

Outdoor Recreation in Florida-2008



Florida's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

State of Florida

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Michael W. Sole
Secretary

Bob Ballard
Deputy Secretary, Land & Recreation

DIVISION OF RECREATION AND PARKS

Mike Bullock
Director and State Liaison Officer

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

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OUTDOOR RECREATION IN FLORIDA — 2008

A Comprehensive Program For Meeting Florida's Outdoor Recreation Needs

State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks
Tallahassee, Florida





Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Charlie Crist
Governor

Jeff Kottkamp
Lt. Governor

Michael W. Sole
Secretary

November 16, 2009

CERTIFICATION

I certify that this document, entitled Outdoor Recreation in Florida - 2008, was formally adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection on November 16, 2009, as the official outdoor recreation plan for the State of Florida.

I further certify that this document was formally approved by the United States Department of the Interior as an acceptable statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan for the State of Florida. Based upon this plan, the State of Florida is qualified for continued participation in the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Program pursuant to P.L. 88-578.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mike Bullock", is written over a horizontal line.

Mike Bullock
State Liaison Officer
for the
Land and Water Conservation Fund Program

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Chapter 1 - Introduction and Background

Purpose and Scope of the Plan

The purpose of Florida's statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is to outline a five year policy plan and establish a framework for statewide outdoor recreation planning. Section 375.021, Florida Statutes, provides that the plan will document recreational supply and demand, describe current recreational opportunities, estimate needs for additional recreational opportunities and propose means for meeting identified needs. The plan is intended to be a broad statewide and regional appraisal of the outdoor recreation needs of Florida and a guide for the development of a diverse, balanced statewide outdoor recreation system.

In conjunction with that purpose, the plan is intended to fulfill the requirements of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (P.L. 88-578), which was established to create parks and open spaces, protect wilderness, wetlands, refuges, preserve wildlife habitat and enhance recreational opportunities. Under this program, Florida receives matching grants to acquire and develop outdoor recreation lands and facilities. Within the plan, the following issues are required to be addressed in accordance with federal planning requirements:

- Evaluate demand for and supply of outdoor recreation resources and facilities;
- Conduct studies periodically to estimate and analyze outdoor recreation demand;
- Provide ample opportunity for public participation involving all segments of the population;
- Address current wetland protection strategies as required by the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986 (P.L. 99-

Section 375.021, Florida Statutes. Comprehensive multipurpose outdoor recreation plan.

(1) The department is given the responsibility, authority, and power to develop and execute a comprehensive multipurpose outdoor recreation plan for this state with the cooperation of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Transportation, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Florida Commission on Tourism, and the water management districts.

(2) The purpose of the plan is to document recreational supply and demand, describe current recreational opportunities, estimate the need for additional recreational opportunities, and propose means for meeting identified needs. The plan shall describe statewide recreational needs, opportunities, and potential opportunities.

- 645);
- Establish goals and strategies to guide a statewide planning process;
- Identify state and national outdoor recreation trends and initiatives;
- Develop and implement an "Open Project Selection Process" for Land and Water Conservation Fund grants.

This plan is part of an outdoor recreation planning process that Florida has pursued since 1963. The Florida Department of Environ-

mental Protection (DEP), Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) coordinates and develops the plan according to state and federal legislative requirements. Specific planning authority is provided by Section 375.021(1), Florida Statutes, which gives DEP specific responsibility, authority and power to develop and execute a comprehensive, multipurpose statewide outdoor recreation plan. Additionally, Section 418.12(1), Florida Statutes, directs DEP to study and appraise the recreation needs of the state and as-

semble and disseminate information relative to recreation.

Data analysis for the plan is based on the state's 11 regional planning councils into which Florida's 67 counties are organized geographically so that planning and technical assistance activities can be developed and implemented. This 11 region approach is consistent with previous statewide outdoor recreation plans (see Figure 1.1).

Figure 1.1



Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Outdoor Recreation - A Legitimate Role for Government

Public responsibility for outdoor recreation stems essentially from two sources: social welfare, and natural and historical resources management. As a matter of social welfare, outdoor recreation is provided by government as a means of occupying the leisure time of its citizens. The responsibility for providing outdoor recreation for this purpose is primarily local, and is met through a wide variety of programs at the local, state and federal levels.

The other basic justification for public outdoor recreation programming involves natural and historical resources management. Management of natural and historical resources is a matter of great public concern in Florida because of its impact on the quality of life for its citizens and visitors. Along with other important land uses such as agriculture, forestry, mining, transportation and urban development, outdoor recreation has become a major consideration in the allocation of the limited natural resource base. Once a natural outdoor recreation area is lost to other land uses, it usually cannot be reclaimed except with great difficulty and expense. It is a proper function of government to ensure that adequate outdoor recreation resources are protected and preserved, and because of the magnitude of the task, it is generally accomplished at the state and federal levels.

Outdoor Recreation Defined

Outdoor recreation, broadly defined, is any leisure time activity conducted outdoors. Within the vast range of that definition lies an almost unlimited number of activities, from

wilderness camping to neighborhood playground use and outdoor performances.

For planning purposes, the wide range of outdoor recreation activities is generally subdivided into "user-oriented" and "resource-based" recreation. User-oriented types of outdoor recreation are those that can be provided almost anywhere for the convenience of the user. This category is the broader of the two and includes activities such as golf, tennis, baseball, basketball, shuffleboard, volleyball, soccer, pool swimming, archery, skeet and trap shooting, and playground activities. User-oriented activities are needed in vast amounts in urban and suburban areas, and as with other services, user-oriented recreation facilities and programs are primarily provided by local governments.

Resource-based outdoor recreation differs from user-oriented recreation in that it cannot be provided just anywhere, but is dependent upon some element or combination of elements in the natural or cultural environments that cannot be easily duplicated by man. It may be either active or passive in nature. Examples include hiking, hunting, fishing, camping, backpacking, boating, water skiing, surfing, biking, nature study and visiting historical and archaeological sites. Resource-based recreation lends itself better to the capabilities of state and federal government.

An important distinction to make between user-oriented and resource-based outdoor recreation is that the former can always be provided, assuming the availability of space and funds for development, while the latter can be provided only to the extent that the supporting natural or cultural resources are available. While population pressures dic-

tate a high priority for creating user-oriented outdoor recreation opportunities close to urban areas, the rapid depletion of suitable resources gives a sense of urgency to the resource-based outdoor recreation program. Because they satisfy essentially different human needs, it is difficult to compare these two types of outdoor recreation in terms of importance or urgency, except to say that both are important and both must be met expeditiously to keep up with the demands of a growing population.

Roles in Providing Outdoor Recreation

Some division of responsibility is needed if the state's diverse public outdoor recreation needs are to be efficiently met. It is not reasonable, for example, to expect that agencies charged with managing state parks, forests, wildlife and water management areas would also be responsible for local ball fields, tennis courts and neighborhood parks. State government has the responsibility for promoting and coordinating all outdoor recreation efforts beneficial to the general public. It is the only level of government where this task can be accomplished effectively, especially when the resource on which the recreation is based crosses jurisdictional boundaries as in a regional or



*Resource-based Outdoor Recreation
Big Shoals State Park, Columbia County*

statewide trail. Thus, the state must ensure, either directly or indirectly, that the public's demand for outdoor recreation is brought into a reasonable balance, at least on a broad regional level, with the availability of opportunities for meeting this demand. Rather than meet these needs entirely through state-level programs, the state should assume responsibility for ensuring that needs are met through the planned and coordinated efforts of state, federal and local governments and private interests.



*User-oriented Outdoor Recreation,
Broward County*

As far as its direct programming efforts are concerned, the state's primary responsibility is to provide resource-based outdoor recreation. It accomplishes this through the acquisition of lands and development of facilities necessary to make natural and cultural outdoor recreation resources of regional or statewide significance available to the public. The extensive land requirements, the typical location outside urban centers, and the higher costs of operation have led the state to assume this role as a bridge between the large, nationally significant parks

managed by the federal government and the community playgrounds and recreational facilities traditionally provided by local governments. No other level of government can meet this vital responsibility.

User-oriented outdoor recreation, like other local services, is largely the responsibility of local government. The need exists primarily in the urban areas and it increases in proportion to the degree of urbanization. Although local governments have focused primarily on user-oriented recreation, many counties have established excellent conservation and environmental land acquisition programs and have contributed to the provision of many types of resource-based recreation. In general, however, local governments are the primary entities responsible for user-oriented recreation.

All local governments, large or small, are faced with the task of providing the full range of recreational opportunities that are so important to the well-being of their citizens. These include everything from cultural arts programs to nature trails. Local governments are finding it increasingly difficult to accomplish this, particularly in light of escalating costs and recent changes in the assessment of ad valorem taxes.

While the state's primary thrust in its outdoor recreation efforts is directed toward resource-based outdoor recreation, a substantial effort is made to assist local governments with financial support and technical assistance for meeting their needs for user-oriented types of outdoor recreation. Three primary programs – the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program, the Florida Communities Trust program and the Florida Recreational Trails Program – provide local governments substantial funds in

the form of matching grants for acquiring and developing recreational lands and facilities. The demonstrated priorities and needs of local governments are given full consideration in the allocation of available funds from these programs.

Need for a State Outdoor Recreation Program

Meeting the outdoor recreation needs of Florida's fast-growing population will require significant additional recreation lands, facilities and services, for both resource-based and user-oriented recreation. However, the ability to provide these will become more difficult as the state's fixed supply of land, water, shoreline areas and cultural resources - the raw materials which support outdoor recreation - are committed to non-recreation uses to accommodate the expanding population. Of equal importance is the need to provide sufficient financial resources to construct, operate and maintain the capital facilities that are required to open these lands for public access and use.

The state must identify current and future outdoor recreation needs, and work to ensure the preservation of a resource base sufficient to meet those needs while resources are still available. Toward this end, Florida's outdoor recreation program emphasizes interagency cooperation and collaborative partnerships with private interests and non-governmental organizations, and supports efforts to better coordinate local, state and federal land acquisition, resource management and recreational facility development.

The Planning Process

The purpose of state-level outdoor recreation planning is to guide the development of a diverse, balanced, statewide outdoor recreation system toward meeting current and future needs. Florida's planning process addresses a wide range of outdoor recreation activities, resources and programs with the goal of ensuring that the needs of all segments of society are met. Of equal concern is preserving the integrity and function of the ecological systems that provide the foundation for resource-based outdoor recreation.

The planning process used to develop this plan focused on identifying the major issues affecting outdoor recreation in Florida, and on determining current and projected priority needs for the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The process relied heavily on input from a wide range of stakeholders including state, local and federal recreation providers, private suppliers, recreation user groups, conservation groups and other interested parties. The outcome is a plan that provides a basis for cooperative action to resolve priority issues and a reasoned approach to meeting identified recreation needs. The plan provides statewide outdoor recreation programming guidance and is intended to influence the decisions of all potential recreation suppliers.

Public Participation

The success of the outdoor recreation planning process ultimately depends upon the acceptance of its recommendations by a broad constituency of users and environmental interests, and the willing implementation of those recommendations by the many public and private recreation providers. For



Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Public Workshop

this reason, DEP emphasized the involvement of users, environmental groups and recreation providers in the planning process. Public involvement was solicited through a series of 14 public workshops held in cities around the state between August 2006 and June 2007. The workshops provided ample opportunities for the public to express its views on a wide range of needs and issues. Summaries of the workshops appear in Appendix G. Appendix G also contains a list of meeting times, locations and a report compiling the public input received at each workshop.

Following the workshops, DRP staff developed a draft vision statement from the results, researched relevant issues raised by the public and developed goals, strategies and action steps based upon public input and staff research. The vision, goals and recommendations are detailed in Chapter 7.

Planning Coordination

Outdoor recreation is affected directly or indirectly by a variety of local, state, federal and private programs. To the extent that

these programs are capable of contributing to the implementation of a statewide outdoor recreation program, state government must attempt to coordinate them through the comprehensive outdoor recreation planning process. Toward that end, Florida has emphasized interagency and public/private coordination through a variety of mechanisms described below.

State-Level Coordination

Outdoor recreation planning coordination among state agencies is provided through planning and management committees and special ad hoc committees. For example, state-level coordination in the acquisition and management of environmental and outdoor recreation land is provided through the Acquisition and Restoration Council. Coordination in statewide planning for greenways and trails is provided through the Florida Greenways and Trails Council. These committees are composed of members from all state agencies concerned with natural and historical resources and outdoor recreation.

State-Federal Coordination

Liaison for outdoor recreation planning purposes is maintained with the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, especially through its Southeast Regional Office. Other federal agencies, such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, are consulted frequently at regional and field offices on recreation-related planning matters.

State-Local Coordination

One of the most important links in the chain of outdoor recreation planning coordination is between state and local governments.

Many county and municipal governments assisted in the development of this plan by cooperating in the preparation of the statewide inventory of outdoor recreation resources and facilities. This massive undertaking could not be accomplished without such assistance.

Additionally, all Florida counties and many municipalities have participated in state-sponsored financial and technical assistance programs, and other efforts involving recreation coordination. Local governments participate in the acquisition and management of land for outdoor recreation through multiple land acquisition and grant programs, including the *Florida Forever* program, the Florida Communities Trust program, the Land and Water Conservation Fund program and the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program.

State and local planning is further linked through the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act (Section 163.3167, Florida Statutes), through which the state provides technical assistance in plan preparation and state-level review of local plans. In developing their comprehensive plans, many local governments have made use of information and data contained in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

State-Private Coordination

Private outdoor recreational enterprises constitute a significant element of the Florida economy and will continue to be relied upon to provide a major share of the outdoor recreation supply in the state. Coordination with the private sector is necessary to achieve more efficient development and operation of mutual programs, to improve and

expand the ongoing inventory of private recreation sites and facilities, and to implement major recreation action program objectives. State-private liaison with this sector is established primarily through the trade organizations, such as the Governor's Conference on Tourism and VISIT FLORIDA, which are primarily involved with tourism promotion and commercial recreation enterprises. In addition, the DRP consults formally and informally with representatives of various clubs and groups concerned with conservation and recreation to discuss and resolve matters of mutual concern. State representatives also attend various gatherings of private organizations to present and discuss state recreation policies and programs.

Conclusion

Florida is a leader in outdoor recreation across the nation and has made excellent progress in developing an outdoor recreation program that will meet the needs of its residents and visitors. The need is still great, however, and demand for outdoor recreation opportunities will continue to grow as the state's population continues to increase at its rapid pace. Whether for the health and welfare of Florida's people, the stability of its tourist oriented economy, or the prudent management of its natural resources, a carefully planned and effectively implemented outdoor recreation program is a major public need today. This plan provides a foundation for such a program in Florida.



Bird watching

Chapter 2 - Florida's Outdoor Recreation Setting

This chapter provides an overview of the social and physical setting for outdoor recreation in Florida. As Florida moves through the 21st century, its astonishing rate of population growth continues.

Florida's People and Economy

Florida's population was 16 million in 2000 according to the U.S. Census. By April 2007, it had grown to 18.6 million, an increase of nearly 17 percent. Today, Florida is the fourth most-populated state in the nation and its population is projected to reach nearly 22.5 million by 2020 (see Figure 2.1).



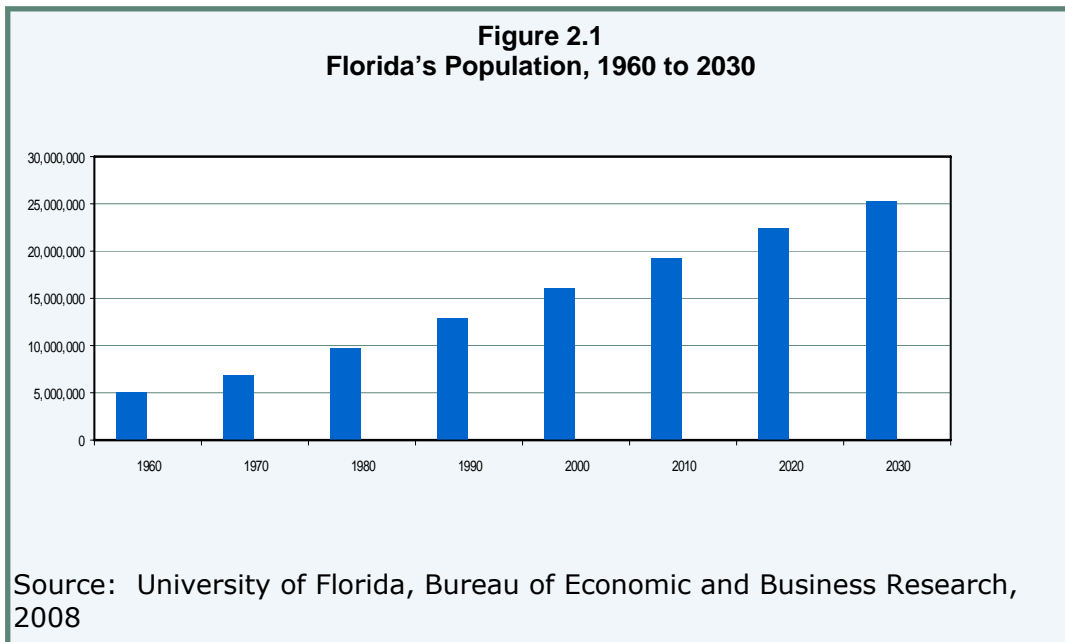
Lovers Key State Park, Lee County

Florida has gained an average of 900 residents each day since 2000, roughly one-third of whom were migrating from other countries, particularly those in Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition to becoming more culturally diverse, Florida's population is getting older. In 2000, 18 percent of Floridians were aged 65 or older, compared to the national average of 12.4 percent. Florida's median age of 38.7 was second highest only to West Virginia's of 38.9. At the other end of the age spectrum, however, Florida's population had the largest increase

in the number of school-age children (ages 5 - 17) in the nation between 2000 and 2002. This rapid population growth and the increasing diversity of the population will create complex challenges and opportunities that affect many aspects of the state's social and economic framework.

According to the report *Florida Population Growth: Past, Present and Future*, written by state demographer Stanley K. Smith in 2005, population aging, shifts in the racial and ethnic composition of the population, changes in household and family structures, and the overall impacts of population growth are four demographic trends that will have an impact on government and businesses in the years ahead. If current trends continue, most of the new population will concentrate in relatively unpopulated counties adjacent to the heavily developed metropolitan areas, particularly along the coast. As these areas become more crowded, problems such as loss of open space and natural areas, crowded infrastructure, and a higher cost of living will provide an impetus for further expansion into more rural areas. This sprawling pattern of growth, which characterizes many communities in Florida, increasingly limits the availability of outdoor recreation lands. A major challenge facing outdoor recreation planning and programming efforts in Florida is to anticipate and meet the recreation demands of a growing and changing population, and to ensure that an adequate natural resource and funding base is maintained to accommodate future needs while preserving a quality environment.

To ensure a continued high quality of life in Florida, the amenities provided by the state outdoor recreation program must be coupled with a healthy social and economic climate.



Among socio-economic variables, income is a major factor in determining the ability of people to participate in many kinds of recreational activity. During the past five years, most non-agricultural segments of Florida's economy experienced substantial growth. The per capita income of Florida residents climbed from \$28,508 in 2000 to an estimated \$36,720 in 2006.

Tourism-based activities support a major share of Florida's economy. Taxable spending in the tourism and recreation category during 2007 totaled a record \$65.5 billion, according to data from VISIT FLORIDA, the official tourism marketing organization of the State of Florida. Many tourism leaders are cautiously optimistic that Florida will remain a preferred destination for both domestic and international travelers. However, increased competition from other vacation destinations, record gasoline costs and increases in other travel prices are major concerns.

Physical Situation

Florida is an elongated peninsula with a total land area of 65,755 square miles, including 4,672 square miles of interior water. The state stretches 450 miles from north to south and 470 miles from east to west. This size makes Florida the second largest state east of the Mississippi River (Georgia being slightly larger). Despite its size, no point in Florida is more than 70 miles from either the Atlantic or Gulf coast. Florida's highly diverse coastline stretches 1,350 miles around the peninsula. To the north, Florida shares common boundaries with Alabama and Georgia.

Climate

Florida's climate is one of its primary assets and perhaps the single, most important factor contributing to the love of outdoor recreation by residents and visitors. Florida lies completely within the temperate zone, yet its climate, particularly in the lower peninsula, is subtropical, with wet, humid summers and

Table 2.1
Visitor Estimates for Florida
2000-2007

Year	Annual Visitors (millions)	Percent Change
2000	72.8	n/a
2001	69.5	-4.6
2002	73.9	6.4
2003	74.6	1.0
2004	79.7	6.9
2005	83.6	4.8
2006	83.9	0.3
2007	82.4	-1.7

Source: VISIT FLORIDA, February, 2008

relatively dry, cool winters. The influence of the waters of the Gulf of Mexico on the west and the Atlantic Ocean on the east tends to moderate seasonal temperature extremes. Most of the state enjoys a long, warm summer, relatively minor seasonal transitions, and a short, mild winter. The mean annual temperature ranges from the upper 60s in the northern portions of the state to the upper 70s in the south. Florida's abundant rainfall is seasonal. Most of the state's average annual rainfall of 53 inches consists of short summer showers. In the winter months, when sunshine is so conducive to outdoor activity, Florida enjoys the greatest average percentage of seasonal sunshine in the eastern United States.

Florida's geography makes it extremely vulnerable to tropical storms. These cyclonic weather systems have always been a part of Florida's natural climatic patterns, but in 2004, one tropical storm and four major hurricanes made landfall along Florida's coastline, impacting nearly 85 percent of the state's beaches. As the science surrounding global warming and climate change makes it

clearer that carbon emissions are affecting global climate, the state's outdoor recreation resources may be more vulnerable to the effects of climate change than many other states. Changes in climate can affect water temperatures and salinity, disrupting natural conditions in sensitive areas such as coastal wetlands and coral reefs. Rising sea levels and coastal erosion have also compromised many of the state's important saltwater beaches, necessitating costly restoration and stabilization efforts to protect this vital component of Florida's economy and culture.

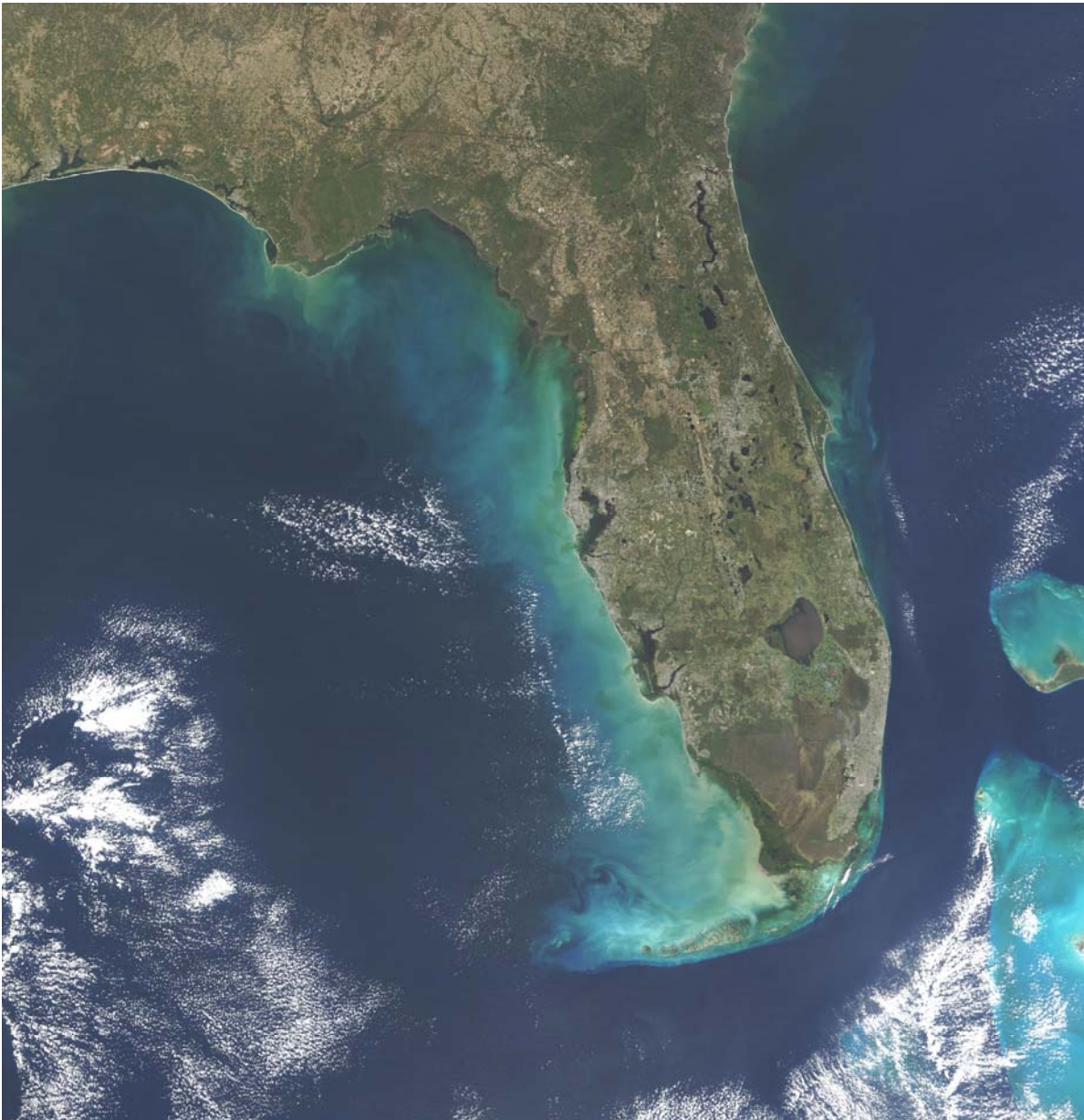
Geology

Florida occupies only about half of a larger geological unit, the Floridian Plateau. This plateau is a partly submerged platform nearly 500 miles long and 250 to 400 miles wide. It separates the deep waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. The submerged portions of the plateau are called the continental shelf, extending out to an ocean depth of about 300 feet. The plateau has been in existence for millions of years, during which time it has been alternately dry land or shallow sea. It consists of a core of metamorphic rocks buried under layers of sedimentary rocks (chiefly limestone) which vary in thickness from a little less than a mile to upwards of four miles.

Physiography

Five physical or natural regions are commonly identified in the state. They are the *Western Highlands*, the *Marianna Lowlands*, the *Tallahassee Hills*, the *Central Highlands*, and the *Coastal Lowlands* (see Figure 2.3).

Figure 2.2
Satellite View of Florida



The *Western Highlands* includes most of the Florida Panhandle between the Perdido and Apalachicola Rivers, north of the *Coastal Lowlands*. It is a southward-sloping plateau, hilly in the northern part and trenched by narrow steep-walled stream valleys. The higher hills in the northern part of the plateau are over 300 feet in elevation and include

the highest measured elevation in the state—345 feet.

The *Marianna Lowlands*, west of the Apalachicola River, is a low, rolling hill and sink-hole region, with numerous small lakes. This region occupies a roughly quadrilateral area, with its southern and western limits

marked by a rise to the *Western Highlands*. The elevation is due to the increasing thickness of sand covering the limestone base that lies near the land surface.

The *Tallahassee Hills* region, north of the *Coastal Lowlands*, stretches from the Apalachicola River to the northern Withlacoochee River. It is approximately 25 miles wide by 100 miles in length and is characterized by long, gentle slopes with rounded summits.

The *Central Highlands* region extends from the *Tallahassee Hills* and the Okefenokee Swamp in the north almost to Lake Okechobee in the south. Its length is about 250 miles. The width tapers from 60 miles in its northern portions down to a blunt point at the southern boundary. Much of the northern part is a nearly level plain approximately 150 feet above sea level. The western part consists of hills and hollows interspersed with broad, low plains. This sub-region ranges in altitude from 200 feet to less than 40 feet above sea level. Adjoining this sub-region to the east and extending southward to the end of the *Central Highlands* is a sub-region known as the Lake Region. It is characterized by numerous lakes and high hills of up to 325 feet above sea level.

The *Coastal Lowlands* forms the entire Florida coastline, including the Florida Keys, and reaches inland as much as 60 miles at some points. The inner edge generally lies along the 100-foot contour line. In recent geologic times, these lowlands were marine terraces and experienced three or more successive inundations by higher sea levels. This is a flat region, except where ancient shorelines or dune ridges occur or where the surface has been modified by stream erosion or underground solution. The Gulf coast has the appearance of a drowned coastline, one that

Figure 2.3
Physiographic Map



Source:
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

is sinking into the sea. The east coast has the appearance of an emergent coast, one that is rising from the sea. In fact, sea levels on both coasts are rising very gradually as the result of changes in global climatic patterns.

Hydrology

More than 2.8 million acres of Florida are covered by water. This includes some 7,000 natural and man-made lakes larger than ten acres, as well as marshes, swamps and seasonal floodplains.

Most of the defined river systems in Florida are in the northern half of the state. South Florida's lack of these systems is due to its differing geological history and flatter terrain. Drainage in south Florida occurs through broad, shallow channels, most of which

have been altered extensively by man for purposes of reclamation and water management.

In addition to the thousands of lakes and the thousands of miles of streams, wetlands comprise a major component of the state's surface waters. It has been estimated that in 1973, wetlands and their associated open-water areas accounted for approximately one-third of Florida's total area. An overview of wetlands in Florida, including a description of wetland protection efforts is contained in Appendix H.

A considerable amount of drainage in Florida goes into and through the underlying limestone rock, forming a groundwater reservoir. This underground reservoir, or aquifer, discharges tremendous quantities of fresh water to wells and to some of the world's largest springs. Florida has 33 first magnitude springs, discharging more than six billion gallons of water per day. The combined flow of all the state's springs is estimated to be eight billion gallons per day.

Between Florida's offshore waters and its inland fresh waters are sheltered coastal waters generally referred to as estuaries. Estuaries form where the flow of fresh water from inland rivers and streams meets coastal waters. Estuaries are among Florida's most biologically productive waters, and are vital to the state's commercial and sports fisheries.

Vegetation and Wildlife

Vegetation dominates the Florida landscape. More than 65 percent of the state is covered by a seemingly endless variety of plant associations and natural communities. All of



America's Everglades

Florida's natural vegetation is significant from the standpoint of outdoor recreation. In addition to its obvious aesthetic qualities, it utilizes carbon dioxide and produces oxygen, absorbs wastes and maintains water quality, provides food and habitat for game and other forms of wildlife, and performs a host of other environmental functions that themselves contribute to outdoor recreation. Providing effective management of Florida's diverse native plant communities through prescribed burning, exotic plant control, hydrological restoration and other methods is critical for maintaining their biological and recreational values.



*Rookery Bay Aquatic Preserve,
Collier County*

Florida's wildlife is as varied as the habitats that support it. Species range from those common throughout the southeastern United States to some that are virtually unknown elsewhere in the country such as the Florida panther, the Florida manatee and the Florida scrub jay. Florida is inhabited by more than 490 bird species, 135 native, non-marine reptiles and amphibians, 250 native freshwater fish and nearly 80 mammals that spend all or part of their lives on land. These diverse wildlife resources provide a major attraction for outdoor recreation enthusiasts. Fish, both freshwater and saltwater, are exceptionally important to the economy and to outdoor recreation in Florida. Numerous game species play an important role as well. Non-game species, particularly birdlife, support nature observation and appreciation and a range of environmental education activities.

History and Culture

There is evidence that man has inhabited Florida for approximately the last 12,000 years. Prehistoric cultures thrived in this

hospitable area and left behind much evidence of their way of life. This evidence has become a source of wonder and curiosity for modern man. The story is still unfolding from professional exploration and analysis of the data from the many Native American mounds, other prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, and historic structures found throughout the state.

In 1513, barely 20 years after the first voyage of Columbus, Florida was opened up to the western world by Spanish discovery. Thus began 450 years of exploration, colonization, settlement and development by Spanish, French, British, and American people, which constitute Florida's long and unique modern history.

Both of these eras, the Prehistoric and the Modern, combine to leave rich historical and cultural resources. These resources provide abundant opportunity for a highly popular form of outdoor recreation, visiting historical and archaeological sites.



*Dudley Farm Historic State Park,
Alachua County*

Chapter 3 - Outdoor Recreation

Providers, Programs and Partnerships

Outdoor Recreation Providers

In response to an ever-growing and ever-changing public demand, a variety of outdoor recreation programs have developed in Florida through the years. Although both private and public efforts have served this demand, most of the formal outdoor recreation programs have been instituted by various levels of government. Both state and federal agencies have been extensively involved, and practically every county and municipality in Florida conducts some outdoor recreation programs of its own. Many of these diverse programs have evolved more out of expediency than by careful design. As a result, there has been much duplication and overlap. Fortunately, however, most of the legitimate outdoor recreation needs in the state have been met in some fashion by concerted efforts to coordinate these governmental programs.

Florida's outdoor recreation providers can be classified into five categories: federal government, state government, county government, municipal government and private sector providers. Both federal and state agencies are concerned with areas and facilities designed to accommodate the demand for resource-based outdoor recreation. The federal government provides various types of outdoor recreation areas of national significance, while the state provides areas and facilities of statewide or regional significance. Historically, the state and federal governments have not become involved in the direct provision of user-oriented resources and facilities. This has been dictated largely by funding constraints and by the early recognition that the federal and state governments had to assume the primary responsibility for locating, acquiring

and providing public access to the large, resource-based recreation areas and facilities.

Most state-level funding for recreation has gone to the acquisition and development of state parks, forests, wildlife management areas, water management lands and historic sites, as well as state-assisted resource-based parks within cities and counties. This policy will remain substantially unchanged in the foreseeable future so long as high quality natural and historical resources can be acquired and developed in those areas of the state where an identified recreational need for them exists. At the same time, however, it is clearly recognized that user-oriented recreational needs must also be met, and that financial assistance programs for acquisition and development of recreation areas and facilities for user-oriented recreation are vital to meeting those needs.

County and municipal governments are the primary suppliers of the public facilities needed for user-oriented recreation, although some also provide areas and facilities to meet part of the need for resource-based outdoor recreation. As urbanization and population growth continue in Florida, local governments will face increasing pressure to assume a greater role in providing both user-oriented and resource-based types of recreation.

Private recreation providers are a vital component of the state's outdoor recreation supply. Commercial providers meet a significant portion of the overall demand for both resource-based and user-oriented outdoor recreation in Florida, particularly tourist-generated demand. For example, commercial providers supply

more than 90 percent of the campsites in the state and meet a considerable portion of the overall demand for camping facilities by residents and visitors.

Non-profit organizations include private and quasi-public organizations such as the scouts, church groups and conservation organizations. These groups provide land and facilities primarily for the use of the members, but in some cases for the public at large.

Clubs and other organizations not certified as non-profit by the Florida Department of State (DOS), such as hunt clubs, country clubs, yacht clubs and others, manage lands and facilities that are primarily available only to organization members and their guests. In doing so, they can relieve some of the pressure that is often placed on overcrowded public facilities. In addition, private industry lands (timber companies and other industries with extensive land holdings whose lands or portions thereof are open to the public) are used for resource-based recreation, although some forms of user-oriented facilities are also available. In recent years, however, many such areas have been withdrawn from use by the general public, particularly for hunting, and are now available only to leaseholders or others who have access to the lands.

Outdoor Recreation Programs

This section describes the specific programs of the various categories of public and private recreation suppliers discussed in the previous section. Although the public agencies discussed in this section may have other responsibilities, only those related to outdoor recreation opportunities are ad-

dressed. Further information concerning the programs described in this chapter should be obtained directly from the agency.

Federal Programs

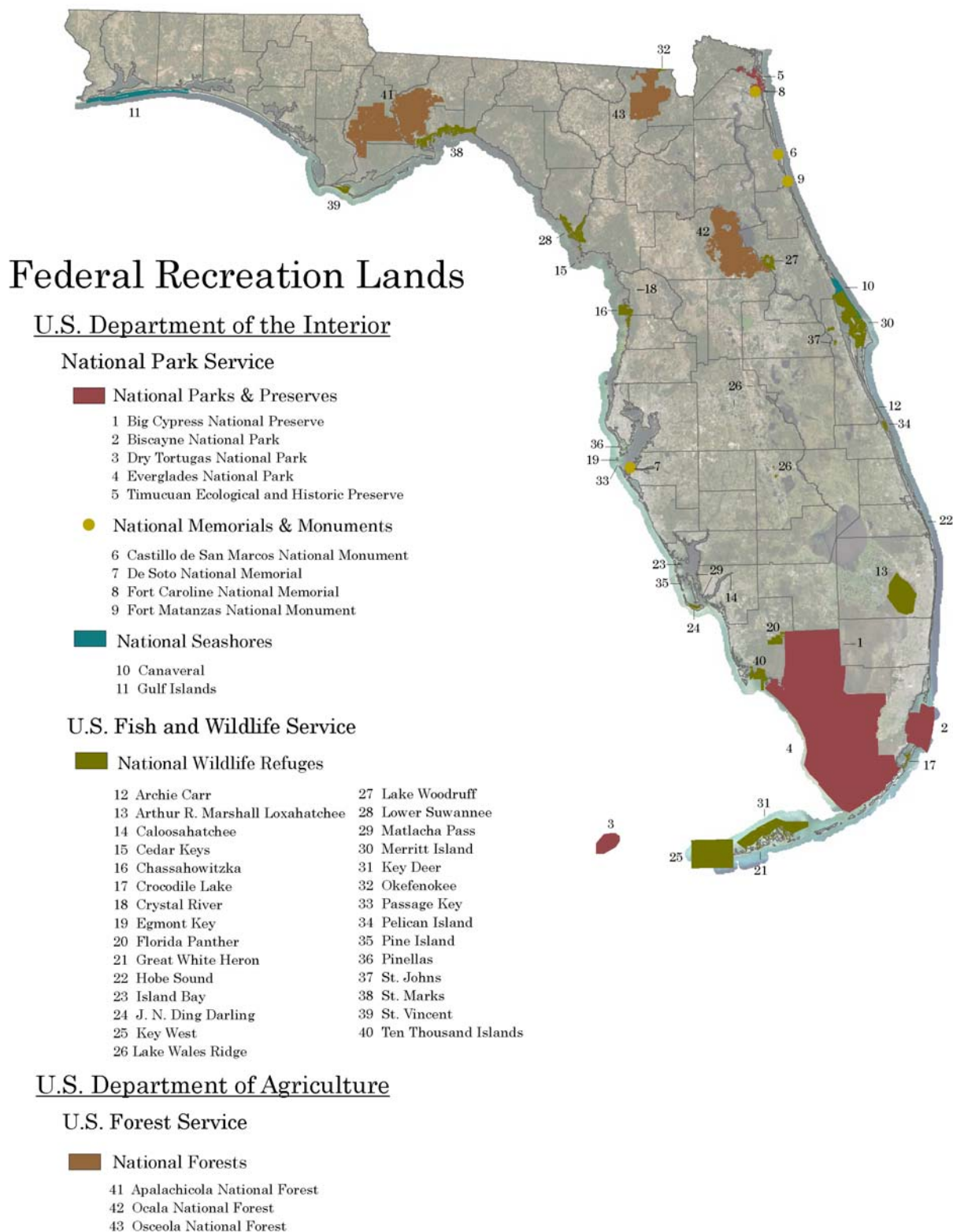
The federal government has responsibility for developing recreational facilities and programs that provide public opportunities that are not, or cannot, be made available by state or local government. Federal roles in outdoor recreation are broad in scope and run the gamut from dredging waterways, lock and levee construction and maintenance, endangered species protection and habitat preservation, and providing crucial funds for many programs through federal grants. Federal agencies coordinate and cooperate on resource protection efforts such as protecting wilderness areas, designating wild and scenic rivers, and implementing trail connectivity projects that require inter-jurisdictional management. The core mission of most of the federal agencies, with the exception of the National Park Service, is not recreation per se. However, by the nature of their settings - the national forests, wildlife refuges, military installations, dams and locks, waterways and estuaries of the state - these vast tracts of federal land are key locations for outdoor recreation and play a vital role in the state's outdoor recreation supply.

U.S. Department of the Interior

National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) has the specific mission to conserve the scenery and natural resources of national parks and provide a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities. Besides active land management for outdoor recreation, the federal agencies administer financial and technical

Figure 3.1



Source: National Atlas of the United States

assistance programs to aid state and local agencies and private citizens.

In Florida, NPS's mission includes:

- Managing 11 areas comprising more than 2.6 million acres of submerged and upland areas set aside for their natural or historic interest (see Figure 3.1).
- Administering the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund program, which provided more than \$22 million to local governments between 2001 and 2007 to fund 134 park acquisition and development projects. These funds are awarded to meet recreation needs identified through an open selection process described in Appendix E.

