



Division of Recreation and Parks Management Plan Updates

Terra Ceia Preserve State Park

The Division of Recreation and Parks is updating the Unit Management Plan for Terra Ceia Preserve State Park in Southwest Florida. Many proposed improvements focus on storm recovery following recent hurricanes and building more resilient facilities that will allow the park to reopen more quickly after future storms while continuing to protect natural and cultural resources.

The proposed objectives, management strategies and land uses in the plan reflect increased protections to adjacent Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve. Chapter 2026-1, Laws of Florida, prohibits the dredging or filling of submerged lands within the preserve and safeguards water quality by allowing for passive recreational activities rather than commercial transportation within the preserve.

Planned Improvements

- Develop new interpretive and educational features that highlight the park's unique natural resources and enrich the visitor experience.
- Install crosswalks and upgrade parking areas to improve visitor safety and accessibility.
- Add visitor amenities, including trailhead shelters and an observation platform.
- Improve the Bishop Harbor Boat Ramp area and consider the addition of a self-serve paddlecraft rental kiosk to expand recreational opportunities.
- Improve trail connectivity and expand hiking opportunities to provide visitors with greater access to the park's natural areas.
- Strengthen the preservation and protection of the park's significant archaeological resources.
- Relocate administrative facilities and develop campsites for park volunteers to improve operational efficiency and strengthen storm resiliency.
- Update visitor use management strategies to support sustainable recreation and protect natural resources.



Public Comments

Public input is an important and valued part of all DEP decision-making, and we encourage the community to take advantage of this opportunity. People can provide oral comments at the meeting by visiting the comment table. Written comments are also welcome and can be submitted either at the comment table during the meeting or by email to TerraCeiaPlanning@FloridaDEP.gov. The public comment period will conclude on Sept. 1, 2026.



To access all documents related to the Unit Management Plan update, please visit:

