



**Florida Department of Environmental Protection
CITIZEN SUPPORT ORGANIZATION
2026 LEGISLATIVE REPORT
(pursuant to Section 20.058 Florida Statutes)**

Citizen Support Organization (CSO) Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Website Address (*required if applicable*): _____

Check to confirm your Code of Ethics is posted conspicuously on your website.

Statutory Authority:

Section 20.2551, F.S., Citizen support organizations; use of property; audit; public records; partnerships. In summary, the statute specifies the organizational requirements, operational parameters, duties of a CSO to support the Department of Environmental Protection (Department), or individual units of the Department, use of Department property, audit requirements, public records requirements, and authorizes public-private partnerships to enhance lands managed by the Department.

Section 258.015, F.S., Citizen support organizations; use of property; audit. In summary, the statute defines a CSO, requires authorization by the Division of Recreation and Parks, and specifies the use of property. This statute authorizes the Partnerships in Parks (PIP) program for state parks, the program's operational parameters, CSO's operational parameters, and donor recognition.

YOUR MISSION AND LAST CALENDAR YEAR'S PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

CSO's Mission: (Consistent with your Articles and Bylaws)

Describe Last Calendar Year's Results Obtained: Brag! (List or discuss the past calendar year's accomplishments and contributions. Cite specific support from last calendar year's Annual Program Plan.)

Describe the CSO's Plans for the Next Three Calendar Years:

CSO's LAST CALENDAR YEAR STATISTICS:

Total Number of CSO General Membership:

Total Number of Board of Directors:

Total Volunteer Hours for the Board of Directors (From VSys - Work with your parks' volunteer manager):

PARK & CSO RELATIONSHIP:

Do not duplicate by describing accomplishments and contributions in the summary. Brag in the above Results Obtained. Below, describe the relationship.

Park Manager's Comments on the CSO & Park Relationship and Support:

Provide your perspective on

- Changing developments of the park provided by the CSO.
- Effectiveness of the organization in fulfilling their purpose to support the park(s).
- Effectiveness of the Board of Directors in completing their Annual Program Plan.
- The relationship between the park and CSO. What went well? Are there areas of improvement?

CSO President's Comments on the CSO & Park Relationship and Support:

Provide your perspective on the relationship between the park and CSO. What went well? Are there areas of improvement?

SUMMARIZE FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR LAST CALENDAR YEAR, DIRECT PARK(S) SUPPORT & REVENUES:

Program Services are costs related to providing your organizations' programs or services in accordance with your mission. Describe and provide expenses that directly support the park(s). For established nonprofit organizations, program service expenses generally represent most of the overall expenses of the organization. For the last calendar year provide the total \$ for each that apply. Do not use commas.

Building improvement, construction, or renovations	\$
Cultural resources (e.g., historic structure restoration/ renovation)	\$
Natural resources (e.g., native plants, natural lands restoration)	\$
Maintenance equipment (e.g., mowers, chippers, blowers, chainsaws)	\$
Other facilities and landscape maintenance	\$
Vehicles (e.g., trucks/cars, UTVs, golf carts, accessible devices, etc.)	\$
Amenities (e.g., water fountains, benches, picnic tables, recreational equipment, kiosks etc.)	\$
Park employees or volunteers support (e.g., interns, training, uniforms, awards, or recognition)	\$
Big ticket visitor center exhibits or interpretation updates	\$
Park exhibits, displays, signage	\$
Park publications, brochures, maps, etc.	\$
Programing/interpretation support material purchases	\$
Other program services	\$
Total Program Service Expenses	\$

Visitor Services Revenue are revenues and the sources generated from fundraising on park property. Do not use commas.

Park gift shops, craft stores, and concession sales	\$
Merchandise sales (e.g., plants, firewood, ice, t-shirts, hats, etc.)	\$
Programs and Special Events (e.g., fundraising workshops, seasonal events, concerts, etc.)	\$
Vending (e.g., drink machines, penny press, laundry, Wifi, etc.)	\$
Rentals (e.g., bikes, canoe, kayak, SUPs, etc.)	\$
In-park donation boxes	\$
Other visitor services revenue	\$
Total Visitor Services Revenue	\$

NET ASSETS: \$

Organizations end of last year's Total Assets minus Total Liabilities. This is not the above's Visitor Service Revenue minus Program Service Expenses.