The National Park Service



Organic Act August 25, 1916:

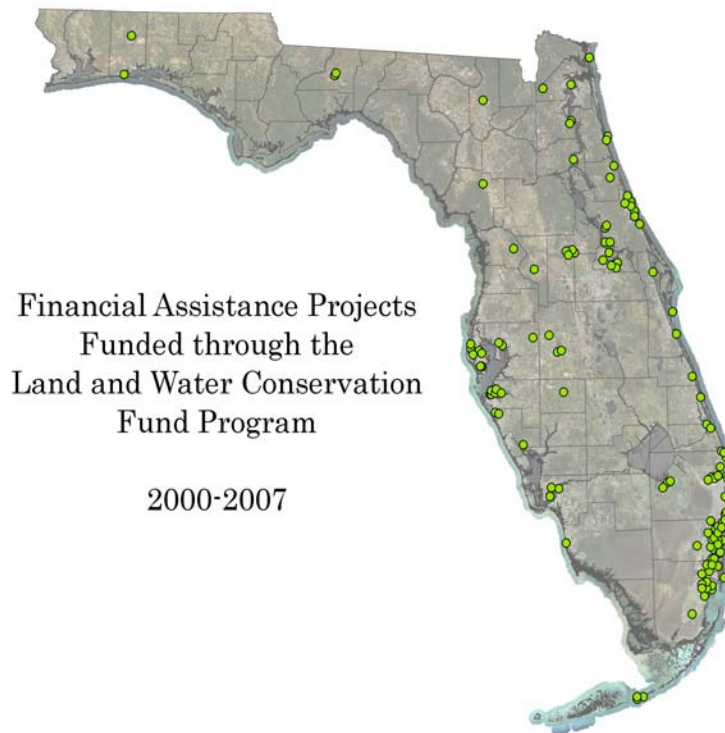
"...to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

- Maintaining the National Register of Historic Places pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 United States Code 470).
- Designating significant properties or



Biscayne National Park, Monroe County

Figure 3.2



Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

- landmarks of national historical or archaeological interest, as defined in the Historic Sites Act of 1936 (16 United States Code 461), including districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects of state and regional significance.
- Partnering with other federal agencies as well as state and local government programs designed to achieve national goals such as clean air, protection of wilderness areas, clean water and access to waterways and coastal areas under the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the Water Resources Development Act.
 - Providing matching grants through the Historic Preservation Grants-in-Aid Program, an expansion of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, to government, private groups and individuals for historic preservation surveys, planning activities and community education. These programs are administered in Florida by the Division of Historic Resources (DHR) within DOS.
 - Administering the Federal Lands-to-Parks Program, which enables states and local governments to establish park and recreation areas on federal properties which are no longer needed for military or civilian uses by conveying lands for that purpose.
 - Coordinating the Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program by providing planning assistance to communities for projects that are designed to protect rivers, trails and greenways on lands outside of the federal domain.

National Trail System

The National Trail System Act of 1968 (Public Law 90-543), authorized creation of a national trail system comprised of National Recreation Trails, National Scenic Trails and National Historic Trails. While National Scenic Trails and National Historic Trails may only be designated by congressional act, National Recreation Trails may be designated by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture to recognize exemplary trails of local and regional significance, upon application from the trail managing agency or organization. When designated, these trails are recognized as part of the National Trail System.

In order to be certified as a National Scenic Trail, a trail must contain outstanding recreation opportunities and encompass more than 100 miles of a continuous, primarily non-motorized trail. Eight National Scenic Trails have been designated across the nation. A total of 1,400 miles of hiking trails across Florida were designated as the Florida National Scenic Trail in 1983. The Florida Na-

tional Scenic Trail is further discussed under the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) on page 3-9.

National Historic Trails commemorate historic and prehistoric routes of travel that are significant to the nation. Throughout the United States, there are 12 National Historic Trails made up of 26,430 miles of designated trails. These trails provide user experiences through a series of interpretive facilities along trails and signed automobile routes. There are currently no National Historic Trails in Florida.

National Recreation Trails provide outdoor recreation opportunities in a variety of urban, rural and remote settings. A total of 26 trails including more than 500 miles of land-based trails and 1,700 miles of paddling trails have been designated in Florida (see Figure 3.3). These trails are managed by federal, state, county and municipal agencies and run the spectrum from urban jogging and bicycling in St. Petersburg to wilderness canoeing in the Everglades.



Florida Circumnavigational Saltwater Paddling Trail

Figure 3.3



Source: Florida Natural Areas Inventory and Florida Department of Environmental Protection

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), an agency within the U.S. Department of the Interior, is to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. This mission is accomplished by enforcing federal wildlife laws, protecting endangered species, managing migratory birds, restoring nationally significant fisheries and conserving and restoring wildlife habitat including wetlands. USFWS also distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies across the nation. The activities of USFWS in Florida include:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Mission: "Provide the Federal leadership to conserve, protect and enhance fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of people."

- Management of 28 national wildlife refuges, comprising nearly one million acres of land and water (see Figure 3.1). Most of the refuges are limited-purpose outdoor recreation areas that provide bird watching, wildlife observation, fishing, environmental education and interpretation and at some refuges, public hunting. In addition, the Service manages a national fish hatchery in Welaka and maintains law enforcement facilities at six locations.
- Administration of federal aid programs, including Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration (commonly referred to as the Dingell-Johnson Act and Wallop-Breaux

Act), Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) and Wildlife Partnership Act (conservation of non-game species). These grant programs are managed in Florida by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Grants to Florida under the Clean Vessel Act (clean boating programs) are managed by the Clean Marina Program in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of External Affairs.

U.S. Department of Agriculture

U.S. Forest Service

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) provides leadership in the management, protection and use of the nation's forests and rangelands. The agency is dedicated to multiple-use management of these lands for sustained yields of renewable resources such as wood, water, forage, wildlife and recreation to meet the diverse needs of people. The responsibility of USFS in the field of outdoor recreation is to fully develop the recreational potential of national forests and protect landscape aesthetics. USFS also cooperates with other federal, state and local agencies in planning and developing recreational resources on other federal, state, local and private lands.

U.S. Forest Service



Mission: "To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations."

In Florida, USFS administers three national forests: the Apalachicola, the Ocala and the

Osceola (see Figure 3.1). Together these areas contain approximately 1.2 million acres of land and water, thus making a major contribution to the state's recreational resources. They contain some of Florida's most pristine lands including extensive woodlands, springs and streams. Within the national forests, USFS manages numerous designated public recreation sites. Some of the sites are managed exclusively for dispersed recreational purposes, such as hiking, hunting, fishing and primitive camping.

Florida National Scenic Trail

USFS is the federal administering agency for the Florida National Scenic Trail. The Flor-

ida National Scenic Trail, designated by Congress in 1983, extends from the Big Cypress National Preserve north to the Gulf Islands National Seashore in the Florida Panhandle. Along the way, the Florida trail passes through lands managed by more than two dozen public land managing agencies in more than 40 separate management units. USFS acts as a partner with state land management agencies and private landowners to obtain through-trail access for the project. The non-profit Florida Trail Association, Inc., through its volunteer membership of hiker-volunteers, provides nearly 70,000 hours of manpower each year to build and maintain the trail (see Figure 3.3).



Florida National Scenic Trail

U.S. Department of Defense

The U.S. Department of Defense (USDOD) includes the Departments of the Army, Navy and Air Force. Each provides outdoor recreation opportunities in Florida. USDOD has 17 military installations in Florida that make lands available for recreational purposes. Although public outdoor recreation is not a primary function of USDOD, its contributions in this regard are nevertheless important to Florida's overall outdoor recreation program. Generally, all military installations offer some degree of outdoor recreation programs for military personnel, dependents and their guests. However, access to their resources for recreational use by the general public is usually limited.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Along with its primary responsibilities for navigation, flood control, environmental restoration and beach erosion control, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has made considerable efforts to provide recreational facilities. It is the policy of USACE to plan for and provide outdoor recreation resources and facilities at all of its water resources projects.

USACE's general authority for recreational development stems from the Flood Control Act of 1944, which was later expanded by the Federal Water Project Recreation Act of 1965 (16 United States Code 460). The latter act directs that each project give full consideration to opportunities for outdoor recreation and fish and wildlife enhancement, and it establishes outdoor recreation and preservation of wildlife and fish as a full project purpose.

U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers



"The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Natural Resource Management Mission is to manage and conserve those natural resources, consistent with ecosystem management principles, while providing quality public outdoor recreation experiences, to serve the needs of present and future generations."

Florida is divided into two USACE districts. The Mobile District manages recreation sites at the Jim Woodruff Lock and Dam on Lake Seminole, a 37,500-acre impoundment in southern Georgia and Jackson County, Florida. Excellent opportunities for camping, hiking, fishing, hunting and boating are available.

The Jacksonville District manages Lake Okeechobee and the Okeechobee Waterway in southern Florida. Not only does this managed area provide extensive outdoor recreation opportunities, but its series of locks and canals provides a cross-Florida waterway that is popular among pleasure boaters and connects the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico via the lake and the Caloosahatchee River.

In partnership with the South Florida Water Management District, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and other federal, state, local and tribal agencies, the USACE is planning the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), one of the world's largest wetland restoration projects. The project covers 16 counties and over 18,000 square miles. The Plan was approved by Congress in the Water Re-

sources Development Act of 2000, which was reauthorized by Congress in November 2007. It includes more than 60 elements and will require more than 30 years to construct at an estimated cost of \$10.9 billion. The CERP Master Recreation Plan will provide guidance to assist recreation planning within CERP project fee title lands, and will help provide recreation opportunities that are compatible with the restoration purposes of the project.

U.S. Department of Transportation



The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) within the U.S. Department of Transportation provides grants to state and local governments for various recreational trail projects, including bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and scenic highways. The Recreational Trails Pro-

gram provides funds to the states to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized trail uses. The Office of Greenways and Trails in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection administers the financial assistance program in coordination with the FHWA.

The Transportation Enhancement Program provides funding for improvements that are not provided as part of the features routinely provided in transportation projects. Enhancements such as bicycle and pedestrian facilities, preservation and conversion of abandoned railroad corridors to trails, landscaping and other scenic beautification projects have been provided in Florida through this program. Since 2001, a total of \$315 million in enhancement funds have been apportioned to Florida through the program.



Indian River Lagoon National Scenic Byway, Brevard County

The National Scenic Byways Program recognizes roads having outstanding scenic, historic, cultural, natural, recreational and archaeological qualities by designating them as National Scenic Byways, All-American Roads, America's Byways or State Scenic Byways. Grants and technical assistance are provided to the states to implement projects on designated byways, and to plan, design and develop a state scenic byway program. The Florida Department of Transportation (DOT), in cooperation with FHWA, is the administering agency for the Florida Scenic Highway Program.

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is a scientific and technical organization that works to preserve and enhance the nation's coastal resources and ecosystems. Its mission is to provide products, services and information that promote safe navigation, support coastal communities, sustain marine ecosystems and mitigate coastal hazards. The National Ocean Service provides assistance to Florida in observing, understanding and managing coastal and marine resources. Florida is an active partner in several programs that directly affect resource protection in Florida's coastal areas.

National Estuarine Research Reserves

The National Estuarine Research Reserve System is a network of estuarine areas across the nation established for long-term stewardship, research and education. Each reserve has developed an organized eco-

logical research program containing extensive teacher training, education, research and monitoring. Findings are communicated to coastal managers and other decision makers, as well as local citizens. Florida contains three of these reserves: Apalachicola, Guana Tolomato Matanzas and Rookery Bay.

National Marine Sanctuaries

The National Marine Sanctuary Program designates and manages areas of the marine environment with special national significance due to their conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, scientific, cultural, archaeological, educational or aesthetic qualities. The Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, one of 13 in the National Marine Sanctuaries System, covers 3,668 square miles and encompasses part of the most extensive living coral reef system in the nation.

National Coastal Zone Management Program

The National Coastal Zone Management Program fosters an effective partnership among federal, state and local governments. By leveraging federal and state matching funds, the program strengthens the capabilities of each partner to address coastal issues while giving states the flexibility to design a program that accommodates their unique coastal challenges.

The Florida Coastal Management program is administered by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Intergovernmental Programs. The state program serves as the lead coordinator with eight other state agencies and five water management districts in enforcing 23 statutes and



Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve, St. Johns County

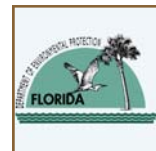
implementing several coastal zone management programs in cooperation with NOAA. The program works to protect coastal resources, build and maintain vital communities, enhance coastal access, protect remarkable places and revitalize working waterfronts.

In 2002, the National Coastal Zone program initiated the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program. The program is aimed at protecting important coastal and estuarine areas that have significant conservation, recreation, ecological, historical or aesthetic values and that are threatened by conversion from their natural or recreational state to other uses. The Florida Coastal Management Program manages this grant program, which provides up to \$3 million for each eligible project.

State Programs

The State of Florida's responsibilities for providing public recreation are fulfilled through a variety of facilities and programs, each unique to the mission of nine separate entities.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection



The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is charged with the protection, administration, management, supervision, development and conservation of Florida's natural and cultural resources. This broad mandate is accomplished by direct acquisition and management of public outdoor recreation and conservation areas, as well as through major initiatives and agency priorities which contribute to a healthy ecosystem. DEP's

functions include protecting and conserving Florida's water supply and its quality, protecting springs and oceans, restoring America's Everglades, acquiring, conserving and managing conservation and recreation lands, enforcing environmental laws and regulations, investing in cleaner sources of energy and protecting the health of Florida's communities.

Division of Recreation and Parks

DEP's Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) develops and operates Florida's state park system for the benefit and enjoyment of Florida's citizens and visitors. The state park system contains many of the best remaining examples of Florida's original domain and cultural heritage. Units in the state park system are classified for management according to the natural and cultural resources they contain and the desired balance between resource preservation and public use (see Unit Classification System in Appendix B).

Division of Recreation and Parks



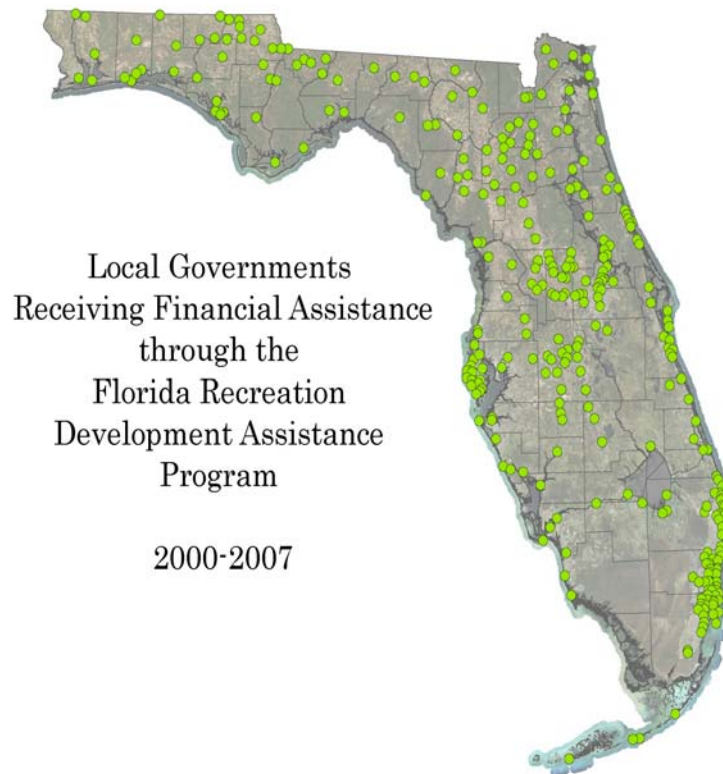
Mission: "To provide resource-based recreation while preserving, interpreting and restoring natural and cultural resources."

