Individuals may request that the NPS withhold their name from public disclosure. If you wish to do this, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. NPS will honor such requests to the extent allowable by law, but you should be aware that NPS may still be required to disclose your name and address pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act.

History of Public Involvement

This document culminates a 5-year planning process. Public participation has been thorough and comprehensive throughout the scoping, NHL nomination, alternative development, DSRS/EIS, and FSRs/EIS phases of the project.

Much of the credit for bringing this final plan to completion must be attributed to our planning partners. The NPS planning team would like to extend its sincere appreciation to those park neighbors, local government officials, tribal governments, academics, local politicians, business leaders, FL State Historic Preservation Office, USFWS, and other public interest groups who freely shared their thoughts and concerns about the site.

Public participation during the scoping and management alternatives development phases of this FSRs/EIS has been thorough and comprehensive. The program was initiated with a series of open house and focus group meetings in May 2001. Ongoing consultations and briefings with a wide variety of stakeholders occurred regularly thereafter.

Extensive peer review and public comment was solicited in association with the NPS Archeological Overview and Assessment (5/2000 through 12/2000) and the National Historic Landmark nomination processes (5/2001 through 12/2003). NPS distributed a newsletter and hosted an additional series of public meetings in April 2002 to solicit input about its preliminary management alternatives. More than 20 special presentations were delivered to a wide variety of public and private audiences through May 2004. Recommendations and comments provided by stakeholders contributed substantially to the overall analysis of site resources and development of management alternatives at Fort King.

The study has been covered extensively in the local print media and a project internet site was created to facilitate a dialogue with persons outside of the local area.

A Summary of how public input influenced the development of management alternatives can be found in Chapter 2. Public comments received about the DSRS/EIS and how they influenced preparation of the FSRs/EIS are discussed in the following section.

Public Review of the DSRS/EIS

A Notice of Availability for the DSRS/EIS was published in the Federal Register on November 21, 2005. The official comment period closed on January 30, 2006.

Comment Summary

Public concern about the draft document was expressed primarily in four ways:

- by personal and public oral statements made during two public meetings in Ocala, Florida on January 18, 2006
- through written letters submitted by individual citizens or citizen groups
- through written letters by Federal, State, or Local government agencies

Approximately 250 written letters and 25 oral statements constitute the extent of public response to the DSRS/EIS. The relatively small number of responses is attributed to the extensive public involvement and consultation that occurred during the NHL nomination and alternative development phases of the project. An analysis of the public response to the draft plan resulted in several general observations.

- Broad public support exists for protecting and interpreting the cultural resources of the Fort King site.
- Over 90% of the stakeholder responses were submitted for the sole purpose of expressing support for designating Fort King site as a unit of the National Park System. While most stakeholders understand the financial concerns expressed by the NPS in the DSRS/EIS, there is still a strong desire among them to pursue a legislative initiative for designation.

Comment Analysis Methodology

After closure of the official comment period, the NPS performed a 5-step content analysis of all written and oral responses to the DSRS/EIS.

Step One: Each letter was carefully read in its entirety. Oral responses were reviewed on audio tape.

Step Two: Written responses were analyzed by physically highlighting identifiable concerns on a copy of each correspondence. Concerns derived from oral responses were paraphrased and documented in writing. When responses contained multiple concerns, each was documented separately.

Step Three: Multiple concerns about similar topics were consolidated by paraphrasing a single concern statement to reflect the common viewpoint.

Step Four: Each concern was classified into one of three response categories:

- Out-of-scope
- In-scope and substantive
- In-scope but nonsubstantive

Out-of-scope

Concerns were classified as falling within the scope (in-scope) of decision making or falling outside that scope (out-of-scope). The Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations define "scope of decision making" as the range of connected, cumulative, or similar actions, the alternatives and mitigation measures, and the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to be considered in the EIS.

Generally, concerns considered out-of-scope are those that:

- Do not address the purpose, need, or goals of the SRS. For example, comments related to day-to-day operational issues, maintenance techniques, or the content of interpretive programs would be considered out-of-scope.
- Address issues or concerns that are already decided by law or policy
- Suggest an action not appropriate for the current level of planning. For example, suggestions about architectural details or construction materials would be more appropriately considered in a park master plan or implementation level plan
- Recommend only minor editorial corrections

In-scope and substantive

Concerns identified as within the scope of decision making were further classified as in-scope and substantive or in-scope but nonsubstantive. NPS policy and NEPA guidelines define substantive comments as those that:

- Question, with reasonable basis, the accuracy or the information in the EIS
- Question, with reasonable basis, the adequacy of the environmental analysis
- Present reasonable alternatives other than those presented in the EIS
- Cause changes or revisions in the proposal

In-scope but nonsubstantive

In-scope but nonsubstantive concerns include those that simply state a position in favor of or against an alternative, merely agree or disagree with NPS policy, or otherwise express an unsupported personal preference or opinion.

Step Five: The list of in-scope and substantive concerns was reexamined and appropriate responses prepared. Responses to in-scope and substantive comments most often resulted in changes to text in the FSRS/EIS for the purposes of clarification.

While the NPS is required to respond only to in-scope and substantive concerns, responses were also prepared for selected out of scope and in-scope but nonsubstantive concerns if by providing a response public understanding of the decision making process was enhanced. Responses were not prepared for all out-of scope or in-scope but nonsubstantive concerns.

Concerns and Responses

The agency, organization, or individual that voiced the concern is identified in parenthesis immediately following the concern statement. In instances where a number of similar concerns were made by different persons, one or two individual's names are listed to represent the entire group.

1. **Concern:** Both Marion County and the City of Ocala partnered in the acquisition of the property, revealed on the ownership papers enclosed. As a result of this joint ownership, I would like to request the first column, fourth paragraph and second column second paragraph on page 11 be updated include the joint ownership of the 22 acre tract. (Dr. Lee A. Niblock, CPRP, Director, Marion County Parks and Recreation Department)

Response: We agree. The referenced text has been changed in the final document.

