

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS OF IMPLEMENTING THE ALTERNATIVES

[Note: this table focuses on impacts of the GMP alternatives. Cumulative impacts (those resulting from the incremental impact of the GMP alternative when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such actions) are discussed in chapter 5.]

TABLE 6. SUMMARY OF THE IMPACTS OF THE IMPLEMENTING ALTERNATIVES

	ALTERNATIVE 1: NO ACTION	NPS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 4
Natural Resources				
Hydrologic Resources	No aspects of the no-action alternative would appreciably affect surface waters (timing, distribution, amount of flow, or water quality) or wetlands. Propeller scarring and boat groundings in Florida Bay would likely continue to be relatively widespread, resulting in short-term, minor, adverse water quality impacts from increased turbidity.	The impacts of the NPS preferred alternative on water resources would be long term, localized, minor to moderate, and beneficial (e.g., decreased turbidity) in Florida Bay, and short term, localized, negligible to minor, and adverse (e.g., turbidity, sedimentation) during construction projects.	The impacts of alternative 2 on water resources would be long term, localized, minor, and beneficial (e.g., slightly lower incidence of sea bottom disturbance that increases turbidity), and short term, localized, minor, and adverse (e.g., turbidity, sedimentation).	The impacts of alternative 4 on water resources would be long term, localized, moderate, and beneficial (e.g., decreased turbidity) in Florida Bay, and short term, localized, negligible to minor, and adverse (e.g., turbidity, sediment resuspension) during construction projects.
Landscape and Soils	Long-term impacts on soils (from facility upgrades and visitor use) would be localized, negligible to minor, and adverse.	Impacts on soils under the NPS preferred alternative would be long-term localized, minor, and adverse. These impacts would result from visitor use and construction.	Impacts on soils under alternative 2 would be long-term localized, minor to moderate, and adverse. These impacts result from visitor use and construction.	Impacts on soils under alternative 4 would be long-term localized, minor to moderate, and adverse. These impacts result from visitor use and construction.
Vegetation	Short-term impacts on vegetation from construction-related facility upgrades would be localized, negligible to minor, and adverse. Impacts from continuing current management in Florida Bay would be long term, baywide, moderate, and adverse.	Short-term impacts on vegetation from construction-related facility upgrades would be localized, negligible to minor, and adverse. Construction of new and expanded facilities would result in long-term, localized, and negligible to minor, adverse impacts. New programs and changes in motorboat access in Florida Bay would result in long-term, baywide, moderate, beneficial impacts.	Short-term adverse impacts on vegetation under alternative 2 (from facility upgrades or construction) would be localized and minor to moderate. Beneficial impacts would be short and long term and negligible to minor. Long-term impacts (from visitor use and construction) would be localized, negligible to moderate, and adverse.	Short-term impacts on vegetation from construction-related facility upgrades would be localized, negligible to minor, and adverse. Construction of new and expanded facilities would result in long-term, localized, minor to moderate, adverse impacts. New programs and changes in motorboat access in Florida Bay would result in long-term, baywide, moderate to major beneficial impacts.
Wildlife	Effects of the no-action alternative on wildlife, primarily resulting from visitor and operational activities, would be long-term, localized, moderate, beneficial impacts and long-term, moderate, adverse impacts.	The NPS preferred alternative would have short- and long-term, moderate, adverse impacts, and short- and long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial impacts.	Alternative 2 would have short- and long-term, moderate, adverse impacts, and long-term, negligible to minor, beneficial impacts	Alternative 4 would have short- and long-term, minor to moderate, adverse impacts, and short- and long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial impacts.
Fisheries	Long-term impacts on fish and fish habitat under the no-action alternative would be localized, negligible to minor, and adverse, mostly from continued visitor use.	Under the NPS preferred alternative, most adverse impacts on fish and fish habitat would be short and long term, localized, and negligible to minor, mostly from continued visitor activities and during construction. Additionally, there would be long-term, moderate, beneficial impacts on the fisheries because of increased refuge (reduced fishing pressure), more informed/ responsible behavior by boaters, and recovery and restoration of damaged seagrass beds resulting from the establishment of pole/troll zones.	Under alternative 2, adverse impacts on fish and fish habitat would be short and long term, localized, and moderate from continued visitor activities (including continued full access by motorboats to Florida Bay) and from construction.	Under alternative 4, some adverse impacts on fish and fish habitat would be short and long term, localized, and negligible to minor; however, the implementation of alternative 4 would have long-term, moderate benefits for the fisheries in the park due to increased refuge (reduced fishing pressure), more informed/ responsible behavior by boaters, and the recovery and restoration of damaged seagrass beds resulting from the establishment of pole/troll zones
Essential Fish Habitat	Implementing the no-action alternative would not change existing use or management of essential fish habitats and, therefore, would not result in any new impacts. However, there would be the continuation of long-term; minor to moderate, adverse impacts on shallow-water habitats from boat groundings and propeller scarring (other sections in this chapter include more details on specific resource impacts). As described previously, essential fish habitat has specific criteria and categories of impacts. Based on those criteria and categories, there would be a continuation of adverse effects on essential fish habitat under the no-action alternative.	Implementing the NPS preferred alternative would result in long-term, moderate, beneficial impacts on shallow-water habitats. Other sections in this chapter include more details on specific effects on resources. As described previously, essential fish habitat has specific criteria and categories of impacts. Based on those criteria and categories, there would be no adverse effects on essential fish habitat under the NPS preferred alternative.	Implementing alternative 2 would result in long-term, negligible, beneficial impacts on shallow-water habitats. Other sections in this chapter include more details on specific effects on resources. As described previously, essential fish habitat has specific criteria and categories of impacts. Based on those criteria and categories, there would be no adverse effects on essential fish habitat under this alternative.	Implementing alternative 4 would result in long-term, moderate, beneficial impacts on shallow-water habitats. Other sections in this chapter include more details on specific effects on resources. As described previously, essential fish habitat has specific criteria and categories of impacts. Based on those criteria and categories, there would be no adverse effects on essential fish habitat under this alternative.

TABLE 6. SUMMARY OF THE IMPACTS OF THE IMPLEMENTING ALTERNATIVES

ALTERNATIVE 1: NO ACTION		NPS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 4
Federal Special Status Species				
Florida Panther	Continued airboat activity and visitor use of tree islands and the backcountry of the park would continue to result in short-term impacts on Florida panther habitat and behavior. These activities would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	The NPS preferred alternative would have long-term, minor benefits on panthers, primarily as a result of constraining private airboat use to designated routes within the frontcountry zone in the East Everglades Addition. Continued visitor activities in habitat used by panthers have discountable short-term effects on panther habitat and foraging behavior. Activities implemented under the NPS preferred alternative would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Continued visitor activities in habitat used by panthers would have discountable short- and long-term consequences on the panther. Actions under alternative 2 would result in long-term, minor, adverse impacts and long-term, minor, beneficial impacts and would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Alternative 4 would result in long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on panthers and their habitat as a result of constraining private airboat use to designated routes within the frontcountry zone in the East Everglades Addition and from discontinuing commercial airboat operations. Continued visitor activities in habitat used by panthers would have short-term, adverse, effects on panther behavior, namely denning and foraging. Activities implemented under alternative 4 would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
Key Largo Woodrat and Key Largo Cotton Mouse	Overall, continued current management would have discountable effects on the Key Largo woodrat and Key Largo cotton mouse as a result of human activities at the ranger station and areas surrounding the Tarpon Basin. This would result in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding for the Key Largo woodrat and Key Largo cotton mouse under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Overall, the NPS preferred alternative would have negligible adverse effects on the woodrat and cotton mouse. This would result in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding for the woodrat and cotton mouse under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Under alternative 2, some continuing negligible, adverse, impacts on woodrats and cotton mice may occur. This would result in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Under alternative 4 some continuing, negligible, adverse impacts on woodrats and cotton mice may occur. This would result in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