CSO AUDIT THRESHOLD:**Last Calendar Year's Total Expenses (including grants) \$**

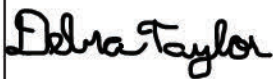
Are the CSO's annual total expenses \$300,000 including grants? Then Section 215.981(2), Florida Statute requires an independent CPA audit using Government Audit Standards ([U.S. GAO Yellow Book](#)). The audit is **due by September 1** (9 months after the CSO's calendar year ends) to the Florida Auditor General and to the Department.

CONFIRM ATTACHMENTS:**Code of Ethics**

The most recent Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N receipt. All IRS Form 990's must be complete with Part III Program Service and all appropriate Schedules (A, O, and others as appropriate). If filing an IRS extension, attach the IRS 8868 receipt and the most recent complete 990 and schedules.

2026 CSO Legislative Report Acknowledgment

This information is complete to the best of my knowledge pursuant to Section 20.058 Florida Statutes

Title	Name (Print or Type)	Signature	Date
Friends of Fakahatchee President	Debra Taylor		4/30/26
Interim Park Manager	Davi Baniak	David Baniak  Digitally signed by David Baniak Date: 2026.05.01 08:50:59 -04'00'	



OrchidSwamp.org

CODE OF ETHICS POLICY

The Board of Directors of the Friends of Fakahatchee Inc. adopted the following **Code of Ethics Policy** on 12TH October 2014.

ARTICLE I. Purpose

The purpose of the Code of Ethics Policy is to protect this tax-exempt Organization's interest when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interest of an officer or director of the Organization or might result in a possible excess benefit transaction. This policy is intended to supplement, but not replace, any applicable state and federal laws governing conflict of interest applicable to non-profit and charitable organizations.

ARTICLE II Definitions

- 1. Interested Person.** Any director, principal officer, or member of a committee with governing board-delegated powers who has a direct or indirect financial interest, as defined below, is an interested person.
- 2. Financial Interest.** A person has a financial interest if the person has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment, family, and/or domestic partner
 - a. An ownership or investment interest in any entity with which the Organization has a transaction or arrangement.
 - b. A compensation arrangement with the Organization or with any entity or individual with which the Organization has a transaction or arrangement.
 - c. A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with any entity or individual with which the Organization is negotiating a transaction or arrangement.
- 3. Compensation** includes direct and indirect remuneration, reimbursement for expenses, as well as gifts or favors valued in excess of \$25.

ARTICLE III. Procedures

1. Duty to Disclose In connection with any actual or possible conflict of interest, an interested person must disclose the existence of the financial interest and be given the opportunity to disclose all material facts to the directors and members of committees with governing board-delegated powers considering the proposed transaction or arrangement.

2. Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists After disclosure of the financial interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the interested person, he/she shall leave the governing board or committee meeting while the determination of a conflict of interest is discussed and voted upon. The remaining board or committee members shall decide if a conflict of interest exists.

3. Procedures for Addressing the Conflict of Interest.

- a. An interested person may make a presentation at the board or committee meeting, but after the presentation the person shall leave the meeting during the discussion of, and the vote on, the transaction or arrangement involving the possible conflict of interest.
- b. The chairperson of the board shall, if appropriate, appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement.
- c. After exercising due diligence, the board shall determine whether the Organization can obtain with reasonable efforts, a more advantageous transaction or arrangement from a person or entity that would not give rise to a conflict of interest.
- d. If a more advantageous transaction or arrangement is not reasonably possible under circumstances not producing a conflict of interest, the board shall determine, by a majority vote of the disinterested directors whether the transaction or arrangement is in the Organization's best interest, for its own benefit, and whether it is fair and reasonable. In conformity with the above determination it shall make its decision as to whether to enter into the transaction or arrangement.