2. **Concern:** Please note a small historical inaccuracy in your report. The document indicates on page 3, column two, paragraph 3 and page 21, column 1, paragraph 5 that only one Federal soldier survived Dade's Massacre. In fact, historical records indicate that two soldiers survived the attack. (Tom Brady, Micanopy FL)

Response: We agree. The referenced text has been changed in the final document.

3. **Concern:** Fort King was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2004. The site received this prestigious designation because of its significance to the people of the United States, associated American Indian tribes, the State of Florida, Marion County, and the City of Ocala. It is a national treasure that needs to be preserved in perpetuity. Our community is committed to the site's designation as a National Park. We will continue to urge our local Federal and State elected officials to support designation of Fort King as a new Unit of the National Park Service. (Paul Nugent, City Manager, City of Ocala; Gerald Ergle, former Mayor, City of Ocala)

Response: We agree with your assessment that the Fort King site is a nationally significant resource and worthy of preservation. This study does not recommend adding Fort King to the National Park System because the associated development and operational costs make such an addition unfeasible in light of current budgetary constraints and other NPS priorities.

Distribution of the Draft and Final Documents

The Draft and Final SRS/EIS were distributed to following agencies and organizations.

Florida Congressional Delegation

- Honorable Cliff Stearns
- Honorable Ric Keller
- Honorable Bill Nelson
- Honorable Mel Martinez

Federal Departments, Agencies, and Offices

- U.S. Department of Agriculture
– Ocala National Forest
- U.S. Department of Defense
– Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Department of Interior
– Bureau of Indian Affairs
– U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
– National Park Service
– Washington Office
– Southeast Region
– Castillo de San Marcos NM
– Fort Sumter NM
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

State of Florida

- Honorable Jeb Bush, Governor
- Florida State Legislature
– Honorable Nancy Argenziano
– Honorable Carey Baker
– Honorable Dennis Baxley
– Honorable Larry Cretul
– Honorable Hugh Gibson
– Honorable Edward "Ed" Jennings
– Honorable Evelyn J. Lynn
– Honorable Joe Pickens
– Honorable Rod Smith
- Governor's Council on Indian Affairs
- Department of Community Affairs
– Florida State Clearinghouse

- Department of Environmental Protection
 - Recreation and Parks Division
 - Water Resource Management Division
 - St. Johns River WMD
 - Greenway and Trails Division
- Secretary of State
 - Division of Historical Resources
 - State Historic Preservation Officer
 - Bureau of Historic Preservation
 - Bureau of Archeological Research
- Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Marion County
- Board of County Commissioners
- Community Resources Bureau
 - Parks and Recreation Department
 - Public Libraries
- Growth Management Bureau
 - Planning Department
 - Zoning Department
- Life Safety Bureau
- Public Works Bureau
 - Transportation Department
- Marion County Public Schools
- Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council

City of Ocala

- Mayor and City Council
- Police Department
- City Manager
 - Recreation and Parks
 - Planning Department
 - Public Libraries
 - Public Affairs
 - Community Programming
- Metropolitan Planning Organization

Federally Recognized Indian Tribes Engaged in Government to Government Consultations

- Seminole Tribe of Florida
- Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
- Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation
- Thlopthlocco Tribal Town

Organizations

- Daughters of the American Revolution, Ocala Chapter
- Ocala Historic Preservation Advisory Board (OHPAB)
- Seminole Wars Historic Foundation
- Historic Ocala Preservation Society (HOPS)
- Marion County Museum of History
- Silver River Museum

- Recreation Commission
- Municipal Arts Commission
- Marion County Historical Commission
- Ocala Chamber of Commerce
- Veterans Park
- Economic Development Council
- Silver Springs Natural Theme Park

Individuals

The DSRS/EIS and FSRS/EIS were also distributed to individuals on a mailing list maintained at the Southeast Regional Office and through the project internet site.

Preparers and NPS Planning Team Personnel

NPS Personnel contributing to this project function as planning team members or technical advisors. Generally, the responsibility of planning team members includes active participation in the analysis, development, and decision making processes of the project. It entails a higher level of commitment in time and resources than being a technical advisor. The planning team relies on technical advisors to provide in-depth professional and technical consultation on specific topics identified during the planning process.

NPS Planning Team Members

- Tim Bemisderfer – Planning Team Leader, Planning and Compliance Division, Southeast Region, NPS
- Mark Kinzer – Environmental Specialist, Planning and Compliance Division, Southeast Region, NPS
- Erika K. Martin-Seibert – Archeologist, National Historic Landmarks Survey, Washington Office, NPS
- John Sprinkle, Jr., Ph.D. – Supervisory Historian National Historic Landmarks Survey, Washington Office, NPS

NPS Technical Advisors

- Mark Barnes, Ph.D. – Senior Archeologist, Cultural Resources Division, Southeast Region, NPS
- John Beck – Interpretive Planner, Interpretation Division, Southeast Region, NPS
- Robert W. Blythe – Supervisory Historian, Cultural Resources Division, Southeast Region, NPS
- Audrey L. Brown, Ph.D. – Cultural Anthropologist, Ethnography Program, National Center for Cultural Resources, Washington Office, NPS

- John Fisher – Park Planner (Retired), Planning and Compliance Division, Southeast Region, NPS
- Jami Hammond – Environmental Specialist, Planning and Compliance Division, Southeast Region, NPS
- Robert Hellman – Archeological Technician, Southeast Archeological Center, NPS
- David Libman – Park Planner, Planning and Compliance Division, Southeast Region, NPS
- Richard McCollough – Chief, Partnership Program, Southeast Region, NPS
- Anthony Paredes, Ph.D. – Chief, Ethnography Program; Southeast Region, NPS
- Guy Prentice, Ph.D. – Archeologist, Southeast Archeological Center, NPS
- Carol D. Shull – Past Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmark Survey, Washington Office, NPS
- Michael Stanley – Architect and Landscape Architect, Facilities Management and Engineering Division, Southeast Region, NPS
- Amy Wirsching – Outdoor Recreation Planner, Planning and Compliance Division, Southeast Region, NPS

APPENDIX A: COMMENTS FROM FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

January 30, 2006

National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office
ATTN: Tim Bemisderfer/Fort King SRS
100 Alabama Street, 6th Floor, 1924 Building
Atlanta, GA 30303

**RE: EPA Review Comments on
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
Fort King National Historic Landmark,
Special Resource Study, Implementation, Second Seminole War Site
CEQ No. 20050515**

Dear Mr. Bemisderfer:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Region 4 reviewed the subject Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) pursuant to Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, and Section 102 (2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of this letter is to provide you with EPA's comments.

The DEIS assesses the potential environmental impacts of three management alternatives and the no-action alternative for the preservation of the Fort King National Historic Landmark located in Ocala, Marion County, Florida. While future funding and/or subsequent action are not guaranteed and a preferred NPS course of action is not identified, the DEIS does identify Alternative B as the environmentally preferred alternative and the "most effective and efficient" in protecting significant resources and providing for public enjoyment.

The three action alternatives relate to preserving and interpreting archaeological and historic themes for public enjoyment of the site. Alternative B involves a simple and low cost strategy approach to site development, while providing public access and visitor service infrastructure.

Based on EPA's review of the DEIS, the document received an "LO" rating, meaning that the EPA review did not identify any potential environmental impacts requiring changes to the alternatives. We support your efforts in preserving this national historic landmark.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. If we can be of further assistance, please contact me or Ramona McConney of my staff at (404) 562-9615.

Sincerely,

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief
NEPA Program Office



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
6680 Southpoint Drive, South
Suite 310
Jacksonville, Florida 32216-0912

IN REPLY REFER TO:

FWIS Log No. 41916-2006-1-6396

February 7, 2006

Mr. Tim Bemisderfer
National Park Service
Atlanta Federal Building
1924 Building
100 Alabama Street, S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Mr. Bemisderfer:

Thank you for your request to review the Draft Special Resource Study and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Fort King in Ocala, Marion County, Florida. In 2004 the Fort King was designated as a National Historic Landmark, and planning continues to determine the site's suitability and feasibility as part of the National Park System. In May 2004, Don Palmer of this office, who is now retired, visited the site with you for a field inspection and Section 7 consultation. Mr. Palmer determined that no federally listed species occurred in the project area, but no formal reply was provided to your office by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

The Service has reviewed the Special Resource Study and the DEIS, and has determined that the proposed development of the Fort King site will have no effect on federally listed threatened or endangered species. This concludes the consultation process and fulfills the requirements of the Endangered Species Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Should additional information indicate that a federally listed species may be affected by the proposed activity, the Service requests that the National Park Service reinstate consultation. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter, and should you have any questions, please contact Rob Bittner at 904/232-2580 ext 120.

Sincerely,

Stephen R. Bittner

for David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Eastern Regional Office
545 Marriott Drive, Suite 700
Nashville, TN 37214

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Trust Services
Environment, Safety, and Cultural Resources Division

MAR 02 2006


Mr. Tim Bemisderfer
National Park Service
Southeast Regional Office
100 Alabama Street SW
1924 Building, 6th floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Bemisderfer:

Thank you for inviting the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Eastern Regional Office, to comment on the *Draft Special Resources Study and Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Fort King National Historic Landmark, a Second Seminole War site in Ocala, Florida*. Of the four alternatives discussed in the DEIS, it is our understanding that Alternative B is preferred by the National Park Service if acquisition and development funding becomes available. Our Regional Archaeologist, David Saunders, has one comment about Alternative B. Although Fort King is inland, it is susceptible to hurricane damage. If trees are uprooted during a hurricane, an adverse effect, there is potential for irretrievable loss of archaeological information. Careful removal of the trees may be beneficial for the preservation of Fort King. Please contact Mr. Saunders at (615) 564-6840 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Robert K. King
ACTING: Director, Eastern Region



Florida
Department of Environmental Protection
"More Protection. Less Process."

DEP Home | QIP Home | Contact DEP | Search | DEP Site Map


Project:	FL200601041780C
Comments Due:	02/03/2006
Letter Due:	02/15/2006
Description:	DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE - FORT KING NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK, DRAFT SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT - OCALA, MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA.
Keywords:	NPS - FORT KING NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DEIS - OCALA, MARION CO.
CFDA #:	15.912
Agency Comments:	WITHLACOCOCHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
	Staff finds the project consistent with the WRP's adopted Strategic Regional Policy Plan for the Withlacoochee Region.
	MARION -
	No Comment
	COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
	FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION - FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
	No Comments Received
	STATE - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
	No Comments Received
	TRANSPORTATION - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
	No Comment
	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
	No Comment
	ST. JOHNS RIVER WMD - ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
	From the information provided, District staff cannot make a detailed permit determination. However, from the information provided for the preferred alternative, District staff note that the proposed project will require a Standard General or Individual Environmental Resource Permit (ERP). Please contact Mr. Chou Fang, Supervising Professional Engineer, at (386) 312-2313 or cfang@sjrwmd.com for further ERP information and assistance.