Manatee	Motorboat activity and visitor access in the park’s marine waters would result in the continuation of long-term adverse effects on manatee from boat and propeller strikes and habitat disturbance and would constitute a <i>may affect, likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Motorboat activity and visitor access in the park’s marine waters would result in continued, long-term, minor, adverse effects on the manatee from boat and propeller strikes and habitat degradation. Changes to the management of recreational boating in Florida Bay (more pole/troll zones, restricted motorboat access in places, etc.), combined with a boater safety and resource protection plan, improved boater education, increased on-the-water law enforcement, and seagrass restoration, would result in reduced boat strikes, decreased underwater noise from motorboats, improved habitat, and moderate benefits. This would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Continued motorboat activity and visitor access in the park’s marine waters would result in long-term, moderate, adverse effects on the manatee from boat and propeller strikes and habitat disturbance. Improved boater education, increased on-the-water law enforcement, seagrass restoration, and a manatee management plan would result in reduced boat strikes and improved habitat and create minor benefits. This would constitute a <i>may affect, likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Motorboat activity and visitor access in the park’s marine waters would result in continued, long-term, minor, adverse effects on the manatee from boat and propeller strikes and habitat degradation. Changes to the management of recreational boating in Florida Bay (pole/troll zones, restricted motorboat access in places, etc.), combined with manatee management plan, improved boater education, increased on-the-water law enforcement, seagrass restoration, and boating restrictions along the newly established Alternative Wilderness Waterway, would result in reduced boat strikes, decreased underwater noise from motorboats, improved habitat, and moderate benefits. This would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
Bottlenose Dolphin	Continued human and boat access in the park’s marine waters would present minimal continued hazards to bottlenose dolphins in bays and estuaries in the park, resulting in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	The NPS preferred alternative would reduce impacts on the bottlenose dolphin, their food sources, and their habitats, producing long-term, minor beneficial impacts—a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Alternative 2 would have long-term negligible beneficial effects on bottlenose dolphin, a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Alternative 4 would reduce impacts on bottlenose dolphins, resulting in long-term, minor, beneficial impacts, equating to a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
Wood Stork	Any adverse effects from the no-action alternative on wood storks would be continued, long term, minor, and adverse as a result of visitor activities. This would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	The NPS preferred alternative would have localized, long-term, minor beneficial effects on wood storks from reduced potential for human disturbance. This would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Any adverse effects from alternative 2 on wood storks would be continued, long term, minor, and adverse as a result of visitor activities. This would still constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Alternative 4 would have long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial effects on wood storks from reduced potential for human disturbance on roosting, nesting, and foraging habitat. This would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
Piping Plover and Roseate Tern	The no-action alternative would have both beneficial and adverse continuing effects on piping plovers, roseate terns, and critical habitat for piping plovers. Any adverse impacts from the no-action alternative would be minor and insignificant, resulting in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding for the piping plover and roseate tern under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Overall, the NPS preferred alternative would benefit the piping plover, roseate tern, and piping plover critical habitat with limited, localized, minor benefits compared to continued current management. This would result in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding for the piping plover and roseate tern under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Overall, alternative 2 would contribute long-term, minor, adverse impacts to piping plovers, roseate terns, and critical habitat for piping plovers. This would result in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding for the piping plover and roseate tern under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Overall alternative 4 would benefit the piping plover, roseate tern, and critical habitat for the piping plover, with limited minor benefits compared to continuing current management. This would result in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding for the piping plover and roseate tern under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

TABLE 6. SUMMARY OF THE IMPACTS OF THE IMPLEMENTING ALTERNATIVES

	ALTERNATIVE 1: NO ACTION	NPS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 4
Everglade Snail Kite	The no-action alternative would have a continued minor adverse effect on snail kites from airboating in the East Everglades Addition. This would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Overall, the NPS preferred alternative would have minor adverse and beneficial impacts on the Everglade snail kite. This would result in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding for the Everglade snail kite under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act	Alternative 2 would have long-term, minor, adverse and beneficial effects on the Everglade snail kites in the East Everglades Addition resulting in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Alternative 4 would have long-term beneficial effects on Everglade snail kite from changes in airboat use in the East Everglades Addition. This would result in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding for the Everglade snail kite under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
Eastern Indigo Snake	Continued visitor activities in habitat used by the eastern indigo snake under the no-action alternative would have short-term, minor, adverse effects that would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	The NPS preferred alternative would have long-term, minor, beneficial effects on the eastern indigo snake populations, primarily as a result of changes in private airboat use in the East Everglades Addition. Continued visitor activities in habitat used by the eastern indigo snake and proposed construction activities would have short-term, minor, adverse effects. Activities implemented under the NPS preferred alternative would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Alternative 2 would have short- and long-term, minor (mostly continuing), adverse effects on indigo snakes. Activities implemented under alternative 2 would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Alternative 4 would have long-term, moderate beneficial effects on eastern indigo snake populations primarily as a result of changes in private airboat use and discontinuation of commercial airboat use in the East Everglades Addition. Continued visitor activities in habitat used by the eastern indigo snake and proposed construction activities would have short-term minor adverse effects on the snake and its habitat. Activities implemented under alternative 4 would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
American Alligator	The park would continue to protect American alligators and their habitat, a long-term beneficial impact. However, visitor and management activities in alligator habitat under the no-action alternative would have minor, adverse effects that would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Overall, the NPS preferred alternative actions would improve protection of American alligators and their habitat. Visitor and management activities in alligator habitat under the NPS preferred alternative would have short- and long-term minor adverse effects that would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Overall, the park would continue to protect American alligators and their habitat. However, visitor and management activities in alligator habitat under alternative 2 would have minor, adverse effects, constituting a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Overall, the park would continue to protect American crocodiles and their habitat. However, visitor access to and activities in habitat used by the American crocodile under alternative 4 would have long-term, negligible, adverse effects and long-term minor benefits that would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
American Crocodile	The park would continue to provide protection of American crocodiles and their habitat, although some continuing minor adverse effects from visitor and administrative uses would be expected. Impacts from the no-action alternative would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Under the NPS preferred alternative the park would continue to protect American crocodiles and their habitat and would reduce the likelihood of human-related disturbance in crocodile habitat. Any adverse minor impacts would be insignificant, resulting in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	The park would continue to provide protection of American crocodiles and their habitat, although some minor adverse effects from visitor and administrative uses would be expected. Impacts from alternative 2 would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Overall, the park would continue to protect American crocodiles and their habitat. However, visitor access to and activities in habitat used by the American crocodile under alternative 4 would have long-term, negligible, adverse effects and long-term minor benefits that would constitute a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
Sea Turtles	The no-action alternative would benefit sea turtles through habitat protection, and it would also result in some continued long-term, minor, adverse effects from human activities (primarily motorboating). This alternative would result in a <i>may affect, likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	The NPS preferred alternative would reduce impacts on sea turtles and their habitats, resulting in long-term, minor benefits and a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Alternative 2 would benefit sea turtles through habitat protection, and it would also result in some continued, long-term, minor, adverse effects from human activities (primarily motorboating). This alternative would result in a <i>may affect, likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Alternative 4 would reduce impacts to sea turtles and their habitats, producing localized, long-term, minor benefits and a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
Smalltooth Sawfish	The no-action alternative would result in localized and long-term, minor, adverse effects on the smalltooth sawfish—a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	The NPS preferred alternative would result in long-term, minor, beneficial effects to the smalltooth sawfish—a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Alternative 2 would result in long-term, minor, adverse and beneficial impacts on the smalltooth sawfish and its habitat and would result in a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.	Alternative 4 would result in long-term, minor, beneficial effects on the smalltooth sawfish—a <i>may affect, not likely to adversely affect</i> finding under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
Natural Soundscape	The no-action alternative would have localized, long-term, minor to moderate, adverse impacts on the soundscape at Everglades National Park resulting from noise associated with human activities and vehicle operations (such as automobiles, buses, motorboats, airboats, or aircraft).	The NPS preferred alternative would have long-term, local, minor to moderate, adverse, as well as minor to moderate beneficial impacts on the natural soundscape at Everglades National Park resulting from noise associated with human activities and vehicle operations (e.g., automobiles, buses, motorboats, airboats, aircraft).	Alternative 2 would have long-term, local, minor to moderate, adverse as well as negligible to minor, beneficial impacts on the natural soundscape at Everglades National Park resulting from noise associated with human activities and vehicle operations (e.g., automobiles, buses, motorboats, airboats, and aircraft).	Alternative 4 would have long-term, local, minor to moderate, adverse as well as minor to moderate, beneficial impacts on the natural soundscape at Everglades National Park resulting from noise associated with human activities and vehicle operations (e.g., automobiles, buses, motorboats, airboats, and aircraft).