4. Violations of the Code of Ethics Policy.

- a. If the board has reasonable cause to believe a member has failed to disclose actual or possible conflicts of interest, it shall inform the member of the basis for such belief and afford the member an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.
- b. If, after hearing the member's response and after further investigation as warranted by the circumstances, the board determines the member has failed to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate action.

ARTICLE IV. Records of Proceedings

1. Minutes. The minutes of the board shall contain:

- a. The names of the persons who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a financial interest in connection with an actual or possible conflict of interest, the nature of the financial interest, any action taken to determine whether a conflict of interest was present, and the board's decision as to whether a conflict of interest in fact existed.
- b. The names of the persons who were present for discussions and votes relating to the transaction or arrangement and a record of any votes taken in connection with the proceedings.

ARTICLE V. Compensation

1. A voting member of the board who receives compensation or reimbursement for expenses, directly or indirectly, from the Organization for services is precluded from voting on matters pertaining to that member's compensation.
2. A voting member of any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters and who receives compensation or reimbursement for expenses, directly or indirectly, from the Organization for services is precluded from voting on matters pertaining to that member's compensation.
3. No voting member of the board or any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters and who receives compensation or reimbursement for expenses, directly or indirectly, from the Organization, either individually or collectively, is prohibited from providing information to any committee regarding compensation.

ARTICLE VI. Annual Statements.

1. Each director, principal officer and member of a committee with governing board-delegated powers shall annually sign a statement which affirms such person:
 - a. Has received a copy of the Code of Ethics Policy.
 - b. Has read and understands the Policy.
 - c. Has agreed to comply with the Policy, and
 - d. Understands the Organization is charitable and in order to maintain its federal tax exemption it must engage primarily in activities which accomplish one or more of its tax-exempt purposes.

ARTICLE VII. Use of Outside Experts.

In administering the above Code of Ethics Policy, the Organization may, but need not, use outside advisors. If outside experts are used, their use shall not relieve the board of its responsibility for ensuring that periodic reviews are conducted.

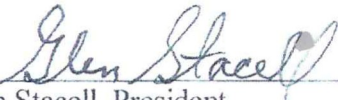
ARTICLE VIII

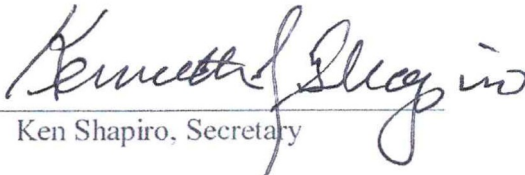
~~Conflicts Involving Authorized FOF Concessionaire Sub-contractors.~~

~~Should any Board Member, Officer or Employee of the FOF, during the period of their term of office or employment, develop or seek to develop a personal or business relationship with the FOF, such person(s) shall immediately notify the Board in writing of such developments and shall immediately be deemed to have resigned from any position they may hold as a Member of the Board, Officer or Employee of the FOF, if such person: a) is, or seeks to become, an authorized sub-contractor of the FOF pursuant to the Concessionaire Agreement between the FOF and the State of Florida ("authorized FOF sub-contractor"); or b) holds any financial or equitable interest in an authorized FOF sub-contractor; or, c) is an employee, officer or agent of an authorized sub-contractor; or, d) is related by blood or marriage to any person described in sub paragraphs a) c), above.~~

Conflicts of Interest

Should any Board Member, Officer or Employee of the FOF, during the period of their term of office or employment, develop or seek to develop a personal or business relationship of a type prohibited by the FOF's Policy and Procedure Manual - Policy 027-2020, such person(s) shall immediately notify the Board in writing of such developments and shall immediately be deemed to have resigned from any position(s) they may hold as a Member of the Board, Officer or Employee of the FOF.


Glen Stacell, President


Ken Shapiro, Secretary

AMENDED November 1, 2020

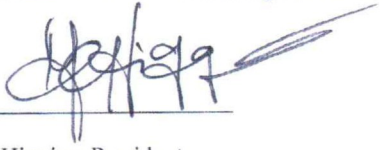


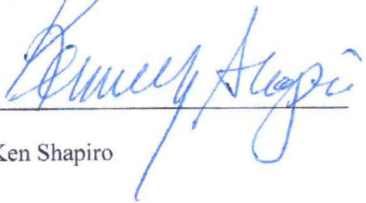
**PRACTICES IN ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION FOR
OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS.**

On the 18th November 2018

The Board of Directors of the Friends of Fakahatchee Inc. resolved that;

- a. The individuals who approve compensation arrangements will follow a [Code of Ethics Policy](#).
- b. The Board will approve compensation arrangements in advance of paying compensation.
- c. The Board will document in writing the date and terms of approved compensation arrangements.
- d. The Board will record in writing the decision made by each individual who decided or voted on compensation arrangements.
- e. The Board will approve compensation arrangements based on information about compensation paid by similarly situated taxable or tax-exempt organizations for similar services, current compensation surveys compiled by independent firms, or actual written offers from similarly situated organizations.
- f. The Board will record in writing both the information on which it has relied to base its decision and its source.


Patrick Higgins, President


Ken Shapiro

Short Form

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-0047

2025

Open to Public
InspectionDepartment of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

Do not enter social security numbers on this form, as it may be made public.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990EZ for instructions and the latest information.

A For the 2025 calendar year, or tax year beginning , and ending	
B Check if applicable: ☐ Address change ☐ Name change ☐ Initial return ☐ Final return/terminated ☐ Amended return ☐ Application pending	C Name of organization Friends of Fakahatchee Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite PO Box 54 City or town State ZIP code Bonita Springs FL 34133 Foreign country name Foreign province/state/county Foreign postal code
D Employer identification number 59-3511352	
E Telephone number 239-695-1023	
F Group Exemption Number	
G Accounting Method: ☒ Cash ☐ Accrual Other (specify) _____	
H Check ☐ if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990).	
I Website: _____	
J Tax-exempt status (check only one) — ☒ 501(c)(3) ☐ 501(c) () (insert no.) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527	
K Form of organization: ☒ Corporation ☐ Trust ☐ Association ☐ Other _____	
L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, column (B)) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ \$ 136,277	

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I)			
Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I ☒			
Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	80,755
	2 Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	25,415
	3 Membership dues and assessments	3	17,846
	4 Investment income	4	9,455
	5a Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
	b Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	
	c Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	
	6 Gaming and fundraising events:		
	a Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a	
b Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b		
c Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c		
d Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d		
7a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a	2,806	
b Less: cost of goods sold	7b	150	
c Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	2,656	
8 Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8		
9 Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	136,127	
Expenses	10 Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	
	11 Benefits paid to or for members	11	
	12 Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	41,528
	13 Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	60
	14 Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	
	15 Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	1,542
	16 Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	70,386
	17 Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16	17	113,516
Net Assets	18 Excess or (deficit) for the year (subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	22,611
	19 Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	354,291
	20 Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	
	21 Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20	21	376,902

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Form 990-EZ (2025) Created 5/2/25

Part II Balance Sheets (see the instructions for Part II)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II ☐

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	354,291	22 376,902
23 Land and buildings		23
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)		24
25 Total assets	354,291	25 376,902
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)		26
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	354,291	27 376,902

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (see the instructions for Part III)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III ☒What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? See Schedule O

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.

Expenses
(Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations; optional for others.)

28 <u>See Schedule O</u>		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	28a	113,516
29		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	29a	
30		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	30a	
31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O)		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	31a	
32 Total program service expenses. (add lines 28a through 31a)	32	113,516

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees (list each one even if not compensated—see the instructions for Part IV)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV ☐

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
Glen Stacell President	Hr/WK 10	0		
Francine Stevens Executive Director	Hr/WK 40	37,800		
Debra Taylor Vice President	Hr/WK 5	0		
Phil McGuire Treasurer	Hr/WK 5	0		
Carol Spagnolo Secretary	Hr/WK 6	0		
Rudi Ettrich Director	Hr/WK 1	0		
Deborah Jansen Director	Hr/WK 1	0		
Kevin Cuniff Director	Hr/WK 1	0		
Maria Sentmanat Director	Hr/WK 1	0		
Tom Trotta Director	Hr/WK 1	0		
	Hr/WK			