For more information please contact the Clearinghouse Office at:

3900 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD MS-47
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-3000
TELEPHONE: (850) 245-2161
FAX: (850) 245-2190

Visit the Clearinghouse Home Page to query other projects

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Privacy Statement



Department of Environmental Protection

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

February 15, 2006

Colleen M. Castille
Secretary

Mr. Tim Bemisderfer
Division of Planning and Compliance
National Park Service, SE Regional Office
100 Alabama Street, SW, 6th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303

RE: Department of the Interior, National Park Service - Fort King National Historic Landmark, Draft Special Resource Study and Environmental Impact Statement - Ocala, Marion County, Florida.
SAI # FL200601041760C

Dear Mr. Bemisderfer:

The Florida State Clearinghouse, pursuant to Presidential Executive Order 12372, Governor's Executive Order 95-359, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §1451-1464, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. § 4321, 4331-4333, 4341-4347, as amended, has coordinated a review of the referenced project.

The St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) notes that the site development proposed in the preferred project alternative will require a Standard General or Individual Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) from the SJRWMD. Please contact Mr. Chou Fang, Supervising Professional Engineer, at (386) 312-2313 or cfang@sjrwmd.com for further ERP information and assistance.

Based on the information contained in the documentation submitted and the enclosed state agency comments, the state has determined that, at this stage, the proposed activity is consistent with the Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP). The applicant must, however, address the concerns identified by the reviewing agencies prior to project implementation. The state's final concurrence of the project's consistency with the FCMP will be determined during the environmental permitting stage.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposal. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Lauren P. Milligan at (850) 245-2170.

Sincerely,

Sally B. Mann
Sally B. Mann, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Programs

SBM/lm
Enclosures
cc: Geoff Sample, SJRWMD

"More Protection. Less Process."

Printed on recycled paper.

<p>MICHAEL R. MOEHLMAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</p> <p>1241 S.W. 10th Street OCALA, FLORIDA 34474-2798</p> <p>Telephone 352/732-1315 Suncom 687-1315 FAX 732-1319 email: mailbox@wrpc.cc</p> <p>January 31, 2006</p> <p>Ms. Lauren Milligan, Coordinator Florida Department of Environmental Protection/OIP Florida State Clearinghouse 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Mail Station 47 Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000</p> <p>SUBJECT: SAI #: FL200601041760C DOI - National Park Service - EIS Fort King National Historic Landmark Ocala, Marion County, FL WRPC ICR #: 2-M1-06-DOI</p> <p>Dear Ms. Milligan:</p> <p>Pursuant to the provisions of Presidential Executive Order 12372, Governor's Executive Order 95-359, and WRPC Rules Chapter 29E-6, <i>Florida Administrative Code</i>, the staff of the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council reviewed the above-referenced project and find it to be consistent with the goals and policies of the WRPC's adopted <i>Strategic Regional Policy Plan for the Withlacoochee Region</i> and, in particular, with:</p> <p>Policy 2.9.2: Build upon a multi-disciplinary approach to eco-tourism that allows for the enjoyment of the environment (e.g., rivers, springs, lakes, forests, etc.), historical/archaeological resources (e.g., historical sites, museums, exhibits, historical districts, etc.) and cultural programs (e.g., performing arts centers, concerts, self-enrichment activities, etc.), where appropriate.</p> <p>Policy 2.10.7: Identify, evaluate, and protect the archaeological folk heritage and historic resource properties of the region.</p>	<p>OFFICERS VICKI PHILLIPS CHAIR</p> <p>MARK MOORE VICE-CHAIRMAN</p> <p>RONALD ALLEN SECRETARY</p> <p>REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL SERVING LEVY, CITRUS MARION, SUMTER AND HERNANDO COUNTIES</p> <p>Ms. Lauren Milligan, Coordinator January 31, 2006 Page 2.</p> <p>We did not receive any comments from Marion County. We appreciate the opportunity to review this proposal.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p><i>Vivian A. Whitier</i> Vivian A. Whitier ICR Procedural Coordinator</p> <p>/vaw</p> <p>Enc.</p> <p>2-M1-06-DOI: Ft. King National Historic Landmark, Ocala, Marion Co</p>
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MEL MARTINEZ
FLORIDA
(202) 224-3041

COMMITTEES
AGING
BANKING
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FOREIGN RELATIONS

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0004

March 22, 2006

The Honorable Gale Norton
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Norton:


It has come to my attention that Fort King National Landmark located in Ocala, Florida, is under consideration by the National Park Service to be included as a national park. Fort King would be a welcomed addition to our national park system that would preserve the history of the Seminole wars and provide the backdrop to the founding of Florida.

On February 24, 2004, the Department of the Interior officially designated Fort King as a National Landmark that was the culmination of 15 years of collaborative work by the people of Ocala as well as federal, state, local leaders and preservationists. The Fort King site is approximately 39 acres and consists of the archaeological remains of the original fort (1827), the rebuilt fort (1837) and several outlying buildings.

Fort King was the site of an outbreak of hostilities between the U.S. Government and the Seminole Indians under their leader Osceola. The fort serves as a key interpretive site for preservation and interpretation of the Second Seminole War, which spanned 7 years and was the longest and bloodiest Indian war in U.S. history.

Your support and consideration to include Fort King as a national park is truly important because it would be the only one to tell the history of the Seminole wars. Again, I appreciate your time and assistance in this matter and your support in preserving of our nation's history.

Sincerely,


MEL MARTINEZ
UNITED STATES SENATOR



United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0005

BILL NELSON
FLORIDA

January 17, 2006

Ms. Patricia Hooks
National Park Service
100 Alabama Street, 6th Floor
1924 Building
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Ms. Hooks:



It is a pleasure for me to join officials from the City of Ocala and from Marion County in asking the National Park Service to consider Fort King as a future addition to our National Park system.



Already recognized as a National Landmark, Fort King is one of our country's most important sites from the Second Seminole War era. Archaeologists have found it contains a wealth of intact subsurface features and artifacts. It deserves to be protected and developed as an educational, archaeological and historic resource for our nation.