As of July 2007, the system consisted of 161 areas, comprising almost 700,000 acres of land and water. It contained 51 state parks, 35 state recreation areas, 29 special feature sites, 26 preserves, six museums, four ornamental gardens, two reserves, two fishing piers, one wildlife park and five sites that are not designated (see Figure 3.5 and Table 3.1). Between 2000 and 2007, nearly 184,000 acres of land and water were added to the state park system under the classifications identified above.



Anastasia State Park, St. Johns County

Figure 3.4



Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Besides providing hundreds of thousands of acres for public recreational use, the state park system is the largest steward of public historic properties in the state. More than 83 parks contain significant historic resources, including almost 300 historic structures and more than 1,500 archaeological sites. These resources provide a broad array of unique interpretive and educational opportunities for residents and visitors. In addition to administering Florida's state park system, DRP also administers the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program and the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program provides financial assistance to eligible local governments, including the 67 county general governments and 412 incorporated municipalities of Florida. Pursu-

ant to Section 375.075, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 62D-5, Part V, Florida Administrative Code, DEP recommends to the Legislature each year that an appropriation of not less than five percent of the total amount credited annually to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund be authorized for the program. Since 2001, the program has also received two percent of the bond proceeds made available through the *Florida Forever* program. Funding from the program is awarded on a competitive basis that considers the total project costs and the economic status of the applicants among other evaluation criteria.

Since 2000, 1,397 projects totaling \$189.2 million have been awarded under the program for the acquisition, development and renovation of recreation projects throughout

Figure 3.5



Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Table 3.1

Florida's State Parks

1 Addison Blockhouse	81 John Pennekamp Coral Reef
2 Alafia River	82 John U. Lloyd Beach
3 Alfred B. Maclay	83 Jonathan Dickinson
4 Allen David Broussard Catfish Creek	84 Judah P. Benjamin Confederate Memorial at Gamble Plantation
5 Amelia Island	85 Kissimmee Prairie
6 Anastasia	86 Koreshan
7 Anclote Key	87 Lafayette Blue Springs
8 Atlantic Ridge	88 Lake Griffin
9 Avalon	89 Lake Jackson Mounds
10 Bahia Honda	90 Lake June-In-Winter Scrub
11 Bald Point	91 Lake Kissimmee
12 Beker	92 Lake Louisa
13 Big Lagoon	93 Lake Manatee
14 Big Shoals	94 Lake Talquin
15 Big Talbot Island	95 Letchworth-Love Mounds
16 Bill Baggs Cape Florida	96 Lignumvitae Key
17 Blackwater River	97 Little Manatee River
18 Blue Spring	98 Little Talbot Island
19 Bulow Creek	99 Long Key
20 Bulow Plantation Ruins	100 Lovers Key
21 Caladesi Island	101 Lower Wekiva River
22 Camp Helen	102 Madira Bickel Mound
23 Cayo Costa	103 Madison Blue Spring
24 Cedar Key	104 Manatee Springs
25 Cedar Key Scrub	105 Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings
26 Charlotte Harbor	106 Mike Roess Gold Head Branch
27 Cockroach Bay	107 Mound Key
28 Collier-Seminole	108 Myakka River
29 Colt Creek	109 Natural Bridge Battlefield
30 Constitution Convention	110 Navarre Beach
31 Crystal River	111 North Peninsula
32 Crystal River Preserve	113 Ochlockonee River
33 Curry Hammock	114 Okechobee Battlefield
34 Dade Battlefield	112 O'Leno
35 Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock	115 Oleta River
36 De Leon Springs	116 Olustee Battlefield
37 Deer Lake	117 Orman House
38 Delnor-Wiggins Pass	118 Oscar Scherer
39 DeSoto Site	119 Paynes Creek
40 Devil's Millhopper	120 Paynes Prairie
41 Don Pedro Island	121 Peacock Springs
42 Dr. Julian G. Bruce St. George Island	122 Perdido Key
43 Dudley Farm	123 Ponce de Leon Springs
44 Dunns Creek	124 Pumpkin Hill Creek
45 Econfinia River	125 Rainbow Springs
46 Eden Gardens	126 Ravine
47 Edward Ball Wakulla Springs	127 River Rise
48 Egmont Key	128 Rock Springs Run
49 Estero Bay	129 San Felasco Hammock
50 Fakahatchee Strand	130 San Marcos de Apalache
51 Falling Waters	131 San Pedro Underwater
52 Fanning Springs	132 Savannas
53 Faver-Dykes	133 Seabranck
54 Fernandina Plaza	134 Sebastian Inlet
55 Florida Caverns	135 Silver River
56 Forest Capital	136 Skyway Fishing Pier
57 Fort Clinch	137 St. Andrews
58 Fort Cooper	138 St. Lucie Inlet
59 Fort George Island	139 St. Sebastian River
60 Fort Mose	140 Stephen Foster
61 Fort Pierce Inlet	141 Stump Pass Beach
62 Fort Zachary Taylor	142 Suwannee River
63 Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou	143 T.H. Stone Memorial St. Joseph Peninsula
64 Gamble Rogers Memorial State Recreation Area at Flagler Beach	144 Tarklin Bayou
65 Gasparilla Island	145 Terra Ceia
66 George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier	146 The Barnacle
67 Grayton Beach	147 Three Rivers
68 Haw Creek	148 Tomoka
69 Henderson Beach	149 Topsail Hill
70 Highlands Hammock	150 Torreya
71 Hillsborough River	151 Troy Spring
72 Homosassa Springs Wildlife	152 St Marks River
73 Honeymoon Island	153 Waccasassa Bay
74 Hontoon Island	154 Washington Oaks
75 Hugh Taylor Birch	155 Wekiwa Springs
76 Ichetucknee Springs	156 Werner-Boyce Salt Springs
77 Indian Key	157 Windley Key Fossil Reef
78 Indian River Lagoon	158 Ybor City
79 John D. MacArthur Beach	159 Yellow Bluff Fort
80 John Gorrie	160 Yellow River Marsh
	161 Yulee Sugar Mill Ruins



Florida Circumnavigational Saltwater Paddling Trail, Collier County

the state (Figure 3.4). These projects ranged from small, local land acquisition projects to projects of regional significance encompassing hundreds of acres. Facility development ranged from single-purpose facilities providing such amenities as beach access, picnicking and ball fields, to large, multi-activity parks.

Office of Greenways and Trails

The Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT) provides statewide leadership and coordination to establish, expand and promote greenways and recreational trails in Florida. Established in 1993 to manage the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway, OGT's programs have expanded to include management and administration of the Florida Greenways and Trails System through designation of lands and waterways, planning assistance and public information. OGT

Office of Greenways and Trails



Mission: "Working to establish a statewide system of greenways and trails for recreation, conservation and alternative transportation purposes."

also administers the Recreational Trails Program and provides funding for land acquisition and trail development. OGT's activities are governed by the Florida Greenways and Trails Act (Chapter 260, Florida Statutes).

OGT administers a program for formally designating public and private lands and waterways as part of the Florida Greenways and Trails System. The designation program

Figure 3.6



Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

helps to ensure an inclusive and interconnected system of greenways and trails by encouraging partnerships in conservation, development and management of system components, providing recognition for system components and raising public awareness of the conservation and recreation benefits of the system. As part of this responsibility, “visioning maps” are prepared through collaboration with local governments and trails advocates to display preferred routes for future trails and greenways, known as “opportunity corridors.” The maps also define the statewide vision for a connected system of trails and determine eligibility for funding to purchase land. Visioning maps that include multi-use trails, hiking trails and paddling trails are contained in Appendix I.

In addition to administering the Florida Greenways and Trails System, OGT provides direct management of key system components. These include the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway and eight multi-use, long-distance state trails. In total, OGT manages 1,305 miles of trails and 62,462 acres.

OGT administers a land acquisition program that is funded through annual allocations from the *Florida Forever* program. Acquisition proposals originate with local entities and are evaluated by OGT. No local matching funds are required. Title to properties acquired through this program is retained by the State of Florida, and the properties are subleased to local managing entities for trail development, operation and maintenance.

Figure 3.7



Lands and Trails Managed
by the
Office of Greenways
and Trails

Source: Florida Natural Areas Inventory

OGT also administers the Recreational Trails Program, a federally funded, competitive grant program that provides financial assistance to approved local entities. The program provides reimbursement for the development and maintenance of recreational trails and related facilities, both non-motorized and motorized.

Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas

The Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas (CAMA) is the principal manager of submerged lands and their associated marine and aquatic resources in Florida. The Florida Aquatic Preserve Act of 1975 (Chapter 258, Part II, Florida Statutes), authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund to maintain state owned submerged lands with exceptional biological, aesthetic and scientific value as aquatic preserves. These areas offer prime opportunities for fishing, boating, swimming, paddling and other water-related types of recreation. CAMA manages Florida's 41 aquatic preserves, including 37 saltwater and four freshwater systems, encompassing more than 1.8 million acres of sovereign submerged lands of the state (see Figure 3.8). In cooperation with NOAA, CAMA manages approximately 430,000 acres of

Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas



Mission: "To protect Florida's coastal and aquatic resources."

submerged land and coastal uplands in three national estuarine research reserves: Apalachicola, Guana Tolomato Matanzas and Rookery Bay. In addition, CAMA partners with NOAA and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to manage the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. The sanctuary contains 3,668 square miles of submerged lands around the 126-mile long Florida Keys, and encompasses the most extensive living coral reef system in the nation.

Through the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative and the Coral Reef Conservation Program, CAMA supports Florida's membership in the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force and the U.S. All Islands Committee. These programs coordinate research and monitoring, develop management strategies, and promote partnerships to protect the coral reefs, hard bottom communities and associated reef resources of southeast Florida.



Rookery Bay Aquatic Preserve, Collier County

Figure 3.8



Source: Florida Natural Areas Inventory and Florida Marine Research Institute

Division of State Lands

Since 1972, Florida has invested approximately \$6.8 billion through successive land acquisition programs to conserve approximately 3.7 million acres of land for environmental preservation, conservation and outdoor recreation purposes. The Division of State Lands (DSL) administers these land acquisition programs on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund and DEP. DSL also provides administrative oversight for approximately 11 million acres of state owned lands, including 700 freshwater springs, 4,510 islands of ten acres or more and 7,000 lakes.

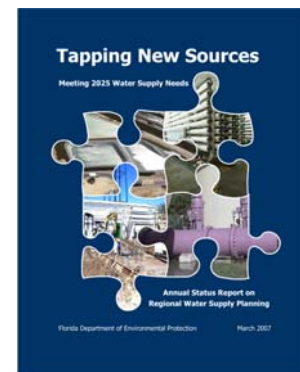
DSL administers the *Florida Forever* program, which was created by the 1999 Florida Legislature as the successor program to the *Florida Preservation 2000* program established in 1990. Under *Florida Forever*, \$300 million in funds have been available each year to support a variety of land acquisition purposes, including the preservation of environmental, conservation, and water management lands and to provide grants to local governments. Since *Florida Forever's* inception, 601,000 acres of land and water have been acquired, reflecting an investment of more than \$2.6 billion.

In 2008, *Florida Forever* was extended for another decade by the Florida Legislature. As part of the program's re-authorization, several important changes were made to the original program that was established in 1999. Two new land acquisition programs were created. The Rural and Family Lands Protection Act was established in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the acquisition of agricultural lands through perpetual easements and other less-than-fee techniques. The Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts Program was created in the Department of Community Affairs,

Florida Communities Trust, to preserve and restore working waterfronts and provide public access to Florida's waters. In addition to these new programs, greater emphasis was placed on providing public access to conservation lands, increasing accountability of public land management, protecting listed plant and animal species, and addressing climate change.

Division of Water Resource Management

The Division of Water Resource Management (DWRM) is responsible for protecting the quality of Florida's drinking water as well as its rivers, lakes and wetlands, and for reclaiming lands after they have been mined for phosphate and other minerals. Its programs establish the technical basis for setting the state's surface water and ground water quality standards, which are critical to maintaining the viability of water resources for public outdoor recreational use. By 2025, Floridians are expected to use about two billion gallons more fresh water each day. The Water Protection and Sustainability Program, created in 2005, has the task of increasing available water supplies, including alternative water supplies, and promoting efficient water use and conservation to meet existing and future water supply needs. DEP's annual report, *Tapping New Sources: Meeting 2025 Water Supply Needs*, describes the highlights and accomplishments of this new program.



Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems

Coastal protection and restoration are vital in preserving one of Florida's most valuable natural resources - its 825 miles of sandy shoreline fronting the Atlantic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico and the Straits of Florida. As of 2007, more than 192 miles of beach have been restored as a result of the Beach Erosion Control Program, working in concert with other agencies and local governments to protect, preserve and restore coastal sandy beaches. Financial assistance in an amount up to 50 percent of project costs is available to county and municipal governments, community development districts and special taxing districts for shore protection and preservation. In addition to beach restoration and renourishment, funds are also available for construction of dune walkovers and parking facilities for public access. Through 2006, more than \$582 million has been appropriated by the Florida Legislature for beach erosion control activities and hurricane damage recovery.

Bureau of Mine Reclamation

DWRM's Mine Reclamation Program regulates surface mine reclamation through a review and monitoring process. Originally established in the late 1980s to regulate, restore and reclaim phosphate-mined land, the program has evolved into a habitat and wildlife management program. Today, the program is responsible for managing 23 state-owned parcels along the Peace and Alafia Rivers and in the Green Swamp to implement long-term management activities needed for protection of the these greenways, wildlife corridors and riparian buffers.

