Citizen Support Organization (CSO) Name: Friends of Fort Cooper State Park  
Mailing Address: 3100 S. Old Floral City Rd. Inverness, FL 34450  
Telephone Number: 352-726-0315  
Website Address: www.thefriendsoffortcooper.com

### 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.

### CSO’s Mission: The Friends are organized to operate exclusively for educational and charitable purposes and to function as a support group for Fort Cooper State Park. The Friends will work to increase public awareness about the Park and its local heritage and will provide volunteer service for the advancement of Park programs. The Friends will assist the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection with the preservation and conservation of Park property including structures, grounds, recreational facilities, and Lake Holathlikaha. The Friends may raise funds through donations, gifts, contributions, product sales and grants.

### Description of the CSO’s Results Obtained:

We had 603 fourth grade students participating in the Annual Living History Days. We had 464 visitors attend the annual Music in the Park Bluegrass Festival. Additionally, the amount of visitors that came out for the annual 3-day Nights of Lights were 3526 people. They also purchased a newer refrigerator and stove for the rec hall, a new popcorn machine and used ice cream cart to use at the events and programs. The CSO rented a ditch digger and we installed 4 new lights for the parking lots. The CSO helped support a few new programs in the Park along with repairing the tram axle and painting the tram. The CSO also installed a dog waste station for picnic area and bought 2 new historical panels for the inside and outside of the rec hall to help interpret Fort Cooper. The CSO purchased and helped install a new ADA water fountain for bathhouse #2.

### Description of the CSO’s Plans for the Next Three Fiscal Years:

To continue supporting the Park by purchasing materials for improvements and enhancements. Provide funding for a boat dock/pier to improve lake access for fishing and launching kayaks and canoes. Provide funding for a new ADA playground to replace aging and non-compliant playground. Provide manpower for labor intensive activities including but not limited to power washing walkways, painting/staining picnic tables, kiosks, gazebo etc., maintaining five miles of hiking trails, and providing educational programs to the local community.

- CSO’s Code of Ethics is attached, and if the CSO has a website the code of ethics is posted conspicuously.
- CSO has attached the most recent Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N receipt. If filing the 990-N, the Department requires the 990 or 990-EZ as a worksheet. All IRS Form 990’s
The Friends of Fort Cooper, Inc.

CODE OF ETHICS

PREAMBLE

(1) It is essential to the proper conduct and operation of The Friends of Fort Cooper, Inc. (herein "CSO") that its board members, officers, and employees be independent and impartial and that their position not be used for private gain. Therefore, the Florida Legislature in Section 112.3251, Florida Statute (Fla. Stat.), requires that the law protect against any conflict of interest and establish standards for the conduct of CSO board members, officers, and employees in situations where conflicts may exist.

(2) It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state that no CSO board member, officer, or employee shall have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or incur any obligation of any nature which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his or her duties for the CSO. To implement this policy and strengthen the faith and confidence of the people in Citizen Support Organizations, there is enacted a code of ethics setting forth standards of conduct required of The Friends of Fort Cooper, Inc. board members, officers, and employees in the performance of their official duties.

STANDARDS

The following standards of conduct are enumerated in Chapter 112, Fla. Stat., and are required by Section 112.3251, Fla. Stat., to be observed by CSO board members, officers, and employees.

1. Prohibition of Solicitation or Acceptance of Gifts

No CSO board member, officer, or employee shall solicit or accept anything of value to the recipient, including a gift, loan, reward, promise of future employment, favor, or service, based upon any understanding that the vote, official action, or judgment of the CSO board member, officer, or employee would be influenced thereby.

2. Prohibition of Accepting Compensation Given to Influence a Vote

No CSO board member, officer, or employee shall accept any compensation, payment, or thing of value when the person knows, or, with reasonable care, should know that it was given to influence a vote or other action in which the CSO board member, officer, or employee was expected to participate in his or her official capacity.

3. Salary and Expenses

No CSO board member or officer shall be prohibited from voting on a matter affecting his or her salary, expenses, or other compensation as a CSO board member or officer, as provided by law.
4. Prohibition of Misuse of Position

A CSO board member, officer, or employee shall not corruptly use or attempt to use one's official position or any property or resource which may be within one's trust, or perform official duties, to secure a special privilege, benefit, or exemption.