I encourage the National Park Service to designate Fort King as a National Park. Please keep me apprised of developments as decisions are made pertaining to Fort King.

Sincerely,




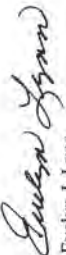
 Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-0906	RIC KELLER 8th District, Florida 419 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-0906 Phone: (202) 225-2176 Fax: (202) 225-0989 DISTRICT OFFICE: 605 EAST PALM BLVD., SUITE 850 ORLANDO, FL 32801 (407) 872-1962 FAC: (407) 872-1944 www.house.gov/keller	COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE SUBCOMMITTEES: EDUCATION REFORM 21ST CENTURY COMPETITIVENESS WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS COMMITTEE: JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEES: CRIME, TERRORISM, AND HOMELAND SECURITY COURTS, THE INTERNET AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COMMITTEE: SMALL BUSINESS SUBCOMMITTEE: TAX, FINANCE, AND EXPORTS
March 2, 2006		
City of Ocala 151 SE Osceola Ave. Ocala, FL 34471	Dear City of Ocala,	
<p>I am writing to you today to lend enthusiastic support for the conversion of Fort King from a National Historic Landmark to a National Park. As your representative to the United States Congress, I am reminded often of how important the site is to not only the City of Ocala, but to the United States as a whole.</p> <p>Fort King is the most significant site in the nation related to the Second Seminole War. Westward Expansion and Manifest Destiny are just two of the many related themes that can be illustrated at the site. Whether the focus is on Chief Osceola or the first stop for many of the graduates of West Point at the time, this proposed National Park will have something for everyone.</p> <p>I can assure you that as this process moves forward, I will work with the National Park Service, Congressman Stearns, and the City of Ocala to make this project a reality. Feel free to contact me as needed and know that you have my ongoing support.</p>		
Sincerely,  Ric Keller Member of Congress		CS/jm


 Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-0906	RIC KELLER 8th District, Florida 419 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-0906 Phone: (202) 225-2176 Fax: (202) 225-0989 DISTRICT OFFICE: 605 EAST PALM BLVD., SUITE 850 ORLANDO, FL 32801 (407) 872-1962 FAC: (407) 872-1944 www.house.gov/keller	COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE SUBCOMMITTEES: EDUCATION REFORM 21ST CENTURY COMPETITIVENESS WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS COMMITTEE: JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEES: CRIME, TERRORISM, AND HOMELAND SECURITY COURTS, THE INTERNET AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COMMITTEE: SMALL BUSINESS SUBCOMMITTEE: TAX, FINANCE, AND EXPORTS
January 24, 2006		
Mr. Paul Nugent, City Manager City of Ocala P. O. Box 1270 Ocala, FL 34478	Dear Mr. Nugent:	
<p>I write this letter as a strong advocate for the naming of Fort King as a National Park, operated and managed by the National Park System.</p> <p>Fort King's historic significance to this nation is immeasurable, and this site has resources and history that are not matched at any site in the United States. From the time Fort King was constructed in 1827, significant historic events that took place there have placed it among a rare group of national treasures that we need to ensure are protected for generations to come.</p> <p>I appreciate your efforts to preserve this site, and will continue to work with you to protect this site's wealth of artifacts and ensure its place in history.</p> <p>With kind regards, I am,</p>		
Sincerely,  Cliff Stearns United States Representative		CS/jm

☐ **OCALA**
S.E. 25TH AVENUE
OCALA, FL 34471
(352) 361-8777

☐ **GAINESVILLE**
5700 S.W. 34TH STREET, 4425
GAINESVILLE, FL 32608
(352) 337-6003
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

☐ **ORANGE PARK**
1726 KINGSLEY AVENUE
ORANGE PARK, FL 32067
(904) 265-3203

<p>THE FLORIDA SENATE Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100</p> <p></p> <p>SENATOR EVELYN J. LYNN 7th District</p> <p>February 3, 2006</p> <p>Office of Congressman Charles H. Taylor Chairman, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515</p> <p>Dear Congressman Taylor:</p> <p>Ocala, Florida is home to historic Fort King, the site of the start of the Second Seminole War. Over the years, Fort King has captured the hearts and minds of diverse groups who wish to preserve this historic location as a national park.</p> <p>For a growing number of citizens interested in giving Fort King the prominence of a national park, this small 37-acre site has gone far too long without the recognition it deserves as a pivotal place in American History and in the American Indian Wars. You may know of the historically significant gateway it provided into Florida by settlers from the north and for its role in the removal of the American Indian to western reservations according to historic national policy of the period.</p> <p>Fort King was headquarters for the army of the south (10,000 strong at one point) and the place where Osceola, leader of the Seminole, was imprisoned. His imprisonment helped spur the war with the United States.</p> <p>The Special Resource Study that Congress directed the National Park Service to conduct has been completed in draft form awaiting final input from the public. It reveals that Fort King meets all of the established criteria for gaining national park designation. In fact, in 2004, Fort King was awarded the status of National Historic Landmark for its historic significance!</p>	<p>COMMITTEES: Education, Chair Children and Families Commerce and Consumer Services Environment and Natural Resources Education Appropriations</p> <p>JOINT COMMITTEE: Intergovernmental Relations</p> <p>February 3, 2006 Page 2</p> <p>As you review the Special Resource Study which is about to appear before you, I ask your support for the designation of Fort King as a national park. This designation will firmly position this site to take its rightful place alongside other sites fundamental to American history.</p> <p>Sincerely,  Evelyn J. Lynn State Senator, District 7</p> <p>EJL:jm ✓</p>	<p>REPLY TO: South Atlantic Avenue #201, Ormond Beach, Florida 32176 (386) 676-4000 P.O. Box 10000, Ormond Beach, Florida 32176 (386) 676-4000 104 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5003 Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov</p> <p>TOM LEE President of the Senate</p> <p>CHARLIE CLARY President Pro Tempore</p>
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Florida Communities Trust

December 22, 2005

Dave Pritchard, Director
Recreation and Parks Department
City of Ocala
Post Office Box 1270
Ocala, Florida 34478-1270

Subject: Special Resource Study and Environmental Impact Statement
Fort King National Historic Landmark
FCT Project No. 98-043-P8A


Dear Mr. Pritchard:

Thank you for allowing us to review the National Park Service's Special Resource Study and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Fort King National Historic Landmark. We understand from the EIS that the National Park Service has recommended the City pursue Alternative B as the preferred option for the project. We have reviewed this Alternative and have found it consistent with the site's approved management plan and Grant Award Agreement.