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V. ☐

	Yes	No
33 Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O.	33	X
34 Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O. See instructions.	34	X
35a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?	35a	X
b If "Yes" to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O.	35b	
c Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III.	35c	
36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N.	36	X
37a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions. 37a _____	37a	
b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?	37b	
38a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee; or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?	38a	X
b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II, and enter the total amount involved. 38b _____	38b	
39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9. 39a _____	39a	
b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities. 39b _____	39b	
40a Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 _____; section 4912 _____; section 4955 _____ 3		
b Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I.	40b	X
c Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958. _____		
d Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization. _____		
e All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T.	40e	X
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed: _____		
42a The organization's books are in care of: <u>Francine Stevens</u> Telephone no. <u>239-695-1023</u> Located at: <u>137 Coastlin</u> City <u>Copeland</u> ST <u>FL</u> ZIP + 4 <u>34137</u>		
b At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country _____ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).	42b	X
c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the United States? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country _____	42c	X
43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 —Check here. ☐ and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year. 43 _____		
44a Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ.	44a	X
b Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ.	44b	X
c Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?	44c	X
d If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O.	44d	
45a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	45a	X
b Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ. See instructions.	45b	X

- 46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I.

	Yes	No
46		X

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) Organizations Only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47–49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI ☐

- 47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II
- 48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E
- 49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?
- b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?
- 49b
- 50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees, and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

	Yes	No
47		X
48		X
49a		X
49b		

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
Name NONE				
Title	Hr/WK			
Name				
Title	Hr/WK			
Name				
Title	Hr/WK			
Name				
Title	Hr/WK			
Name				
Title	Hr/WK			

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000

- 51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
Name NONE		
City		
Name		
City		
Name		
City		
Name		
City		
Name		
City		

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000

- 52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? Note: All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here	Signature of officer	04/27/2026	Date
	Officer's name and title		
Paid Preparer Use Only	Preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date
	Wesley Pruitt CPA	Wesley Pruitt CPA	04/27/2026
	Firm's name	Firm's EIN	Check ☐ if self-employed
	Pruitt Cordell & Associates	65-1069696	PTIN P02367770
	Firm's address	Phone no.	
	19910 S Tamiami Trail Estero FL 33928	239-319-5888	

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions ☒ Yes ☐ No

- 46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I.

	Yes	No
46		X

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) Organizations Only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47–49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI ☐

- 47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II.

	Yes	No
47		X
48		X
49a		X
49b		

- 48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E.

- 49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?

- b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?

- 50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees, and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC/1099-NEC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
Name NONE				
Title	Hr/WK			
Name				
Title	Hr/WK			
Name				
Title	Hr/WK			
Name				
Title	Hr/WK			
Name				
Title	Hr/WK			

- f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000.

- 51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
Name NONE		
City		
Name		
City		
Name		
City		
Name		
City		
Name		
City		

- d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000.

- 52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note:** All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here	Signature of officer	Date	
	Philip McGuire	04/27/2026 5/5/26	
Paid Preparer Use Only	Preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date
	Wesley Pruitt CPA	Wesley Pruitt CPA	04/27/2026
	Firm's name	Firm's EIN	PTIN
	Pruitt Cordell & Associates	65-1069696	P02367770
	Firm's address	Phone no.	
	19910 S Tamiami Trail Estero FL 33928	239-319-5888	

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions.

☒ Yes ☐ No

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Public Charity Status and Public Support

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2025

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization

Friends of Fakahatchee

Employer identification number

59-3511352

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status. (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 12, check only one box.)

