

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



**HILLSBOROUGH
RIVER STATE
PARK**
PUBLIC COMMENTS

From: [Eric Sievers](#)
To: [FLStateParkPlanning](#)
Subject: Hillsborough River State Park
Date: Thursday, June 6, 2019 10:12:00 AM

Hello, I'd like to provide a comment about the Hillsborough River State Park 10-year management plan.

Nine-banded armadillos are mentioned in the management plan as a problem species, similar to feral hogs and the plan recommends their removal. I strongly disagree with this approach as armadillos naturally expanded their distribution and were not aided by humans in this expansion, unlike feral hogs. Feral hogs are also much more destructive than armadillos and removal efforts should focus on this species, as they not only decimate arthropod communities as mentioned in the plan but also predate on native listed herpetofauna species such as juvenile gopher tortoises, tortoise and turtle eggs, and numerous amphibian species, including gopher frogs. I recommend removing the paragraph in the plan that addresses the removal of armadillos from the park.

Also, on page A 5-22, the green iguana is included in the species list but is not recognized with an asterisk as non-native.

Thank you for considering these comments,
Eric Sievers

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

**Hillsborough River State Park
Public Meeting
June 4, 2019**

Purpose

The purpose of this meeting is to receive public input on proposed improvements and facilities at Hillsborough River State Park.

Background

Hillsborough River State Park is a 3,319.06-acre property located in Hillsborough County in Thonotosassa. The park is managed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP).

Improvements

The following developments/improvements are proposed for the updated Hillsborough River State Park management plan:

- Add a Pole Barn, Clivus Restroom, and Safe Crossing of US 301 to the Fort Foster Property
- Add a Pole Barn, Pave Roads in Shop Area, and Add Solar Panels on the Shop Roof
- Upgrade Restrooms, Restore CCC Pavilion, Repair Seawall, and Add Accessible Canoe Kayak Floating Dock to the Picnic Area
- Renovate and Repair Stationary Bridge
- Add Interpretation and Erosion Control on the Seminole Trail
- Renovate Campsites, Replace 2 Bathhouses, and Pave Campground Access and Loop Road
- Stabilize the Shoreline and Repair Seawall at Cedar Landing
- Install Solar Panels in the Old Sprayfield
- Add Restroom, Interpretive Kiosk to the Old Fort King Trailhead
- Restore Model Dairy Property
- Move CCC Cabin to Parking Lot #1 for Interpretation

Public Input

Thank you for taking the time to share your comments with us. Please provide any comments you have on the back of this page no later than **June 19, 2019**. You may also provide your comments by calling (850) 245-3051, sending an email with the park name in the subject line to FLStateParkPlanning@dep.state.fl.us, 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

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks

COMMENT FORM

Hillsborough River State Park

Is there a chance to expand horse trails in the park, AND link with neighboring conservation lands like the Oak Ridge Equestrian Area?