Once the City finalizes a conceptual site plan for the project, please submit it to FCT for our review and approval. If this site plan requires additional revision to the approved management plan, please forward any specific word changes (using underline for additions and strike-through for deletions) for our review and approval as well.

If you have any questions, please call Hank Vinson (850) 922-1703.

Sincerely,




Grant Gelhardt
Environmental Administrator

GG/hv

cc: Tim Bernisderfer, NPS Southeast Regional Office

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS • 2555 SHIRAZ OAK BOULEVARD • TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-2100
850/922-2207 • FAX 850/921-1747



Florida House of Representatives
Representative Ed Jennings, Jr.
District 23

Post Office Box 5546
Gainesville, FL 32627-5546
352/955-6232
352/955-6234 – fax

218 House Office Building
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300
850/488-5794

February 1, 2006

Office of Congressman C. W. Bill Young
Member, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Young:

Ocala, Florida, a city of nearly 48,000 people in north central Florida, needs your help to gain national park status for its Fort King. Fort King, a small 37-acre natural site, is the official Second Seminole War Site and served as the site for many events which were considered a prelude to the American Indian Wars. The Seminole, Black Seminole, military and Florida settlers lived, fought and lost their lives in and around Fort King in their respective pursuits to gain and hold lands for future generations.


This site, purchased by local government to safeguard it for the future, served as a military post, negotiation point, and place where removal of The Seminole and Black Seminole was planned and carried out in accordance with national policy of the period.

Fort King was headquarters for the army of the south (10,000 strong at one point) and the place that imprisoned Osceola, leader of the Seminole. His imprisonment helped spur the war with the United States.

The Special Resource Study that Congress directed the National Park Service to conduct has been completed in draft form awaiting final public input. It reveals that Fort King meets all of the established criteria for gaining national park designation. In fact, in 2004, Fort King was designated as a National Historic Landmark because of its historic significance.

As you review the Special Resource Study which is about to appear before you, I ask your support for the designation of Fort King as a national park. This designation is critical to maintain Fort King in perpetuity alongside other sites fundamental to American history.

Sincerely,



Ed Jennings, Jr.
Gainesville/Ocala

Commerce Council; Community Colleges & Workforce Committee – Vice Chair;
Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Committee; Insurance Committee

Marion County
Board of County Commissioners
Parks & Recreation Department
111 S.E. 25th Avenue, Ocala, Florida 34471
(352) 671-8560 - Fax: (352) 671-8550

January 31, 2006

National Park Service, Southeast Region
Attn: Tim Bemisderfer / Fort King SRS
100 Alabama Street, 6th Floor, 1924 Building
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Mr. Bemisderfer:

On behalf of the Marion County Board of County Commissioners, I would like to thank you and the National Park Service for your detailed report and presentation on the Fort King site. As you are aware, the citizens of Marion County are elated about the possibility of this property becoming a National Park location. The residents have done a phenomenal job preserving the archeological and historical character of the property.

Both Marion County and the City of Ocala partnered in the acquisition of the property, revealed on the ownership papers enclosed. As a result of this joint ownership, I would like to request the first column, fourth paragraph and second column, second paragraph on page 11 be updated to include the joint ownership of the 22 acre tract by Marion County and the City of Ocala. Marion County provided \$473,583 from our voter approved Pennies for Parks bond referendum for the acquisition of these properties to ensure that future generations have access to the Fort King site.

I was pleased but not at all surprised to hear that this property has the support of our Congressional Legislative Delegation including Congressman Keller, Congressman Stearns, Senator Martinez and Senator Nelson for option D. While in Washington D.C. next month, I will provide the attached position paper and talking points to our elected officials to gain their support of this very worthwhile investment.

Thank you, again, for your efforts to provide a comprehensive account of the historical and cultural significance of the Fort King property and its association with the Second Seminole War. I welcome you to contact me at 352-671-8560 to provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lee A. Niblock, CPRP
Director

LAN/glp

Enclosures

Marion County
Board of County Commissioners

February 2, 2006

Office of Congressman Steve Pearce
Chairman, Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pearce:

Ocala, Florida is home to historic Fort King, the site of the start of the Second Seminole War. Over the years, Fort King has captured the hearts and minds of diverse groups who wish to preserve and sustain its land as a national park.

For a growing number of citizens interested in giving Fort King the prominence of a national park, this small 37-acre site has gone far too long without the recognition it deserves as a pivotal place in American History and in the American Indian Wars. You may know of the historically significant gateway it provided into Florida by settlers from the north and for its role in the removal of the American Indian to western reservations according to historic national policy. Fort King was headquarters for the army of the south (10,000 strong at one point) and the place where Osceola, leader of the Seminole, was imprisoned. His imprisonment helped spur the war with the United States.


The Special Resource Study that Congress directed the National Park Service to conduct has been completed in draft form awaiting final public input. It reveals that Fort King meets all of the established criteria for gaining national park designation. In fact, in 2004, Fort King was awarded the status of National Historic Landmark for its historic significance!