Division of Law Enforcement

Florida Park Police

DEP's Division of Law Enforcement (DLE) is the primary law enforcement agency responsible for the protection of visitors to state parks, greenways and trails, and aquatic preserves. DLE also plays an important role in investigating environmental crimes of all types and is a leading agency in bringing cases to judicial resolution.

Division of Law Enforcement



Mission: "Dedicated to excellence in public and environmental protection."

Office of Sustainable Initiatives

Clean Marina Program

In 1992, Congress enacted the Clean Vessel Act, which established a federal grant program administered by USFWS to reduce pollution from vessel sewage discharges. Funding comes from the Sport Fishing Restoration Program account made up of revenues from excise taxes on fishing equipment, boats and motorboat fuels. The Clean Marina Program is a cooperative effort by the Office of Sustainable Initiatives, the Marine Industries Association of Florida, Florida Sea Grant Program, International Marina Institute, U.S. Coast Guard and public and private marinas throughout the state. Clean boater programs educate recreational boaters, marinas, boat yards and marine retailers about pollution control and enhance recreational boating through brochures and workshops that emphasize protecting aquatic resources.

Water Management Districts

The Office of Water Policy in DEP addresses statewide water management issues in coordination with Florida's water management districts and other agencies. Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, created five water management districts for the purpose of managing and conserving the state's water resources. The five districts were organized around major drainage basins in the state: Northwest Florida, Suwannee River, St. Johns River, Southwest Florida and South Florida. Land acquisition is one of the districts' primary tools for carrying out their mission of flood control, water storage and management, water resource development, and preservation of wetlands, streams and lakes.

The districts play a key role in providing public outdoor recreation opportunities on lands under their ownership. The water management districts acquire land through funding from *Florida Forever* and other sources. Under *Florida Forever*, 30 percent of the program's annual funding of \$300 million is allocated for this purpose. This amount is divided among the five districts according to a population-based formula established in Section 373.59(8), Florida Statutes. The districts are required to make their lands



Water Management Districts

Section 373.1391(1)(a), Florida Statutes:

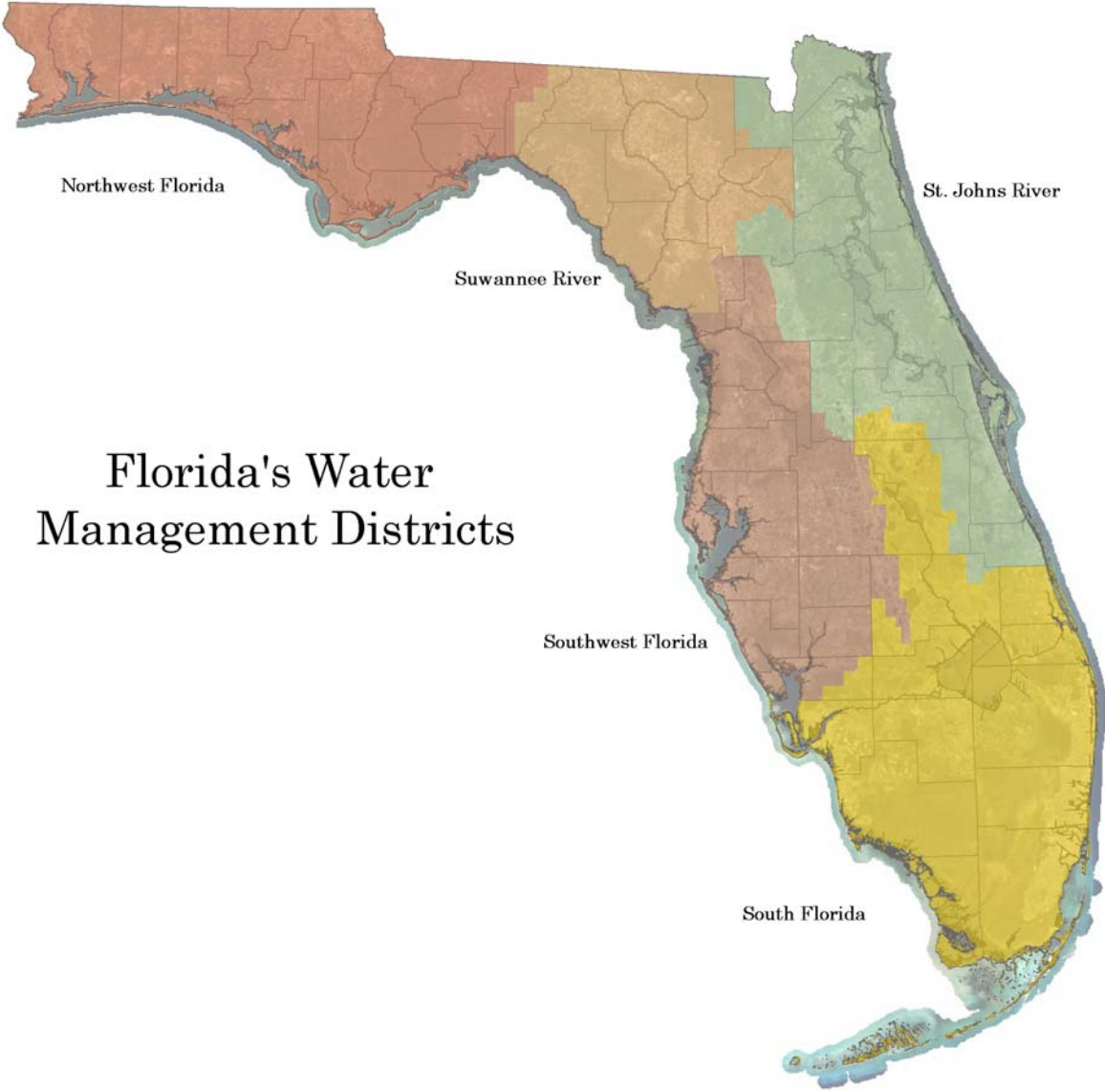
"Whenever practicable, such lands shall be open to the general public for recreational uses. General public recreational purposes shall include, but not be limited to, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, swimming, camping, hiking, canoeing, boating, diving, birding, sailing, jogging, and other related outdoor activities to the maximum extent possible considering the environmental sensitivity and suitability of those lands..."

available for compatible public outdoor recreation uses whenever practicable. Numerous public access sites and recreational facilities have been developed on district owned lands throughout the state in cooperation with other state agencies, the federal government, counties, municipalities and the private sector. Examples of the recreational



Suwannee River

Figure 3.9



Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

opportunities provided on district lands include hiking, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, bicycling, canoeing, primitive camping and wildlife viewing.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) was established by a 1998 amendment to the Florida Constitution that consolidated the responsibility for conserving the state's freshwater and saltwater aquatic life and wildlife into a single agency. FWCC operates under a mission of managing fish and wildlife for the long-term well-being and benefit of the people.

FWCC is composed of seven members appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate, for staggered terms of five years. FWCC exercises regulatory and executive powers of the State over marine life and is charged with exercising all the non-judicial powers of the state with respect to wild animals, freshwater aquatic life and marine life. Central to FWCC's role in outdoor recreation is the management of hunting and fishing areas. FWCC receives

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission



Mission: "Managing fish and wildlife resources for their long-term well-being and the benefit of people."

federal funds for the preservation, restoration and enhancement of Florida's sport fishing resources, including boating access facilities, from the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration (commonly referred to as the Dingell-Johnson Act and Wallop-Breaux Act) program. It also receives funds for the protection of endangered species from the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) Trust Fund. These programs are administered at the federal level by USFWS, which provide grants and technical assistance to the states.

Division of Habitat and Species Conservation

This unit is responsible for the Wildlife Management Area system, which includes 154



Big Bend Saltwater Paddling Trail



Group of Manatees

tracts totaling approximately 5.8 million acres in public and private ownership (see Figure 3.11). These tracts include wildlife management areas and wildlife environmental areas. Wildlife management areas are established for the management of wildlife or freshwater fish on which hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation activities may be permitted. Wildlife environmental areas are endangered or environmentally unique habitats with a primary management objective of protection and conservation of the resources.

Florida has one of the nation's largest systems of state-managed wildlife lands. FWCC is the lead manager of 40 areas that cover 1.4 million acres and is a co-manager of 114 areas that cover an additional 4.4 million acres. Often, FWCC's cooperating agreements are short-term arrangements, particularly on private lands. As a result, the amount of hunting land available to the public on these areas fluctuates from year to year. As Florida's population continues to grow and spread into undeveloped areas of the state, land for hunting--a sport that re-

quires large, well-managed acreages for a healthy game population--is becoming more difficult to provide.

Mitigation parks are areas ranging in size from 350 to 2,000 acres that have been selected by FWCC for purchase with funds collected through mitigation to protect and enhance important wildlife habitat. Examples of outdoor recreational activities available at selected mitigation parks include hiking, biking, wildlife watching, canoeing and kayaking.

In 2001, Congress created the State Wildlife Grants Program and required each state to develop a comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy in order to continue receiving federal wildlife grants. FWCC created Florida's Wildlife Legacy Initiative in 2004 to serve the agency's long-term commitment to conserve native wildlife. The initiative crafts a statewide vision for the future of wildlife in Florida, in coordination with other state, federal and local agencies, universities, conservation organizations, recreation groups,

businesses and the public. Species range from those which are common throughout the southeastern United States to some which are virtually unknown elsewhere in the country, such as the Florida panther, the Florida manatee and the Florida scrub jay. The initiative supports various forms of outdoor recreation including hunting, fishing, bird watching and nature study.

Division of Freshwater Fisheries Management

The Division of Freshwater Fisheries Management (DFFM) provides expertise on freshwater fish populations, angler use and other aspects of freshwater fisheries to ensure high quality fishing in Florida lakes, rivers and streams. DFFM provides the public with information on freshwater fisheries management issues, fishing opportunities, aquatic education and outreach, and other matters aimed at promoting responsible lifelong participation in sport fishing. Additionally, freshwater fish production facilities provide a dependable supply of the specific size, quantity and quality of freshwater fish to meet specific freshwater fisheries management objectives.

Division of Law Enforcement

FWCC's Division of Law Enforcement officers provide protection to residents and visitors who enjoy Florida's natural resources, and enforce resource protection and boating safety regulations in the state's woods and waters. The Boating, Waterways and Field Services (BWFS) section is responsible for educating boaters about boating safety, ensuring boat ramp and pier access, installing and maintaining waterway signage, and identifying derelict vessels.

BWFS section administers several grant programs, including the Florida Boating Improvement Program, the Boating Infrastructure Grant Program and the Derelict Vessel Removal Grant Program. The Federal Aid to Sport Fishing Restoration Program (commonly referred to as the Dingell-Johnson Act and Wallop-Breaux Act) is a "user pays, user benefits" program that is aimed at improving sport fishing and boating opportunities. Federal funds are collected from taxes on fishing tackle, motor fuels and import duties on tackle and yachts. The money is returned to appropriate state agencies for research, management, education and facility development related to sport fish-



Hardee Lakes Park, Hardee County

Figure 3.10



Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

ing. As a result of these programs, 200 grants around the state, totaling more than \$21 million, have been provided for constructing boat ramps and related access facilities (see Figure 3.10).

Office of Recreation Services

The Office of Recreation Services (ORS) provides opportunities for residents and visitors to participate in wildlife viewing-focused activities on wildlife management and other areas. Recreational improvements provided by ORS include user access facilities such as trails, interpretive facilities, observation structures, camping areas, boat ramps and facilities for recreational shooting. ORS manages the Great Florida Birding Trail in cooperation with state, regional and local governments and non-profit groups statewide and assists local communities in developing wildlife-viewing opportunities and promoting nature-based tourism.

The Great Florida Birding Trail is a collection of 445 sites throughout the state selected for their excellent bird watching or bird education opportunities. The 2,000-mile, self-guided highway trail is designed to conserve and enhance Florida's bird habitat by promoting bird watching activities, conservation education and economic opportunities. The trail combines special highway signs identifying designated sites with a map showcasing Florida's birding opportunities. When fully completed, the Trail will consist of a series of loops, each containing five to 10 sites that highlight natural communities and special ecosystems.

FWCC also manages the Big Bend Saltwater Paddling Trail, an open-water route that traverses the coastal forests, salt marshes and seagrass beds between the Ochlockonee River and Tarpon Springs. The 105-mile trail is managed as part of the Big Bend Wildlife Management Area.

Figure 3.11



Source: Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Division of Forestry

The Division of Forestry (DOF) is a major contributor to Florida's total outdoor recreation supply. The primary outdoor recreation objective is to maximize compatible recreational use of state forest lands. Florida's state forest system consists of 34 areas totaling more than 924,000 acres, most of which provide abundant opportunities for many popular outdoor recreation activities (see Figure 3.12). Resource-based recreation opportunities offered by DOF include camping, swimming, hiking, horseback riding, bicycling, off-highway vehicle use, fishing, paddling and nature study. Hunting is allowed on most properties managed by DOF, and is administered in cooperation with FWCC as part of that agency's wildlife management program.

DOF is also responsible for administering the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Program established by the T. Mark Schmidt Off-Highway Vehicle Safety and Recreation Act (Chapter 261, Florida Statutes) in 2002. The Act provides a set of guidelines for providing and maintaining state lands for off-highway motorcycle and all-terrain vehicle

Division of Forestry



Mission: "The mission of the Division of Forestry 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."

