

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF RECREATION AND PARKS
OFFICE OF PARK PLANNING



HORN SPRINGS ADDITION

**to Natural Bridge Battlefield
Historic State Park**

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS
AND COMMENTS**

From: jr miller
To: [FLStateParkPlanning](#)
Subject: Natural Bridge Battlefield State Park.
Date: Wednesday, August 8, 2018 1:59:22 PM

Dear Sirs:

This is a few commits in regards to the Park Service meeting that was held on 8-7-18 and the proposed improvements to the park.

My main concern is actually a lack of any Battlefield interpretive signage.

This has been an issue with this park for many years.

All the Civil War Battlefields that I have been to have great interpretive signage that included full size replica cannons to mark the spots where the artillery cannons/batteries were located and what units they belonged to.

There is no such thing at Natural Bridge.

Also there are no markers for Infantry or Cavalry units that mark their positions on the battlefield.

In fact there is not even a battlefield map of the actual battlefield posted at least I have not seen such a map posted but have seen them posted on the internet.

Civil War tourism is a multi-million dollar industry and we are missing out on those visitors and their dollars because there is no interpretive trail or any signage on the actual battlefield. All cannon positions must be located and marked with full size replicas of the actual cannons that were on the field at the battle and plaques placed to identify what units were where at the time of the battle.

Thank You:

Donald Miller

From: Evan Barksdale [mailto:evan_barksdale@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 10:43 PM

To: FLStateParkPlanning <FLStateParkPlanning@dep.state.fl.us>

Subject: In Regards to the draft Horns Springs Acquisition Management Plan

Greetings,

I have read the proposed management plan for the Horn Springs Property and have some misgivings about the plan's lack of information/ambiguity regarding whether swimming will be allowed in Horn Spring itself. I am an avid spring-goer myself and would be very disappointed if swimming was to be prohibited at the spring.

Having paddled to the spring myself multiple times before the state bought the land, I am reasonably confident that the size of the spring lends itself to allowing users to wade and swim. I think a very apt comparison for Horn Spring is Pitt Spring in Bay County, where swimming is very much encouraged; the water management district did an excellent job of creating steps down to the spring to limit trampling of the bank and subsequent erosion without marring the natural aesthetic of the site. I think similar improvements at Horn Spring would be invaluable in offering a resource protection friendly way to facilitate visitors getting in and out of the water.

I think people are going to find a way to swim here whether it's allowed or not, like they do at Cherokee Sink, and not taking the into account would be foolish and shortsighted. While I agree that access should be limited at smaller, more fragile springs on the property, I think giving access at Horn Springs to swimmers would go a long way to make the park a valuable recreation asset in Leon County. I hope you take my considerations seriously, and I am looking forward to receiving your response.

-Sincerely,

Evan Barksdale

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks

Please go slow
in your
P.F.W.

COMMENT FORM

Horn Springs Addition to Natural Bridge Battlefield Historic State Park

Beautiful SPRINGS upriver from Horn Springs
& old Railroad Trussel (Bridge) this spring
was unaffected by the dye put in Byrd Sink.

there are a number of Archaeological
sites - known by hundreds
think these need to be protected especially
(Wading
Rock Staff)

Master task fund in Horn Springs

we built sandbag wall on south side of
H.S. Back filled with dump truck loads
of SAND & placed larger rock over sand bag
Planted a couple cypress where old ones were
shot & destroyed

There are eagles, gopher turtles

want & am willing to work with
all Dept on details & Arch. sites

Some of us have been
out there for years &
know the terrain &
area

Jake Story
766-5915

**Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks**

**Horn Springs Addition
Natural Bridge Battlefield Historic State Park
Public Meeting
Tuesday, August 7, 2018**

Purpose

The purpose of this meeting is to receive public input on the proposed management plan amendment for the Horn Springs Addition to Natural Bridge Battlefield Historic State Park.

Background

The Horn Springs Addition, is the site of 10 known springs and important historic sites. At nearly 2,000 acres in size this valuable addition to the Florida Park Service will offer visitors the opportunity to explore and interact with an exemplary natural setting. The Horn Springs Addition can provide a variety of public recreational and educational opportunities and will support a major wildlife corridor connecting eastern Leon County to the Gulf of Mexico.

Improvements

Developments/improvements proposed for the Horn Springs Addition to Natural Bridge Battlefield Historic State Park include:

- Parking and canoe /kayak launch improvements at Natural Bridge Road.
- New trailhead and trail system on the east side of the St. Mark's River to provide access Horn Springs.
- New overlook, picnic pavilion and canoe/kayak landing at Horn Springs.
- New special event area to support the annual reenactment of the Battle at Natural Bridge.

Public Input

Thank you for taking the time to share your comments with us. Please provide any comments you have in writing on the back of this page by no later than **Tuesday, August 22, 2018.**

You may also provide your comments by calling (850) 245-3061, sending an email with the park name in the subject line to FLStateParkPlanning@floridadep.gov, or by regular mail at the address below.

Office of Park Planning
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation & Parks
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 525
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

PLEASE COMPLETE COMMENT FORM ON REVERSE