As you review the Special Resource Study which is about to appear before you, I ask your support for the designation of Fort King as a national park. This designation will firmly position this site to take its rightful place alongside other sites fundamental to American history. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Andy Kinsling
County Commissioner
District 1

601 S.E. 25th Avenue ♦ Ocala, Florida 34471 ♦ Phone (352) 620-3307 ♦ Fax (352) 620-3392



City of Ocala
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
P.O. BOX 1270, OCALA, FLORIDA 34478-1270
Office: (352) 629-8401
Fax: (352) 629-8391 • SUNCOM 654-8401

February 16, 2006

Office of Senator Thad Cochran
Chairman, Appropriations Committee
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cochran:

We are happy to report that Congressmen Ric Keller, Cliff Stearns and Senator Bill Nelson all support the designation of Fort King located in Ocala, Florida as a national park. Those of us working on making Fort King a national park, understand that members of Congress will soon be receiving a Special Resource Study commissioned by Congress in 2000 from the National Park Service on Fort King.


A few weeks ago, we learned the study reveals that Fort King meets all of the criteria for designation as a national park. As a community advocating for national park status for well over three decades, we were delighted at the news. However, our delight was soon tempered when we learned the National Park Service would not have the financial resources to preserve or maintain this asset in the future.


For many of us here, the prominence of a national park for this small 37-acre site has gone far too long without the recognition it deserves as a pivotal place in American History and in the American Indian Wars. This site served as a military post, negotiation point, and place where removal of The Seminole and Black Seminole was planned and carried out according to historic national policy of the period.

In addition, Fort King was headquarters for the army of the south (10,000 strong at one point) and the place where Osceola, leader of The Seminole, was imprisoned. His imprisonment helped spur the war with the United States.

As you review the Special Resource Study which is about to appear before you, I ask your support for the designation of Fort King as a national park. This designation is critical to maintain Fort King in perpetuity alongside other sites fundamental to American history.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul K. Nugent
City Manager



City of Ocala
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
P.O. BOX 1270, OCALA, FLORIDA 34478-1270
Office: (352) 401-3970
Fax: (352) 629-8391

February 6, 2006

Office of Congressman Charles H. Taylor
Chairman, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Taylor:

Ocala, Florida is home to historic Fort King, the site of the start of the Second Seminole War. Over the years, Fort King has captured the hearts and minds of diverse groups who wish to preserve and sustain its land as a national park.

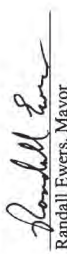

For a growing number of citizens interested in giving Fort King the prominence of a national park, this small 37-acre site has gone far too long without the recognition it deserves as a pivotal place in American History and in the American Indian Wars. You may know of the historically significant gateway it provided into Florida by settlers from the north and for its role in the removal of the American Indian to western reservations according to historic national policy of the period.


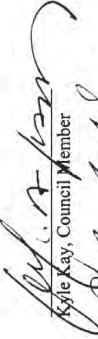

The Special Resource Study that Congress directed the National Park Service to conduct has been completed in draft form awaiting final input from the public. It reveals that Fort King meets all of the established criteria for gaining national park designation. In fact, in 2004, Fort King was awarded the status of National Historic Landmark for its historic significance!


As you review the Special Resource Study which is about to appear before you, I ask your support for the designation of Fort King as a national park. This designation will firmly position this site to take its rightful place alongside other sites fundamental to American history.


Thank you.

Sincerely,


Randall Ewers, Mayor

Mary Sue Rich, President, Pro Tem


Dargel Owen, Council President

Kyle Kay, Council Member

Reuben Kent Guinn, Council Member


Charles Ruse, Council Member


Charles Ruse, Council Member

GLOSSARY

Access: how visitors get to the park and to the features therein, including roads and trails.

Acquisition: the act or process of acquiring through purchase or donation fee title to or other interest in real property (including development rights or remainder interest). Also applies to museum property.

Adaptive use: a use for a structure or landscape other than its historic use, normally entailing some modification of the structure or landscape.

Administrative facility: a facility that contains office and/or storage space for park staff.

Alternative: a possible course of action, one of several different ways to achieve an objective or vision.

Archival collection: an accumulation of manuscripts, archival documents, or papers having a shared origin or provenance, or having been assembled around a common topic, format or record, or association. The term also refers to the total archival and manuscript holdings of the park.

Archives: the non current records of an organization or institution preserved for their historic value. The term archives is often used to refer to the repository where archives and other historic documents are maintained.

Association: the relationship between a historic event, activity or person and a cultural resource.

Best Management Practices: practices that apply the most current means and technologies available to not only comply with mandatory environmental regulations, but also maintain a superior level of environmental performance.

Carrying Capacity: the type and level of visitor use that can be accommodated while sustaining the desired resource and visitor experience conditions in a park.

Circulation: how visitors move through the facilities and grounds of the park.

Consultation: a discussion, conference, or forum in which information, advice, and ideas are exchanged.

Cultural landscape: a geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein, associated with a historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural aesthetic values.

Cultural resource: an aspect of a cultural system that is valued by or significantly representative of a culture or that contains significant information about a culture. A cultural resource may be a tangible entity or cultural practice. Tangible cultural resources are categorized as

districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects for the National Register of Historic Places and as archeological resources, cultural landscapes, structures, museum objects, and ethnographic resources for NPS management purposes.

Design: the combination of elements that create form, plan, space, structure, and style.

Ecosystem: interrelated living entities, including humans, and their physical environment.

Eminent domain: the power of the government to take private property for public use upon compensating the owner.

Environmental Assessment (EA): a brief NEPA document that is prepared (a) to help determine whether the impact of a proposed action or its alternatives could be significant; (b) to aid the NPS in compliance with NEPA by evaluation a proposal that will have no significant impacts, but may have measurable adverse impacts; or (c) as an evaluation of a proposal that is either not described on the list of categorically excluded actions, or is on the list, but exceptional circumstances apply.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): a detailed NEPA analysis document that is prepared when a proposed action or alternatives have the potential for significant impact on the human environment.