- 1 ☐ A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2 ☐ A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E (Form 990).)
- 3 ☐ A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4 ☐ A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state:
- 5 ☐ An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 6 ☐ A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7 ☐ An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 8 ☐ A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 9 ☐ An agricultural research organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ix)** operated in conjunction with a land-grant college or university or a non-land-grant college of agriculture (see instructions). Enter the name, city, and state of the college or university:
- 10 ☒ An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions, subject to certain exceptions; and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III.)
- 11 ☐ An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 12 ☐ An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2)**. See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box on lines 12a through 12d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 12e, 12f, and 12g.
- a ☐ **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**
- b ☐ **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**
- c ☐ **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**
- d ☐ **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated. The organization must generally satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**
- e ☐ Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.
- f Enter the number of supported organizations
- g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1–10 above (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document?		(v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions)	(vi) Amount of other support (see instructions)
			Yes	No		
(A)						
(B)						
(C)						
(D)						
(E)						
Total						

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 10 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II.

If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2021	(b) 2022	(c) 2023	(d) 2024	(e) 2025	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	155688.	138598.	64800.	72175.	80755.	512016.
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose	11566.	30046.	25150.	37155.	46067.	149984.
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513		10500.				10500.
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5	167254.	179144.	89950.	109330.	126822.	672500.
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						
c Add lines 7a and 7b						
8 Public support. (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)						672500.

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2021	(b) 2022	(c) 2023	(d) 2024	(e) 2025	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6	167254.	179144.	89950.	109330.	126822.	672500.
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties, and income from similar sources	1100.	1538.	6114.	11057.	9456.	29265.
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b	1100.	1538.	6114.	11057.	9456.	29265.
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included on line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)						
13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)	168354.	180682.	96064.	120387.	136278.	701765.

14 First 5 years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here** ☐

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public support percentage for 2025 (line 8, column (f), divided by line 13, column (f))	15	95.83%
16 Public support percentage from 2024 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	96.64%

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment income percentage for 2025 (line 10c, column (f), divided by line 13, column (f))	17	4.17%
18 Investment income percentage from 2024 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	3.00%

19a 33 1/3% support tests—2025. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ☒

b 33 1/3% support tests—2024. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ☐

20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ☐

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990)

(Rev. December 2024)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.
Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization	Employer identification number
Friends of Fakahatchee	59-3511352

Form 990-EZ Part I Line 16 - Other Expenses	
Administration	\$2803
Events	\$3853
Fundraising	\$282
Membership	\$1162

Form 990-EZ Part I Line 16 - Other Expenses Cont.	
Merchandise	\$886
Park Support	\$66,598
PR & Media	\$2384

Form 990-EZ Part III - Organizations Primary Exempt Purpose
The Friends of Fakahatchee Inc. Provides Financial/Volunteer
Support to Preserve the Unique Heritage of The Fakahatchee
Strand Preserve State Park and to Educate the Public

Form 990EZ Part III Line 28 - Program Service Accomplishment
The Friends of Fakahatchee Inc. is the Citizen Support
Organization of the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park,
the Largest Cypress Strand Swamp in the Greater Everglades

Gross Profit on Sales of Inventory

US 990

990-EZ: Page 1, Line 7; 990-PF: Page 12, Line 10

2025

Description	Gross sales less returns	Cost of goods sold	Gross profit
Merchandise	2,806.	150.	2,656.
	2,806.	150.	2,656.

Form **8879-TE****IRS E-file Signature Authorization
for a Tax-Exempt Entity**

OMB No. 1545-0047

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

For calendar year 2025, or fiscal year beginning _____, 2025, and ending _____, 2025

Do not send to the IRS. Keep for your records.Go to www.irs.gov/Form8879TE for the latest information.**2025**

Name of filer

Friends of Fakahatchee

EIN or SSN

59-3511352

Name and title of officer or person subject to tax

Philip McGuire

Treasurer

Part I Type of Return and Return Information

Check the box for the return for which you are using this Form 8879-TE and enter the applicable amount, if any, from the return. Form 8038-CP and Form 5330 filers may enter dollars and cents. For all other forms, enter whole dollars only. If you check the box on line 1a, 2a, 3a, 4a, 5a, 6a, 7a, 8a, 9a, or 10a below, and the amount on that line for the return being filed with this form was blank, then leave line 1b, 2b, 3b, 4b, 5b, 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, or 10b, whichever is applicable, blank (do not enter -0-). But, if you entered -0- on the return, then enter -0- on the applicable line below. Do not complete more than one line in Part I.

