

Big Cypress National Preserve 33100 Tamiami Trail East Ochopee, FL 34141

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National Park Service News Release

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Environmental Assessment Open for Public Review for Proposed Fire Station Construction at Big Cypress National Preserve

April. 17 – May 17

OCHOPEE, Fla. – The National Park Service (NPS) is opening a 30-day public comment period on a proposed plan to construct a Fire Station at Big Cypress National Preserve (BICY) Headquarters Complex.

The NPS is proposing to update and increase the efficiency of the BICY Fire and Aviation Program by constructing a modern, safe, and efficient Fire Operations Center (FOC). The new FOC and associated facilities will be constructed in a centralized location near the BICY Headquarters Complex at Ochopee, FL. The project will address the current inadequacies of the fire facilities. A new streamlined FOC will be instrumental in helping NPS meet its annual goal of >125,000 acres of prescribed fire in BICY.

The preserve is seeking public input on the proposed construction through May 17.

Comments on the Proposed Construction of a Fire Station must be submitted in writing on the project's planning site to be considered. Visit https://parkplanning.nps.gov/FOC, select "Open for Comment" on the left menu bar, open the "Construct fire Station at Big Cypress National Preserve Headquarters Complex Environmental Assessment" folder and click on the green "Comment Now" button to access the online commenting form.

For more information, visit https://parkplanning.nps.gov/FOC.

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