

ITEM 9:

Consider a 10-year update to the Carl Duval Moore State Forest and Park Management Plan (Lease No. 4662).

LOCATION:

Putnam County

APPLICANT:

Florida Forest Service (FFS), Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

STAFF REMARKS:

Background

Carl Duval Moore State Forest and Park (CDMSF) is comprised of approximately 336 acres located in central Putnam County. The forest is comprised of two tracts. The South Tract is located approximately two miles southeast of Interlachen, and the North Tract is located one-mile northeast of Interlachen.

In 1993, the property was deeded by the Carl Duval Moore estate to the State of Florida to be used for public purposes as a forest. Mr. Moore originally deeded 179.9 acres of land bordering Hardesty Lake to FFS, and 126.1 acres surrounding Up and Down Lake was to be deeded to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as a state park. DNR decided against accepting this property, and the FFS requested this parcel be included with the 179.9 acres that were to be received in Mr. Moore's will. In February 1994, the estate was settled and the property ownership of 306 acres was deeded to the FFS. The Plum Creek Tract was purchased by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (TIITF) in 2010, and the Putnam Land Conservancy parcel in 2018, both with Florida Forever funds. The TIITF holds fee simple title on 30.17 acres (10%) of the property.

The primary mission of the FFS is to "protect Florida and its people from the dangers of wildland fire and manage the forest resources through a stewardship ethic to assure they are available for future generations." Management strategies for CDMSF center on the multiple-use concept, as defined in sections 589.04(3) and 253.034(2)(a), Florida Statutes (F.S.).

Multiple-use management for CDMSF will be accomplished with the following strategies:

- Practice sustainable forest management for improved forest health and efficient generation of revenue in support of state forest management objectives;
- Provide for resource-based outdoor recreation opportunities for multiple interests;
- Restore and manage healthy forests and native ecosystems ensuring the long-term viability of populations and species listed as endangered, threatened or rare, and other components of biological diversity including game and nongame wildlife and plants;
- Protect known archaeological, historical, and cultural resources;
- Restore, maintain, and protect hydrological functions related to water resources and the health of associated wetland and aquatic communities; and
- Provide research and educational opportunities related to natural resource management.

Management Plan Overview

In 2019, the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) completed an inventory and natural community mapping project on CDMSF and created a historic natural community type map.

Nine natural community types are found on CDMSF. The predominant natural community is Sandhill. FNAI also identified three altered landcover types. There are five endangered or threatened animal species documented on CDMSF.

A review of information contained in the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Master Site File has determined there are no recorded archeological sites and no historical structures found within the designated area for CDMSF.

A variety of recreational opportunities are available on the forest. Visitors can enjoy hiking, fishing, wildlife viewing, and photography. CDMSF is part of the FFS Trailwalker Program. The main trailhead and parking area for the forest are along West Street, approximately four-tenths of a mile north of State Road 20. An additional trailhead is located on the northern boundary of the North Tract along Bill Street. The hiking trail is 1.2 miles in length and has interpretive tree identification signs along the route as well as an observation dock on Up and Down Lake.

The CDMSF is a participant in a Firewise community program. Communities in wildfire prone areas must work together to be fully prepared for wildfire. A “Fire Adapted Community” incorporates people, buildings, businesses, infrastructure, cultural resources, and natural areas to prepare for the effects of wildfire. The Fire Adapted Community concept serves as an umbrella to the various programs that help communities become more fire adapted. The FFS has implemented the Fire Adapted Community concept for prevention statewide. Specifically, in the area adjacent to or nearby CDMSF, efforts will continue to identify communities at risk and to contact their representatives.

The Florida Legislature requires that all land management plans include long and short-term (ST) goals. These goals must be measurable objectives, and ST goals must be achievable within a two-year planning period. Pursuant to section 253.034, F.S., the Division of State Lands tracks the status of ST goals in each land management plan approved since July 1, 2016. The ST goals from this management plan are included as part of this item.

Public Involvement

FFS responds to public involvement through liaison panels, management plan advisory groups, public hearings, and through ongoing direct contact with user groups. The plan was developed with input from the CDMSF Management Plan Advisory Group and was reviewed at a public hearing on April 14, 2021. No members of the public were in attendance.

Surplus Lands

On conservation lands where FFS is the lead manager, FFS assesses and identifies areas for potential surplus land. This consists of an examination of resource and operational management needs, public access and recreational use, and GIS modeling and analysis. The evaluation of CDMSF by FFS has determined that all portions of the area are being managed and operated for the original purposes of acquisition, therefore, no portion of the CDMSF is recommended for potential surplus.

State Land Management Review Team

This property has not been subject to a recent review by an inter-agency land management review team.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the management plan.

ARC RECOMMENDATION:

- APPROVE**
- APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:** _____
- DEFER**
- WITHDRAW**
- NOT APPROVE**
- OTHER:** _____

Carl Duval Moore State Forest and Park

Land Management Plan Short Term Goals

Goal (ST)	Details of Goal	Objective	Details of Objective	Measure
2	Public Access and Recreational Opportunities	2	Evaluate additional public Access and Recreational Opportunities that are compatible with multiple use management.	Number of additional visitor opportunities evaluated.
7	Hydrological Preservation and Restoration	3	Conduct and obtain a site assessment / study to identify potential hydrology restoration needs.	Assessment conducted.

Source: Florida DEP, Office of Environmental Services, Revised Sept_2019_MWE.

LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

LEAD AGENCY: Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), Florida Forest Service (FFS)
 COMMON NAME: Carl Duval Moore State Forest and Park (CDMSFP)
 LOCATION: Putnam County
 ACREAGE TOTAL: 336 acres

Historic Natural Communities	Approximate Acreage
Sandhill	139
Mesic flatwoods	67
Baygall	53
Flatwoods lake	38

Historic Natural Communities	Approximate Acreage
Basin swamp	25
Floodplain swamp	8
Wet flatwoods	3
Depression marsh	1

TIITF LEASE AGREEMENT NUMBERS: 4662
 USE: Single Multiple

MANAGEMENT AGENCY

FDACS, Florida Forest Service
 Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
 St. Johns River Water Management District
 Department of State, Division of Historical Resources

RESPONSIBILITY

General Forest Resource Management
 Wildlife Resources & Laws
 Water Resource Protection & Restoration
 Historical & Archaeological Resource Management

DESIGNATED LAND USE: Multiple-Use State Forest
 SUBLEASES: None
 ENCUMBRANCES: None
 TYPE ACQUISITION: Private donation and Florida Forever Project
 UNIQUE FEATURES: Up and Down Lake, Hardesty Lake, and Alligator Creek
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL / HISTORICAL: No (0) known sites
 MANAGEMENT NEEDS: Continued restoration and maintenance of native ecosystems and protection of archaeological and historical sites if we find any
 ACQUISITION NEEDS: Additional acreage located in the Optimal Management Boundary
 SURPLUS ACREAGE: None
 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: Carl Duval Moore State Forest and Park / Etoniah Creek State Forest Liaison Committee and Management Plan Advisory Group Public Hearing/Meeting- - - - -
 - - - - -

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE (FOR DIVISION OF STATE LANDS USE ONLY)

ARC Approval Date: _____ TITF Approval Date: _____

Comments: _____