1a Form 990 check here	☐	b Total revenue, if any (Form 990, Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1b	
2a Form 990-EZ check here	☒	b Total revenue, if any (Form 990-EZ, line 9)	2b	136,127
3a Form 1120-POL check here	☐	b Total tax (Form 1120-POL, line 22)	3b	
4a Form 990-PF check here	☐	b Tax based on investment income (Form 990-PF, Part V, line 5)	4b	
5a Form 8868 check here	☐	b Balance due (Form 8868, line 3c)	5b	
6a Form 990-T check here	☐	b Total tax (Form 990-T, Part III, line 4)	6b	
7a Form 4720 check here	☐	b Total tax (Form 4720, Part III, line 1)	7b	
8a Form 5227 check here	☐	b FMV of assets at end of tax year (Form 5227, item D)	8b	
9a Form 5330 check here	☐	b Tax due (Form 5330, Part II, line 19)	9b	
10a Form 8038-CP check here	☐	b Amount of credit payment requested (Form 8038-CP, Part III, line 22)	10b	

Part II Declaration and Signature Authorization of Officer or Person Subject to Tax

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that ☒ I am an officer of the above entity or ☐ I am a person subject to tax with respect to (name of entity) _____, (EIN) _____ and that I have examined a copy of the 2025 electronic return and accompanying schedules and statements, and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, they are true, correct, and complete. I further declare that the amount in Part I above is the amount shown on the copy of the electronic return. I consent to allow my intermediate service provider, transmitter, or electronic return originator (ERO) to send the return to the IRS and to receive from the IRS (a) an acknowledgement of receipt or reason for rejection of the transmission, (b) the reason for any delay in processing the return or refund, and (c) the date of any refund. If applicable, I authorize the U.S. Treasury and its designated Financial Agent to initiate an electronic funds withdrawal (direct debit) entry to the financial institution account indicated in the tax preparation software for payment of the federal taxes owed on this return, and the financial institution to debit the entry to this account. To revoke a payment, I must contact the U.S. Treasury Financial Agent at 1-888-353-4537 no later than 2 business days prior to the payment (settlement) date. I also authorize the financial institutions involved in the processing of the electronic payment of taxes to receive confidential information necessary to answer inquiries and resolve issues related to the payment. I have selected a personal identification number (PIN) as my signature for the electronic return and, if applicable, the consent to electronic funds withdrawal.

PIN: check one box only

☒ I authorize Pruitt Cordell & Associates to enter my PIN 13521 as my signature
ERO firm name Enter five numbers, but do not enter all zeros

on the tax year 2025 electronically filed return. If I have indicated within this return that a copy of the return is being filed with a state agency(ies) regulating charities as part of the IRS Fed/State program, I also authorize the aforementioned ERO to enter my PIN on the return's disclosure consent screen.

☐ As an officer or person subject to tax with respect to the entity, I will enter my PIN as my signature on the tax year 2025 electronically filed return. If I have indicated within this return that a copy of the return is being filed with a state agency(ies) regulating charities as part of the IRS Fed/State program, I will enter my PIN on the return's disclosure consent screen.

Signature of officer or person subject to tax

Philip McGuire

Date

05/01/2026

Part III Certification and Authentication

ERO's EFIN/PIN. Enter your six-digit electronic filing identification number (EFIN) followed by your five-digit self-selected PIN.

65046654321

Do not enter all zeros

I certify that the above numeric entry is my PIN, which is my signature on the 2025 electronically filed return indicated above. I confirm that I am submitting this return in accordance with the requirements of Pub. 4163, Modernized e-File (MeF) Information for Authorized IRS e-file Providers for Business Returns.

ERO's signature

Wesley Pruitt CPA

Date

05/01/2026

ERO Must Retain This Form—See Instructions**Do Not Submit This Form to the IRS Unless Requested To Do So**

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see back of form.

BCA

Form **8879-TE** (2025) Created 5/1/25