5. Prohibition of Misuse of Privileged Information

No CSO board member, officer, or employee shall disclose or use information not available to members of the general public and gained by reason of one's official position for one's own personal gain or benefit or for the personal gain or benefit of any other person or business entity.

6. Post-Office/Employment Restrictions

A person who has been elected to any CSO board or office or who is employed by a CSO may not personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the governing body of the CSO of which he or she was a board member, officer, or employee for a period of two years after he or she vacates that office or employment position.

7. Prohibition of Employees Holding Office

No person may be, at one time, both a CSO employee and a CSO board member at the same time.

8. Requirements to Abstain From Voting

A CSO board member or officer shall not vote in official capacity upon any measure which would affect his or her special private gain or loss, or which he or she knows would affect the special gain or any principal by whom the board member or officer is retained. When abstaining, the CSO board member or officer, prior to the vote being taken, shall make every reasonable effort to disclose the nature of his or her interest as a public record in a memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who shall incorporate the memorandum in the minutes. If it is not possible for the CSO board member or officer to file a memorandum before the vote, the memorandum must be filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting no later than 15 days after the vote.

9. Failure to Observe CSO Code of Ethics

Failure of a CSO board member, officer, or employee to observe the Code of Ethics may result in the removal of that person from their position. Further, failure of the CSO to observe the Code of Ethics may result in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection terminating its Agreement with the CSO.

Adopted at The Friends of Fort Cooper board meeting July 22, 2014
The Friends Of Fort Cooper Inc (No)
EIN: 59-2978381 | Inverness, FL, United States

Form 990-N (e-Postcard)

Organizations who have filed a 990-N (e-Postcard) annual electronic notice. Most small organizations that receive less than $50,000 fall into this category.

Tax Year 2019 Form 990-N (e-Postcard)

Tax Period:
2019 (01/01/2019 - 12/31/2019)

EIN:
59-2978381

Legal Name (Doing Business as):
The Friends Of Fort Cooper Inc

Mailing Address:
3100 S Old Floral City Rd
Inverness, FL 34450
United States

Principal Officer's Name and Address:
Ken Koch
10037 E Newport Ln
Inverness, FL 34450
United States

Gross receipts not greater than:
$50,000

Organization has terminated:
Form 990-EZ

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

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.

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

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### 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>(A) Beginning of Year</th>
<th>(B) End of Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 Cash, savings, and investments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Land and buildings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Total assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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?  

- [ ] to Support Ft Cooper State Park

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.

- **28** maintain financial support and improvement of 5 miles of hiking trails. Provide entertainment and educational programs to the public. While preserving natural resources of the 160 acres of Ft Cooper State Park, maintaining facilities and recreational acres. Provide funding for purchases of new and repaird equipment.

### 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and title</th>
<th>(b) Average hours per week devoted to position</th>
<th>(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)</th>
<th>(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation</th>
<th>(e) Estimated amount of other compensation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diane Clayton</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeanne Messersmith</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy Carson</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald Bush</td>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>----</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33 Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34 Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of $1,000 or more during the year?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38a Did the organization borrow?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40a Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42a The organization's books are in care of</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44a Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45a Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

48 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.

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

49b 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."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(a) Name and title of each employee</th>
<th>(b) Average hours per week devoted to position</th>
<th>(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)</th>
<th>(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation</th>
<th>(e) Estimated amount of other compensation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor</th>
<th>(b) Type of service</th>
<th>(c) Compensation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? Note: All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of the organization: Friends of Ft. Cooper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employer Identification number: 592978381</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Expense</td>
<td>297</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Development</td>
<td>278</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bat Program Expense</td>
<td>226</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rangers In the Park</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pop Corn Machine and Supplies</td>
<td>323</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking Vests</td>
<td>51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Equipment Repair</td>
<td>854</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Equipment</td>
<td>3095</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donation Florida State Park</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donation Boy Scouts</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bagels and Birds</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Tax</td>
<td>68</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues Sam's</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the instructions for Form 990 or 990-EZ. Cat. No. 51056K Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) (2019)