Feeling: a properties expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.

General Management Plan (GMP): a plan which clearly defines direction for resource preservation and visitor use in a park and serves as the basic foundation for decision making. GMP's are developed with broad public involvement.

Historic character: the sum of all visual aspects, features, materials, and spaces associated with a property's history.

Historic landscape: a cultural landscape associated with events, persons, design styles or ways of life that are significant in American history, landscape architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture; also a landscape listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Historic scene: the overall appearance of all cultural resources and their interrelationships that provide the context for understanding and interpreting the events, ideas, or persons associated with a park.

Historic site: the site of a significant, prehistoric occupation or activity, or structure or landscape whether extant or vanished, where the site itself possesses historical, cultural, or archeological value apart from the value of any existing structure or landscape.

Historical significance: the meaning or value ascribed to a structure, landscape, object, or site based on the National Register criteria for evaluation. It normally stems from a combination of association and integrity.

Impact: the likely effects of an action or proposed action upon specific natural, cultural, or socioeconomic resources. Impacts may be direct, indirect, cumulative, beneficial, or adverse.

Impairment: an impact so severe that, in the professional judgment of a responsible NPS manager, it would harm the integrity of park resources or values and violate the 1916 NPS Organic Act.

Implementation plan: a plan that focuses on how to implement an activity or project needed to achieve a long-term goal. An implementation plan may direct a specific project or an ongoing activity.

Integrity: the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival or physical characteristics that existed during its historic or prehistoric period; the extent to which a property retains its historic appearance.

Manuscript collection: a group of textual, electronic, sound, or visual documents assembled most commonly for its historical or literary value.

Museum collection: assemblage of objects, works or art, historic documents, and/or natural history specimens collected according to a rational scheme and maintained so they can be preserved, studied, and interpreted for public benefit. Museum collections normally are kept in park museums, although they may also be maintained in archeological and historic preservation centers.

Museum object: a material thing possessing functional, aesthetic, cultural, symbolic, and/or scientific value, usually moveable by nature or design. Museum objects include prehistoric and historic objects, artifacts, works of art, archival material, and natural history specimens that are part of a museum collection.

National Historic Landmark (NHL): a district, site, building, structure, or object of national significance, designated by the Secretary of the Interior under the authority of the Historic Sites Act of 1935 and entered in the National Register of Historic Places.

National Register of Historic Places: the comprehensive list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects of national, regional, state, and local significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture kept by the NPS under authority of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process: the objective analysis of a proposed action to determine the degree of its environmental impact on the natural and physical environment; alternatives and mitigation that reduce the impact; and the full and candid presentation of the analysis to, and involvement of, the interested public. Required of federal agencies by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Park: any one of the hundreds of areas of land and water administered as part of the National Park System. The term is used interchangeably in this document with "unit," "park unit," "park area," and "National Historic Site."

Park operations: the activities, programs, and staffing necessary to manage and operate the park.

Period of Significance: the span of time in which a property attained the significance for which it meets the National Register criteria.

Planning Partner: similar to stakeholder, a planning partner is an individual, group, or other entity that is actively engaged in the park planning process and has a strong interest in decisions concerning park resources or values.

Preservation: the act or process of applying measures to sustain the existing form, integrity, and material of a historic structure, landscape, or object. Work may include preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, but generally focus upon the ongoing preservation maintenance and repair of historic materials and feature other than extensive replacement and new work.

Productive Life and Productive Period: the years in which the person engaged in the activities which made him or her a person of national significance.

Protection: action to safeguard a historic property by defending or guarding it from further deterioration, loss, or attack or shielding it from danger or injury. In the case of structures and landscapes such action is generally of a temporary nature and anticipates future preservation treatment. Protection in its broadest sense also includes long term efforts to deter or prevent vandalism, theft, arson, and other criminal acts against cultural resources.

Rehabilitation: the act or process of making possible an efficient compatible use for a historic structure or landscape through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, and architectural values.

Reconstruction: the act or process of depicting, by means of new work, the form, features, and detailing of a non-surviving historic structure or landscape, or any part thereof, for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific time and in its historic location.

Rehabilitation: the act or process of making possible an efficient compatible use for a historic structure or landscape through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historic, cultural, and architectural values.

Reproduction (of objects): the construction or fabrication of an accurate copy of an object.

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties: the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties are common sense principles in non-technical language. They were developed to help understand that the Standards are a series of concepts about maintaining, repairing and replacing historic materials, as well as designing new additions or making alterations; as such, they cannot, in and of themselves,

be used to make essential decisions about which features of a historic property should be saved and which might be changed. But once an appropriate treatment is selected, the Standards provide philosophical consistency to the work protect our nation's irreplaceable cultural resources by promoting consistent preservation practices.

The Standards may be applied to all properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places: buildings, sites, structures, objects, and districts.

Significance: the meaning or value ascribed to an historic property or cultural landscape based upon the National Register criteria for evaluation.

Stakeholder: an individual, group, or other entity that has a strong interest in decisions concerning park resources and values. In the broadest sense, all Americans are stakeholders in the national parks.

State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO): an official within each state appointed by the governor to administer the state historic preservation program and carry out certain responsibilities relating to federal undertakings within the state.

Superintendent: the senior on-site NPS official in a park.

Treatment: work carried out to achieve a particular historic preservation goal.

Willing seller-willing buyer: a mutually voluntary sale or exchange of goods or services.

Vassal: a person acknowledging dependency on another as protector to whom he owes servitude, homage, and loyalty.

Viewshed: the area that can be seen from a particular location, including near and distant views.

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As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has the responsibility for most of our nationally owned public land and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environment and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to insure that their development is in the best interest of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.