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	ALTERNATIVE 1: NO ACTION	NPS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 4
Wilderness Character	Management actions and visitor use would have a variety of impacts on wilderness character under the no-action alternative. For both the main portion of the wilderness and the East Everglades Addition eligible wilderness, the alternative would have a long-term, minor adverse impact primarily due to continuing motorboat and airboat use, and resource management/research activities in the areas. In the Florida Bay submerged wilderness, adverse impacts to wilderness character would be moderate to major, and long term due to continuing scarring of the water bottom.	Management actions and the wilderness proposal forecast Everglades Addition in the NPS preferred alternative would have a variety of impacts on wilderness character. For the main portion of the existing wilderness, excluding Florida Bay, the alternative would have a minor, long-term, adverse impact due to the development and use of several chickees. In the Florida Bay submerged wilderness, the preferred alternative would have a moderate, long-term, beneficial impact to wilderness character due to the pole/troll zones and the mandatory boat education program/permit system. In the East Everglades Addition, the NPS preferred alternative would have a major, long-term (in perpetuity), beneficial impact on wilderness character, primarily due designating wilderness over a large area and eventually eliminating private airboats in the area.	Under alternative 2, management actions and the wilderness proposal for the East Everglades Addition would have a variety of impacts on wilderness character. For the main portion of the wilderness, excluding Florida Bay, the alternative would have a minor, long-term, adverse impact primarily due to the development and use of several chickees. In the Florida Bay submerged wilderness, alternative 2 would have a minor to moderate, long-term, beneficial impact to wilderness character primarily due to management actions that would reduce bottom scarring. In the East Everglades Addition, alternative 2 would have a major, long-term, beneficial impact on wilderness character, primarily due to the designation of wilderness over a large area.	Under alternative 4, management actions and the wilderness proposal for the East Everglades Addition would have a variety of impacts on wilderness character. For the main portion of the wilderness, excluding Florida Bay, the alternative would have a minor, long-term, adverse impact due to the development and use of several chickees. In the Florida Bay submerged wilderness, the preferred alternative would have a moderate, long-term, beneficial impact to wilderness character due to the pole/troll zones and the mandatory boat education program/permit system. In the East Everglades Addition, alternative 4 would have a major, long-term (in perpetuity), beneficial (in perpetuity) impact on wilderness character, primarily due to the designation of wilderness over a large area and eventual elimination of private airboats in the area.
Cultural Resources				
Archeological Resources	Implementation of the no-action alternative would have permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park's prehistoric and historic archeological resources listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.	Implementation of actions proposed by the NPS preferred alternative would have long-term beneficial impacts, and permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park's prehistoric and historic archeological resources listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Section 106 Summary —After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's criteria of adverse effect (36 CFR 800.5, <i>Assessment of Adverse Effects</i>), the National Park Service concludes that implementing the NPS preferred alternative would result in <i>no adverse effect</i> on archeological resources.	Implementation of actions proposed by alternative 2 would have long-term beneficial impacts, and permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park's prehistoric and historic archeological resources listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Section 106 Summary —After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's criteria of adverse effect (36 CFR 800.5, <i>Assessment of Adverse Effects</i>), the National Park Service concludes that implementing alternative 2 would result in <i>no adverse effect</i> on archeological resources.	Implementation of actions proposed in alternative 4 would have long-term beneficial impacts, and permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park's prehistoric and historic archeological resources listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Section 106 Summary —After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's criteria of adverse effect (36 CFR 800.5, <i>Assessment of Adverse Effects</i>), the National Park Service concludes that implementing alternative 4 would result in <i>no adverse effect</i> on archeological resources.
Historic Structures, Sites, and Districts	Implementation of the no-action alternative would have long-term beneficial impacts, and long-term or permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park's historic structures, sites, and districts listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.	Implementation of actions proposed by the NPS preferred alternative would result in long-term beneficial impacts, and long-term or permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park's historic structures, sites, and districts listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Section 106 Summary —After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's criteria of adverse effect (36 CFR 800.5, <i>Assessment of Adverse Effects</i>), the National Park Service concludes that implementing the NPS preferred alternative would result in <i>no adverse effect</i> on historic structures, sites, and districts.	Implementation of actions proposed by alternative 2 would result in long-term beneficial impacts, and long-term or permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park's historic structures, sites, and districts listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Section 106 Summary —After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's criteria of adverse effect (36 CFR 800.5, <i>Assessment of Adverse Effects</i>), the National Park Service concludes that implementing alternative 2 would result in <i>no adverse effect</i> on historic structures, sites and districts.	Implementation of actions proposed by alternative 4 would have long-term beneficial impacts, and long-term or permanent, minor to major, adverse impacts on the park's historic structures, sites, and districts listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Section 106 Summary —After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's criteria of adverse effect (36 CFR 800.5, <i>Assessment of Adverse Effects</i>), the National Park Service concludes that implementing alternative 4 could result in determinations of <i>no adverse effect</i> on historic structures, sites, and districts slated for preservation, and <i>adverse effect</i> on historic structures, sites and districts that may possibly be removed or substantially altered.

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	ALTERNATIVE 1: NO ACTION	NPS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 4
Cultural Landscapes	Implementation of the no-action alternative would have long-term beneficial impacts and negligible to minor adverse impacts on the park’s cultural landscapes.	Implementation of actions proposed in the NPS preferred alternative would have long-term beneficial impacts, and long-term or permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park’s cultural landscapes. Section 106 Summary —After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation’s criteria of adverse effect (36 CFR 800.5, Assessment of Adverse Effects), the National Park Service concludes that implementing the NPS preferred alternative would result in <i>no adverse effect</i> on cultural landscapes.	Implementation of actions proposed in alternative 2 would have long-term beneficial impacts, and long-term or permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park’s cultural landscapes. Section 106 Summary —After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation’s criteria of adverse effect (36 CFR 800.5, Assessment of Adverse Effects), the National Park Service concludes that implementing alternative 2 would result in <i>no adverse effect</i> on cultural landscapes.	Implementation of actions proposed in alternative 4 would have long-term beneficial impacts, and long-term or permanent, minor to major, adverse impacts on the park’s cultural landscapes. Section 106 Summary —After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation’s criteria of adverse effect (36 CFR 800.5, Assessment of Adverse Effects), the National Park Service concludes that implementing alternative 4 would result in <i>no adverse effect</i> on cultural landscapes slated for preservation, and <i>adverse effect</i> on cultural landscapes that have structures and character-defining features that may be removed or substantially altered.
Ethnographic Resources	Implementation of the no-action alternative would have long-term beneficial impacts, and long-term or permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park’s ethnographic resources.	Implementation of actions proposed by the NPS preferred alternative would have long-term beneficial impacts, and long-term or permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park’s ethnographic resources. Section 106 Summary —After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation’s criteria of adverse effect (36 CFR 800.5, Assessment of Adverse Effects), the National Park Service concludes that implementing the NPS preferred alternative would result in <i>no adverse effect</i> on ethnographic resources.	Implementation of actions proposed by alternative 2 would have long-term beneficial impacts, and long-term or permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park’s ethnographic resources. Section 106 Summary —After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation’s criteria of adverse effect (36 CFR 800.5, Assessment of Adverse Effects), the National Park Service concludes that implementing alternative 2 would result in <i>no adverse effect</i> on ethnographic resources.	Implementation of actions proposed in alternative 4 would have long-term beneficial impacts, and long-term or permanent, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the park’s ethnographic resources. Section 106 Summary —After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation’s criteria of adverse effect (36 CFR 800.5, Assessment of Adverse Effects), the National Park Service concludes that implementing alternative 4 would result in <i>no adverse effect</i> on ethnographic resources.
Museum Collections	Implementation of the no-action alternative would have long-term or permanent, minor to moderate, adverse impacts on museum collections.	Implementation of actions proposed by the NPS preferred alternative would have long-term beneficial and short-term negligible impacts on museum collections.	Implementation of actions proposed in alternative 2 would have long-term beneficial and short-term, negligible impacts on museum collections.	Implementation of actions proposed in alternative 4 would have long-term beneficial and short-term negligible impacts on museum collections.