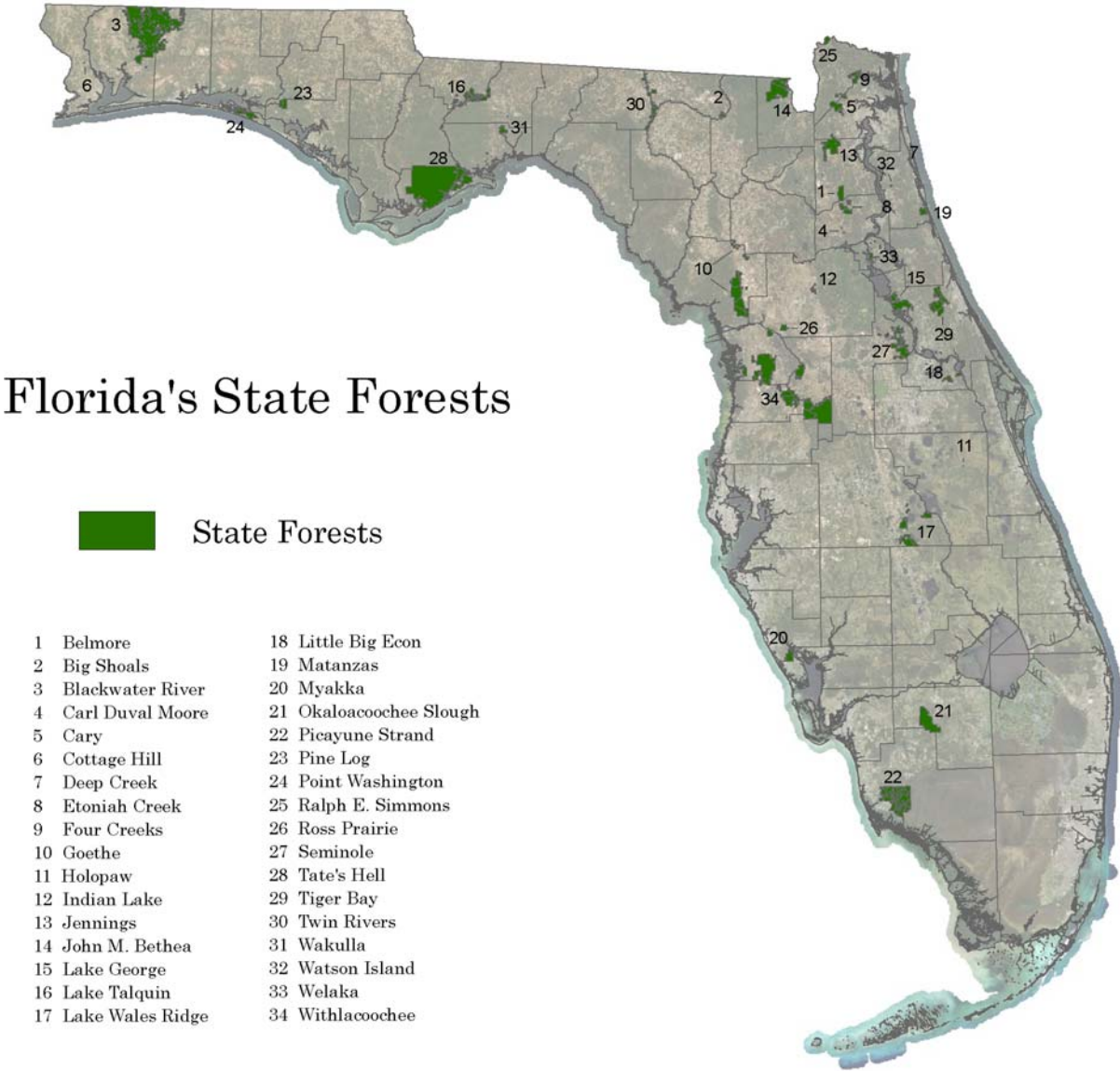
use, collectively referred to as off-highway vehicles. It also requires DOF to recommend appropriate locations for additional public access for off-highway vehicle recreational use, working in cooperation with the nine-member Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Advisory Committee. Since the law was enacted, two new areas have been designated for off-highway vehicle use, Tate's Hell State Forest in Franklin County and Mallory Swamp in Lafayette County (managed by Suwannee River Water Management District) and several new sites are currently being developed.

Besides directly providing resources and facilities for outdoor recreation, DOF assists private landowners in developing forest management plans that often include a rec-



Blackwater River State Forest, Santa Rosa County

Figure 3.12



Source: Florida Natural Areas Inventory

recreation component. At the landowner's request, DOF will assess the land's potential for hunting, fishing, wildlife management, water access facilities, camping and related activities. DOF may also assist landowners in designing facilities such as campgrounds, boat ramps and hiking trails to make the land available for recreational purposes.

Florida Department of State

Office of Cultural and Historical Programs



The Office of Cultural and Historical Programs (OCHP) is the state agency responsible for preserving and promoting the historical, archaeological, museum, arts and folk culture resources in Florida. Within OCHP, the Division of Historical Resources (DHR) is the primary agency for directing historic preservation. The director of DHR serves as the State Historic Preservation Officer providing a liaison with the national historic preservation programs conducted by NPS.

The Bureau of Historic Preservation conducts historic preservation programs aimed at identifying, evaluating, preserving and interpreting the historic and cultural resources of the state. The bureau contains four sections with important responsibilities for historic resource management.

The Compliance Review Section administers the Florida Master Site File and reviews federal or state undertakings that may affect historical or cultural resources. The Preservation Services Section oversees the Architectural Preservation Services Program, the Main Street Program, and the Grants-in-Aid Program. The Survey and Registration Section oversees the National Register/National

Historic Landmark Program. The Public Outreach Section directs the Publications, Historical Markers, and Florida Folklife Programs.

Chapter 267, Florida Statutes, directs DHR to cooperate with state and federal agencies, local government, private organizations and individuals to conduct a comprehensive statewide survey of historic resources and to develop a statewide historic preservation plan. The primary purpose of the state's historic preservation plan is to guide the implementation of sound planning procedures for the location, identification, and protection of the state's archaeological and historical resources.

Florida Department of Community Affairs

The Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) offers technical and financial assistance to local governments in a wide range of functional areas. As the state planning agency, DCA is charged with coordinating state-level review of local government comprehensive plans and comprehensive regional policy plans required by Chapters 163 and 186, Florida Statutes. DCA has also assisted local governments and regional agencies on resource management and protection matters through its involvement in resource planning and management committees established by the Governor in

Department of Community Affairs



Mission Statement: "We will meet the needs of Floridians by investing in communities and working with them to plan and manage growth."

Figure 3.13



Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

accordance with Chapter 380, Florida Statutes.

Florida Communities Trust

The Florida Communities Trust (FCT), established in 1989 to help local governments preserve parks, open space, beaches and natural areas, has created more livable communities throughout Florida. Matching and full grants for conservation and recreation land acquisition projects are provided to communities, as well as to non-profit environmental organizations, through an annual competitive application process. FCT receives 21 percent of annual proceeds from *Florida Forever*, totaling approximately \$63 million.

As of October 2007, more than 77,000 acres were acquired through the program. FCT has provided nearly \$667 million of the \$1.2 billion spent to acquire these lands, while local government partners have provided matching funds in excess of \$560 million (see Figure 3.13).

Waterfronts Florida Partnership Program

The Waterfronts Florida Partnership Program was originally established by DCA in 1997. In 2005, the program received statutory authorization to be administered in coordination with DEP and NOAA under Chapter 342, Florida Statutes. The program helps communities revitalize and promote interest in their waterfront districts by providing technical assistance, support, training and financial assistance. Waterfront revitalization

may target environmental resource protection, public access, retention of viable traditional waterfront economies and hazard mitigation. Since 1997, a total of 21 communities have received designation as Waterfronts Florida Partnership communities. In 2005, five new communities were designated for the 2005-2007 cycle: Bradenton Beach, Bagdad Village, Fort Walton Beach, Port St. Joe and Fernandina Beach.

Rural Land Stewardship Area Program

In 2001, the Legislature established the Rural Land Stewardship Area Program under Section 163.3177(11)(d), Florida Statutes, to recognize and further rural land sustainability. The program provides that counties may designate rural land stewardship areas on lands classified in the future land use element as being predominantly agricultural, rural, open or a substantively equivalent land use. Responding to the conversion of 2.8 million acres of farm land to non-agricultural uses between 1974 and 2002, the program is intended as a local, incentive-based process that uses innovative land use planning to protect agricultural and natural resources in rural Florida.

Florida Department of Transportation

In providing for the state's transportation needs, Florida Department of Transportation (DOT), under Chapter 334, Florida Statutes, gives consideration to the preservation and enhancement of the environment and the conservation of natural resources, including scenic, historic and recreational assets. Florida's highway system affords a vast number of scenic recreational opportunities, but perhaps its most significant contribution to outdoor recreation is providing access to Florida's recreation resources. DOT con-

Department of Transportation



Mission: "The Department will provide a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity and preserves the quality of our environment and communities."

structs and maintains rest areas for public use and provides opportunities for water-based recreation on causeways and bridges. Additionally, DOT administers the State Pedestrian and Bicycle Program, the Florida Scenic Highway Program and the Transportation Enhancement Program.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Program

DOT developed the State Pedestrian and Bicycle Program in Florida as a means of promoting alternative transportation modes and recreational bicycling in Florida. DOT develops initiatives and programs to improve the environment for safe, comfortable and convenient walking and bicycling trips and to improve the performance and interaction among motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians. As part of this program, the state pedestrian and bicycle coordinator and district pedestrian and bicycle coordinators in each of DOT's seven field operations regions work with municipal pedestrian and bicycle coordinators to develop and update design, maintenance and operation guidelines for all state, municipal and local bicycle facilities.

Florida Scenic Highway Program

The Florida Scenic Highway Program is a grass-roots effort to showcase and heighten awareness of Florida's intrinsic resources -



Williams Park, Hillsborough County

cultural, historical, archaeological, recreational, natural and scenic - which collectively enhance the overall traveling experience. Designated highways tell a story that is representative of Florida's past and present lifestyles. Participation in the program is voluntary and benefits the communities along the routes in matters such as resource enhancement and protection. Proposed projects are reviewed based on criteria established by FHWA. Each designated corridor is managed by a corridor management entity made up of interested citizens. As of July 2007, there were 15 designated scenic highways in Florida.

State University System of Florida

The State University System of Florida consists of 11 institutions that serve 293,000 students and contain almost 14,000 acres of land. Each university has an approved master plan that addresses the issue of outdoor recreation space. Recreational facilities maintained by each university provide opportunities for participation in a variety of athletic activities such as tennis, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer and football. Many state universities also operate resource-

based recreation areas detached from the main campus for use by students, alumni and in some instances, the general public. These areas provide opportunities for both active and passive outdoor recreation activities, such as golfing, swimming, canoeing, hiking, camping, nature study and picnicking.

Special Districts

Chapter 189, Florida Statutes, also known as the Uniform Special District Accountability Act of 1989, addresses the operation of special districts in Florida. Over 1,600 special districts exist statewide, providing infrastructure and services in a wide range of areas including fire control, libraries, ports and inlets, mosquito control, water control, community development, roads and hospitals. In some cases, special districts play an expanded role in providing outdoor recreation opportunities, conservation and resource management services.

Navigation districts in the state play a particularly important role in outdoor recreation. The Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND)

and the West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND) provide assistance programs that develop waterway access projects such as boat ramps, marinas, boardwalks, fishing piers, waterfront parks, navigation channels, shoreline stabilization and environmental restoration projects. FIND is the state sponsor of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway from the Georgia border to the southern end of Miami-Dade County and provides \$12 million annually through two assistance programs. WCIND stretches from the northern border of Manatee County to the southern border of Lee County and contains the 152-mile long Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

Local Government Providers

Besides being the main provider of user-oriented recreation facilities and programs, local governments are pursuing opportunities to acquire open space and conservation areas for their communities, often in partnerships with state agencies or non-profit conservation groups. Although the size of the properties acquired under these programs may not be as large as the properties acquired for conservation by state and federal agencies, they can be critically important in achieving a community's goals for environmental preservation, recreation and open space, or growth management.

Much of the success of the state's land acquisition programs is the result of the cooperative partnerships between federal, state and local governments and national and local land trusts. Many of the projects have been sponsored jointly by partnering arrangements and such partnerships with local governments have increased in recent years. Of Florida's 67 counties, 29 have implemented land acquisition programs as have several cities and regional authorities. Such programs have generated nearly \$2

billion to acquire conservation and recreation lands.

County Roles

Florida's counties vary in character from densely populated metropolitan areas such as Miami-Dade and Pinellas, to sparsely populated rural areas like Glades and Liberty. County governments are key components of Florida's recreation and park system. All counties do not have the same outdoor recreation needs nor have they all been able to fund responsive programs to the same degree, but every county in the state has an officially established outdoor recreation program. In some counties, user-oriented recreation programming is limited, but resource-based facilities such as roadside picnic areas or boat ramps are common amenities. In some counties, user-oriented facilities may be available only at public schools and municipal parks. More than half of Florida's counties, however, have undertaken sophisticated recreation programs involving the administration of numerous and diverse parks, facilities and program activities.

Counties are primarily concerned with the local outdoor recreation needs generated by extra-municipal populations and as a rule are the ideal level of government to provide regional or large community parks. Unlike cities, the larger acreage of counties provides a wider range of resources and a greater variety of outdoor recreation venues. As a result, the typical county outdoor recreation program in Florida may offer a combination of resource-based and user-oriented activities. Beaches, swimming areas, boating access sites, picnic sites, scenic areas and, occasionally, campgrounds are among the more popular types of resource-based areas and facilities provided.

Municipal Roles

Virtually all of Florida's 412 municipalities have recreation programs and facilities of one type or another. Many cities have developed park and recreation programs with trained staff involved in the administration of parks, facilities and programs. Smaller cities may have only limited facilities and rely on the county government, local school system, private organizations or non-profit groups to carry out athletic programs.

Because of population densities and the lack of large open space areas that support resource-based recreation opportunities, municipal recreation systems tend to concentrate on providing more intensive user-oriented facilities that require relatively little space. Typical municipal outdoor recreation facilities include playgrounds, swimming pools, ball fields, tennis courts and golf courses. Because of the near total reliance on user-oriented facilities, municipal programs have only a limited bearing on the statewide resource-based outdoor recreation program. There are some exceptions, however, especially in the cases of cities located on bodies of water. For example, Atlantic and Gulf coastal communities provide many excellent public beach facilities, while those located on navigable waters (coastal or inland) operate marinas, boat ramps, mooring fields and other boating facilities.