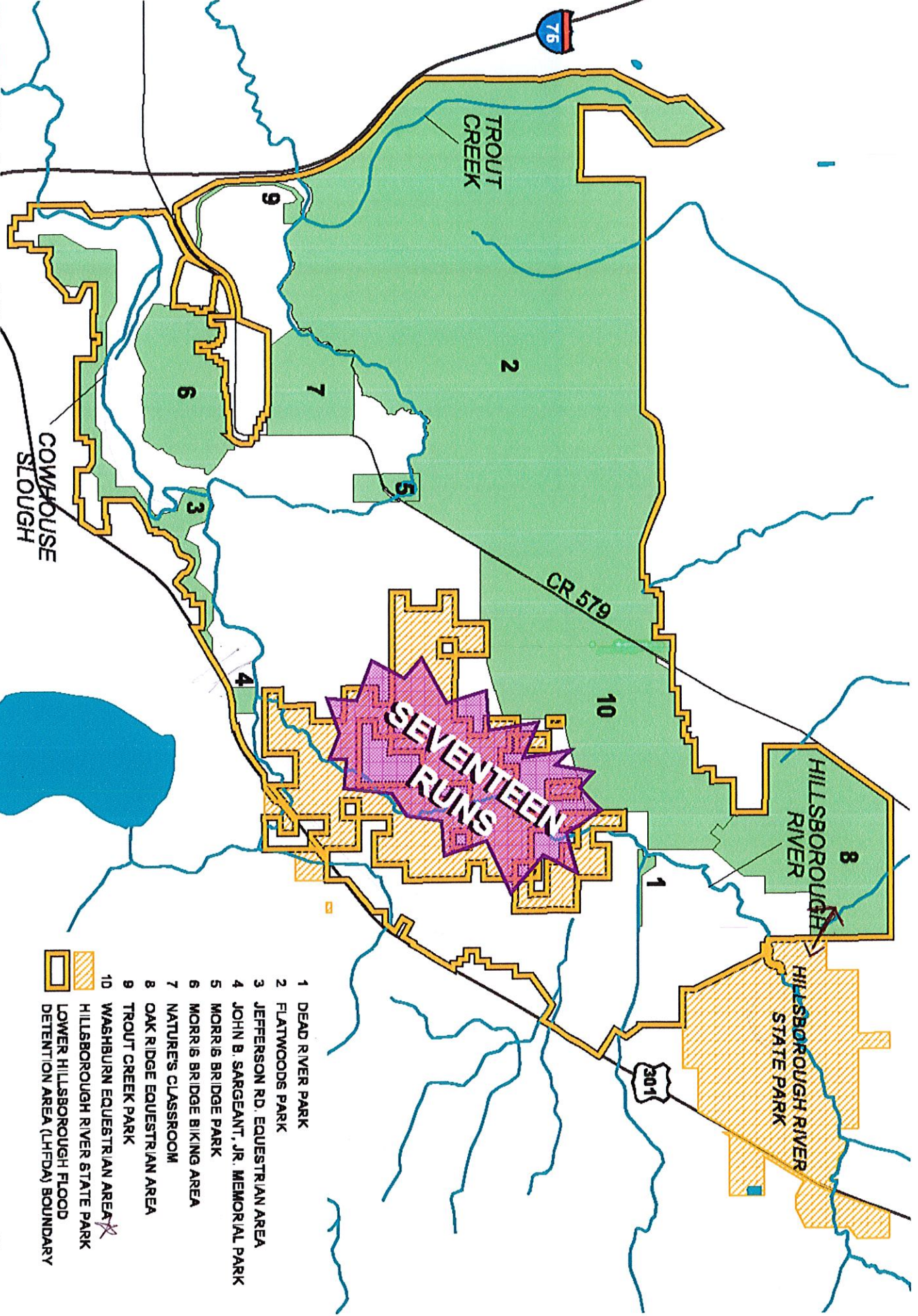
Thanks, Janet Schneider



CLAITING:
 JACKSON
 KERCHER
 ANGLIN
 LOPEZ
 RINEHART

DATE: 1/24/07
 MAY 2005

DATA SOURCE: SWFWMD, Hillsborough County



- 1 DEAD RIVER PARK
 - 2 FLATWOODS PARK
 - 3 JEFFERSON RD. EQUESTRIAN AREA
 - 4 JOHN B. SARGEANT, JR. MEMORIAL PARK
 - 5 MORRIS BRIDGE PARK
 - 6 MORRIS BRIDGE BIKING AREA
 - 7 NATURE'S CLASSROOM
 - 8 OAK RIDGE EQUESTRIAN AREA
 - 9 TROUT CREEK PARK
 - 10 WASHBURN EQUESTRIAN AREA
- HILLSBOROUGH RIVER STATE PARK
 LOWER HILLSBOROUGH RIVER STATE PARK
 LHFDA BOUNDARY

Figure 2
 Special Use Areas within the Lower Hillsborough Flood Detention Area (LHFDA)
 Lower Hillsborough Flood Detention Area