Other Topics				
Visitor Use	Maintaining the current access; scenic resources; range of visitor opportunities; experience; and recreation-oriented facilities, including those associated with implementation of the Flamingo Commercial Services Plan, would have a long-term, minor to moderate impact in promoting increased visitor use, although construction activities would have short-term, limited, adverse impacts. To the extent that increased use could be accommodated while achieving the park’s other environmental, ecological and cultural resource protection and restoration goals, implementation of this alternative would represent a long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial impact on visitor use.	Increases in visitor opportunities related to additional visitor services and recreation-oriented facilities, off-site information and education opportunities, and access under the NPS preferred alternative would have a long-term, minor, beneficial impact on visitor use. Implementation of boating management actions in Florida Bay (e.g., pole/troll zones) would result in short- and long-term changes in boating use, including the type and distribution and potentially the level of use. Establishing concession arrangements with commercial airboat operators might result in long-term changes in visitor use, but the timing, magnitude, and increase or decrease in visitation are uncertain. The net effect is anticipated to be a minor to moderate increase in visitor use. To the extent that increased use can be accommodated while achieving the park’s other environmental, ecological and cultural resource protection and restoration goals, implementation of this alternative would represent a long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial impact.	Increases in visitor opportunities related to additional visitor services and recreation-oriented facilities, off-site information and education opportunities, and access under the alternative 2 would have a long-term, minor, beneficial impact on visitor use. Alternative 2 would open Little Madeira Bay and Joe Bay to fishing and to visitors, providing an opportunity to explore a new area and increasing use. Boating use in Florida Bay would remain similar to current trends and patterns. Establishing concession arrangements with commercial airboat operators might result in long-term changes in visitor use, but the timing, magnitude, and increase or decrease in visitation are uncertain. The net effect is anticipated to be a minor to moderate increase in visitor use. To the extent that increased use could be accommodated while achieving the park’s other environmental, ecological and cultural resource protection and restoration goals, implementation of this alternative would represent a long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial impact.	Increases in visitor opportunities related to additional visitor services and recreation-oriented facilities, off-site information and education opportunities, and access under alternative 4 would have a long-term, minor, beneficial impact on visitor use. Implementation of boating management in Florida Bay would result in short- and long-term changes in boating use, including the type and distribution and potentially the level of use, with an anticipated net effect of less boating than under the no-action alternative. Despite elimination of commercial airboat tours in the park, the net effect of alternative 4 is anticipated to be a minor to moderate increase in visitor use compared to the no-action alternative because commercial airboat patrons would remain uncouneted in the no-action alternative. To the extent that increased use could be accommodated while achieving the park’s other environmental, ecological and cultural resource protection and restoration goals, implementation of this alternative would represent a long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial impact.
Visitor Experience and Opportunities	The no-action alternative would result in the continuation of long-term, minor to moderate, adverse impacts as well as long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial impacts. The other plans and projects in and around the park collectively would have a long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial impact on the visitor experience at the park.	The NPS preferred alternative would have long-term, minor to moderate, adverse impacts as well as long-term, moderate to major, beneficial impacts.	Alternative 2 would have long-term, minor to moderate, adverse impacts as well as long-term, moderate to major, beneficial impacts.	Alternative 4 would have long-term, moderate to major, adverse impacts as well as long-term, moderate to major, beneficial impacts.

TABLE 6. SUMMARY OF THE IMPACTS OF THE IMPLEMENTING ALTERNATIVES

	ALTERNATIVE 1: NO ACTION	NPS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE 2	ALTERNATIVE 4
Regional Socioeconomic Environment	The economic and social effects of the no-action alternative include minor, short- and long-term economic benefits and negligible indeterminate effects on population growth and demands on community services and facilities. Long-term consequences on attitudes and lifestyle are indeterminate, but in general more likely to be adverse than beneficial.	The economic effects of the NPS preferred alternative would include negligible short-term and negligible to minor long-term economic benefits, the latter due to increased visitation expected under this alternative. Short- and long-term consequences include a negligible contribution to population growth and demands on community infrastructure and services and indeterminate consequences on lifestyles and attitudes.	The economic and social effects of implementing alternative 2 would include negligible to minor short-term and minor long-term economic benefits comparable to those under the no-action alternative. Short- and long-term effects on lifestyles and attitudes would be indeterminate. Long-term social consequences would include a negligible contribution to long-term population growth and demands on community infrastructure and services.	The economic and social effects of alternative 4 include negligible to minor short- and long-term economic benefits due to the elimination of commercial airboating. Long-term social consequences would include a negligible to minor contribution to long-term population growth and demands on community infrastructure and services.
Park Operations	The park continues to operate well, however, continuation of the no-action alternative would have beneficial and adverse effects on park operations. Overall, the no-action alternative would have long-term, minor, adverse impacts on NPS operations.	As elements of the NPS preferred alternative are implemented the park would be expected to function more effectively than it would under the no-action alternative. The NPS preferred alternative would result in long-term, moderate, beneficial impacts on park operations.	As elements of alternative 2 are implemented, the park would be expected to function more effectively than it would under the no-action alternative. Alternative 2 would result in long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial impacts on park operations.	As elements of Alternative 4 are implemented the park would be expected to function more effectively than it would under the no-action alternative. The NPS preferred alternative would result in long-term, moderate, beneficial impacts on park operations.