



Sulfer Spring

Chapter 5 - Consultation and Coordination

PUBLIC AND AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

The *Comprehensive River Management Plan / Environmental Assessment* for the Wekiva Wild and Scenic River System represents the work of the Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee and the NPS. Consultation and coordination among the agencies and the public were an important part of the planning process. The public will have opportunities to comment on the environmental assessment through participation in public meetings or by submitting comments on the NPS planning website (www.parkplanning.nps.gov).

COMMITTEE AND PUBLIC MEETINGS

The following describes the public involvement and coordination activities that occurred during the Wekiva River System management planning process. (All meetings were held at Sylvan Lake Park in Seminole County unless otherwise noted.) The advisory management committee meetings were open to the public.

02/08/2006 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
04/04/2006 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
07/12/2006 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
12/05/2006 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
02/07/2007 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
03/10/2007 Wekiva River Fest at Wekiwa Springs State Park (annual public event)
03/28/2007 Wekiva River System Advisory Management subcommittee meeting to work on the scope of work for the Wekiva River System Management Plan (held at Wekiwa Springs State Park)
04/03/2007 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
06/06/2007 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting

08/07/2007 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
09/26/2007 Wekiva Wild and Scenic River Community Workshop at Wekiwa Springs State Park for the public to learn about the river management plan and to solicit public input (100 people attended)
11/05/2007 Wekiva River System Advisory Management subcommittee meeting via conference call to work on the Wekiva River System Management Plan
12/04/2007 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
02/13/2008 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
04/15/2008 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
06/04/2008 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
09/15/2008 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee subcommittee meeting to work on finalizing the Draft Wekiva River System Management Plan (held at Wekiwa Springs State Park)
12/02/2008 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
12/10/2008 National Wild and Scenic Rivers Committee Meeting, Sarasota, Florida: field trip on the Wekiva River with Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee members
02/04/2009 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
03/05/2009 Wekiva River System Advisory Management subcommittee conference call to discuss and edit water quantity goals, objectives, and actions
03/13/2009 Wekiva River System Advisory Management subcommittee conference call to further edit, refine and finalize the water quantity goals, objectives, and actions
06/02/2009 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting
06/16-17/2009 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee participants, Denver Service Center representatives, and other NPS offices

met to discuss the planning process and conduct field trip and field study on the Wekiva River system

08/05/2009 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting

01/19/2010 Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee meeting

CONSULTATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES/OFFICIALS AND ORGANIZATIONS (TO DATE)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Section 7 Consultation

During preparation of this document, NPS staff coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Jacksonville, Florida, office. A letter was sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on July 28, 2009 (see appendix F), initiating informal consultation and requesting a species list. The Park Service received a response from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service dated September 1, 2009, with information on federally listed species (see appendix F). The listed species included in this environmental assessment was compiled using information that they provided (see appendix C).

In accordance with the Endangered Species Act and relevant regulations at 50 CFR Part 402, NPS staff determined that the preferred alternative is not likely to adversely affect the eastern indigo snake, Florida scrub-jay, West Indian manatee, or wood stork. NPS managers have provided a copy of this *Environmental Assessment* to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with a request for concurrence with NPS findings. The cover letter for the environmental assessment submittal included references to the sections and pages of the environmental assessment that contain a description of the impacts on habitats and species, which will serve as the “Biological Assessment.”

In addition, the advisory management committee for the Wekiva River System commits to consult the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

on future site specific actions conducted under the framework described in this document to ensure that such actions are *not likely to adversely affect* threatened or endangered species.

Section 106 Consultation (National Historic Preservation Act)

Federal agencies that have direct or indirect jurisdiction over historic properties are required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 270, et seq.), to take into account the effect of any undertaking on properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Section 106 applies to federal undertakings that are projects that occur on federal land, require federal permits, or involve federal funding. Because this environmental assessment is being prepared by the NPS, it is considered a federal undertaking. However, the specific projects and actions that might be taken to implement this environmental assessment would occur on state or county land and generally would not involve federal funding. These undertakings would be subject to applicable state and county laws and regulations. On state land, the implementing agency must abide by Chapter 267 (Historic Resources) of the *Florida State Statutes*, which requires that agencies consider the effects of undertakings on properties that are listed or eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

The NPS sent a letter to the Florida Division of Historical Resources/State Historic Preservation Office in 2009, inviting their participation in the planning process.

Consultation with Native Americans

The NPS recognizes that indigenous peoples might have traditional interests and rights in lands covered by this environmental assessment. Related Native American concerns are

solicited through Native American consultations. The need for government-to-government Native American consultations stems from the historic power of Congress to make treaties with American Indian tribes as sovereign nations. Consultations with American Indians and other Native Americans, such as Native Hawaiians and Alaska Natives, are required by various federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies.

A letter was sent to the Miccosukee Indian Tribe of Florida in July 2009 to invite their participation in the planning process. In the letter, the tribe was briefed on the scope of the planning project and asked for comments. The tribe will have an opportunity to review and comment on this environmental assessment.

Consultation with Other Agencies and Organizations

The following agencies and organizations are represented on the Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee, which was established by the designating legislation and has been a part of the planning process.

- (1) The Department of the Interior, represented by the director of the NPS or the director's designee

- (2) The East Central Florida Regional Planning Council
- (3) The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks
- (4) The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Wekiva River Aquatic Preserve
- (5) The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry, Seminole State Forest
- (6) Audubon of Florida, a nonprofit organization
- (7) The Friends of the Wekiva River, a nonprofit organization
- (8) The Lake County Water Authority
- (9) Lake County
- (10) Orange County
- (11) Seminole County
- (12) The St. Johns River Water Management District
- (13) The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- (14) The City of Altamonte Springs
- (15) The City of Longwood
- (16) The City of Apopka
- (17) The Florida Farm Bureau Federation
- (18) The Florida Forestry Association
- (19) The Florida Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, a nonprofit organization

AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT

FEDERAL AGENCIES

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Jacksonville,
Florida Office)

SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Honorable John L. Mica, U.S. Representative,
7th District
Honorable George LeMieux, U.S. Senate
Honorable Bill Nelson, U.S. Senate

D. Alan Hays, State Representative
Bryan Nelson, State Representative
Scott Plakon, State Representative
Carey Baker, State Senator
Lee Constantine, State Senator
Andy Gardiner, State Senator

STATE AGENCIES

Florida Department of Environmental
Protection, Division of Recreation and
Parks
Florida Department of Environmental
Protection, Wekiva River Aquatic Preserve
Florida Department of Agriculture and
Consumer Services, Division of Forestry,
Seminole State Forest
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation
Commission
Florida Division of Historical Resources (State
Historic Preservation Office)

AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBES TRADITIONALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE RIVER SYSTEM

Miccosukee Indian Tribe of Florida

LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

The East Central Florida Regional Planning
Council
The Florida Department of Environmental
Protection, Division of Recreation and
Parks
The Florida Department of Environmental
Protection, Wekiva River Aquatic Preserve
The Florida Department of Agriculture and
Consumer Services, Division of Forestry,
Seminole State Forest
The Lake County Water Authority
Lake County
Orange County
Seminole County
The St. Johns River Water Management
District
The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation
Commission
The City of Altamonte Springs
The City of Longwood
The City of Apopka
The Florida Farm Bureau Federation
The Florida Forestry Association

ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSINESSES

East Central Florida Regional Planning
Council
Audubon of Florida
Friends of the Wekiva River
Florida Farm Bureau Federation
Florida Forestry Association
The Florida Chapter of The Nature
Conservancy

INDIVIDUALS

(For a list of individuals receiving a copy of
this document, contact the Chief of Planning
for the NPS Southeast Region.)