Although little in the way of resource-based outdoor recreation facilities is provided by the typical municipal outdoor recreation program, municipal programs play a primary role in the provision of user-oriented recreation opportunities in Florida. The importance of the role of municipal programs will grow as increased public emphasis is placed on close-to-home recreation. Since municipal

recreation agencies are the recreation system closest to the people, they are usually the first to feel the pressures to establish programs for meeting the added demands of new residents.

Non-Government Roles

In addition to the more conventional forms of outdoor recreation provided by all levels of government, a wide array of recreational opportunities is afforded by the private sector. Private programs range from for-profit recreational enterprises such as campgrounds, golf courses, marinas and attractions of all kinds to non-profit conservation organizations. Industries with extensive land holdings, notably the forest products industry in Florida, provide vast recreation resources and excellent facilities on their lands for the use of the public often at only a nominal fee. However, this resource is quickly disappearing in many parts of the state as timber lands are being converted to private access leases or developed for residential and commercial purposes.

Private outdoor recreation, because of its size, complexity and the fact that it undergoes rapid and frequent change, is extremely difficult to inventory in a comprehensive manner. In addition to its direct delivery of outdoor recreation opportunities, the private sector can respond quickly to opportunities for acquiring property for subsequent donation or resale. This capability makes the private sector a valuable partner with public agencies in the provision of resource-based outdoor recreation. During the past decade, private companies and non-profit organizations have transferred thousands of acres to state government for recreation and conservation purposes. Those transfers represent a substantial contribution to the

overall supply of outdoor recreational opportunities in Florida.

Commercial Providers

Florida's commercial outdoor recreation providers are a vital component of the state's economy. Commercial providers meet a significant portion of the overall demand for both resource-based and user-oriented outdoor recreation in Florida, particularly tourist-generated demand. Because of their capabilities and further potential for fulfilling demand, the private commercial sector must bear a large share of the responsibility for meeting demand for both resource-based and user-oriented recreation.

Private Organizations

This category includes private and quasi-public organizations such as the YMCA, 4-H, scouting organizations, faith-based groups and a myriad of conservation organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society, Archbold Biological Station and Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy. In many cases these organizations not only acquire and manage conservation land, but they also conduct preservation, restoration and research programs and public educational activities. These groups provide land and facilities primarily for the use of members, but in some cases for the public at large.



Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy, Leon County

Clubs

This category includes hunt clubs, country clubs, tennis clubs, yacht clubs and others. These groups manage land or facilities that are primarily available only to organization members or their guests. In addition, private industry lands are included (timber companies and other industries with extensive land holdings whose lands or portions thereof are open to the public). The majority of these lands are used for resource-based recreation, although some forms of user-oriented facilities are also available.

Chapter 4 - Outdoor Recreation Supply and Regional Profiles

A complete inventory of the supply of existing outdoor recreation resources and facilities in Florida is vital to outdoor recreation planning and implementation. The Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) maintains an inventory that provides details regarding the existing parks, recreation areas, open spaces and other outdoor recreation sites in the state. The inventory includes the known outdoor recreation facilities and resources provided by federal, state, regional, county and municipal governments, commercial enterprises, non-profit organizations and clubs. The supply information presented in this chapter is a useful planning tool for public and private recreation interests and it should assist them in analyzing outdoor recreation and open space needs and establishing program goals and priorities.

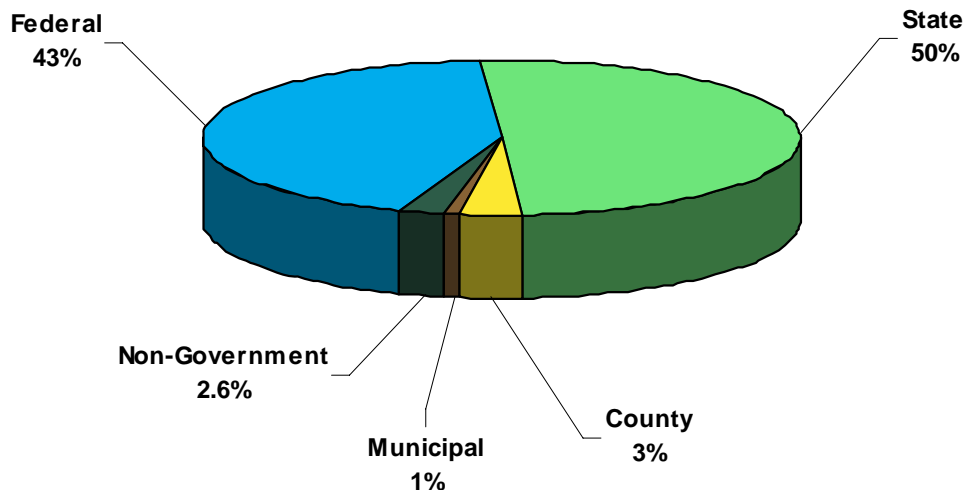
DRP updates the statewide supply inventory every two years. The most recent update was completed in September 2007. Public outdoor recreation providers were contacted and asked to verify or correct the information about their agency's existing resources and facilities and to provide information on new sites and facilities. The updated information was conveyed electronically in most cases. Inventory forms were mailed to agencies that were unable to access the supply inventory data electronically. Additionally, DRP used secondary data sources, including trade publications, Internet Web pages, recreation directories and guides, and local government comprehensive plans to identify new providers to add to the inventory. In updating the inventory of private recreation facilities, emphasis was placed on verifying the information for more than 3,000 recreation areas already contained in the inventory from previous updates. New

private sites were identified through the secondary data sources previously listed.

The updated information on outdoor recreation supply was compiled in the Outdoor Recreation Planning Data Base. The data base enables DRP to compute totals, summaries and other analyses that are necessary for Florida's outdoor recreation plan and to provide reasonably current, accurate and easily accessible data to any public agency or interested individual.

It should be recognized that DRP relies on self-reporting of data by the various agencies and providers that contribute information to the inventory. Additionally, there are certain private sector outdoor recreation resources and facilities that are not included in the private supply inventory. Included in this group are privately-owned lands and facilities which may be available to the public on an individual basis after receiving permission from the landowner. These lands comprise thousands of acres and can accommodate many outdoor recreation activities including hunting, fishing, camping and hiking. Other resources that are not included in the inventory are backyard pools, private vacation cabins, boat docks, driveway basketball courts, apartment complexes and hotel/motel recreation facilities. These resources and facilities are not available to the public on a formal basis, and it is virtually impossible to identify them with the degree of accuracy required to include them in the private supply inventory.

Figure 4.1
Statewide Outdoor Recreation Acreage by Category of Provider



Statewide Overview of Supply

Table 4.1 shows the statewide results of the outdoor recreation supply inventory update by level of provider. Public agencies and private providers supplied a total of more than 13 million acres of land and water for outdoor recreational use. Federal and state lands constitute 93 percent of the total outdoor recreation and conservation acreage in the state. The federal government provides 43 percent of the statewide acreage through various types of areas of national significance, including national parks and preserves, national forests, national wildlife refuges and military lands. State agencies provide fully one-half of the statewide acreage through a variety of programs and managed areas, including state parks, state forests, water management areas, greenways and

trails, wildlife management areas and water management lands.

Florida's local governments supply only four percent of the statewide outdoor recreation acreage, but they provide two-thirds of the individual parks and recreation areas in the state. Typically, they provide numerous passive and open space areas and access to many water bodies, affording opportunities for a variety of water-dependent recreation activities. Their primary involvement, however, is in supplying virtually all of the public facilities needed for user-oriented recreation.

Non-government organizations provide the remaining lands (346,000 acres) through a variety of commercial enterprises, non-profit organizations and clubs. A significant por-

tion of the overall demand for outdoor recreation in Florida is met by these private sector interests. This category also includes private and quasi-public organization lands and private industry lands.

Regional Summaries

The remainder of this chapter provides summaries of the outdoor recreation resources and facilities that are found in each of Florida's 11 planning regions (refer to map on page 1-2). Each regional summary includes

a map of the public conservation lands located in the region, a brief profile of the region's physical and socio-economic characteristics, and tables that display the outdoor recreation resources and facilities available in the region. The regional summaries illustrate the diversity of outdoor recreation opportunities that are available throughout the state and each region's uniqueness as a setting for outdoor recreation activities.



The Nature Conservancy's Disney Wilderness Preserve, Osceola County

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.1
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities by Category of Provider
Statewide
2007**

RESOURCE/FACILITY	UNITS	Federal	State	County	Municipal	Non-Government	TOTAL
OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS	Areas	137	936	3,823	5,254	3,085	13,235
LAND	Acre	4,351,881	4,512,461	376,368	106,433	324,095	9,671,238
WATER	Acre	1,467,576	2,131,414	48,623	5,774	20,567	3,673,955
ACRES TOTAL	Acre	5,806,028	6,663,651	425,061	112,183	346,035	13,352,957
RESOURCE BASED							
CABINS	Cabins	93	251	85	15	3,728	4,172
TENT CAMPSITES	Sites	1,312	4,679	1,674	790	11,590	20,044
RV CAMPSITES	Sites	2,229	3,867	3,241	2,027	150,677	162,041
HISTORIC SITES	Sites	385	381	143	227	192	1,328
COMMEM STRUCTURES	Structures	44	49	100	122	33	318
MUSEUMS	Museums	34	94	128	90	170	516
PICNIC TABLES	Tables	2,243	6,874	20,593	17,626	68,750	116,086
HUNTING AREAS	Acre	2,103,620	3,157,725	23,400	2,896	2,855	5,290,496
BIKE TRAIL PAVED	Miles	99.5	331.0	433.6	480.2	80.5	1424.8
BIKE TRAIL UNPAVED	Miles	140.4	1495.1	487.7	207.3	52.7	2383.2
CANOE TRAIL	Miles	480.3	1143.5	231.2	100.7	339.3	2295.0
HIKING TRAIL	Miles	839.4	3037.7	860.7	388.2	297.8	5423.8
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	Miles	228.7	1301.9	508.7	152.7	169.4	2361.4
JOGGING TRAIL	Miles	85.4	171.7	499.5	496.6	72.3	1325.5
OHV TRAIL	Miles	407.0	426.0	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	833.1
NATURE TRAIL	Miles	303.8	910.5	671.6	375.6	213.4	2474.9
FRESHWATER BEACH	Miles	0.8	2.1	17.6	5.3	33.6	59.5
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	90	340	629	279	401	1,739
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	101	372	773	345	458	2,049
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	111	234	2,241	4,577	784	7,947
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Feet	908	8,576	52,977	45,126	26,860	134,447
FRESHWATER JETTIES	Feet	120	97	3,482	69,742	1,356	74,797
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Marinas	6	2	6	13	430	457
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Slips	44	120	221	633	10,744	11,762
FRESHWATER PIERS	Piers	26	45	180	227	92	570
FRESHWATER PIERS	Feet	4,425	4,278	15,316	23,114	43,045	90,178
SALTWATER BEACH	Miles	180.2	110.1	86.6	87.1	37.1	501.1
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	40	46	260	267	326	939
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	58	64	420	359	367	1,268
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	57	53	182	192	147	631
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Feet	23,197	25,859	59,337	119,175	42,671	270,239
SALTWATER JETTIES	Feet	11,050	2,086	8,002	16,205	10,854	48,197
SALTWATER MARINAS	Marinas	18	4	19	68	828	937
SALTWATER MARINA SLIPS	Slips	1,439	309	1,271	5,723	36,974	45,716
SALTWATER PIERS	Piers	17	23	119	148	105	412
SALTWATER PIERS	Feet	7,514	22,907	40,379	57,172	20,435	148,407
USER-ORIENTED							
BASEBALL FIELDS	Fields	67	80	2,463	2,666	195	5,471
BASKETBALL GOALS	Goals	90	138	3,754	3,285	677	7,944
EQUIPPED PLAY AREAS	Areas	66	87	1,790	2,465	473	4,881
FOOTBALL FIELDS	Fields	25	57	877	844	95	1,898
GOLF COURSES, 18-HOLE	Courses	10	3	15	62	690	780
GOLF COURSES, 9-HOLE	Courses	5	1	13	20	138	177
GOLF COURSES, EXECUTIVE	Courses	1	1	3	10	190	205
GOLF HOLES TOTAL	Holes	243	66	417	1,431	14,544	16,701
MULTI-USE COURTS	Courts	11	14	402	395	170	992
MULTI-USE FIELDS	Fields	14	69	922	676	241	1,922
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS	Pools	23	31	151	290	1,572	2,067
RACQUETBALL COURTS	Courts	27	227	653	734	266	1,907
SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	Courts	6	45	380	1,829	2,576	4,836
TENNIS COURTS	Courts	115	399	1,786	2,737	4,244	9,281
VOLLEYBALL COURTS	Courts	1	54	293	231	53	632

West Florida Region

The West Florida Region encompasses 6,507 square miles and contains seven counties and 35 municipalities located in the western Florida Panhandle. Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton and Bay counties share 135 miles of coastline on the Gulf of Mexico. Holmes and Washington counties are inland and contain a total of 43 named freshwater springs, most occurring in Washington County.

The coastal counties are buffered by several barrier islands and peninsulas that offer miles of high quality white sandy beaches. Panhandle Florida beaches with their famous sugar-like sand were, until the last two decades, a well-kept secret known mainly to visitors from southeastern states who flocked to the Gulf Coast in the summer. Mexico Beach, Pensacola, Navarre, Destin, Ft. Walton and Panama City beaches all

continue to grow in popularity each year. The reopening of repaired access points and re-nourished stretches of beach are vital to the region's economy. Tourism continues to play a major role in the West region where high-rise condominiums, vacation homes, timeshares and resorts with beachside swimming pools dominate the coastline and attract visitors from all over the world.

West Florida's two largest river systems, the Choctawhatchee and the Escambia, both originate in Alabama and flow south creating large estuaries before merging with the Gulf. Although Holmes and Washington counties are the only counties completely inland, the northern reaches of each of the region's counties share a similar pattern of development. While the coastal region is highly urbanized and developed, the inland areas north of Interstate 10 remain sparsely developed and retain large forest resources that provide numerous opportunities for outdoor

Figure 4.1.1
Public Conservation Lands



**Table 4.1.1
Current and Projected Population
West Florida Region**

County	2000	2007	Projections			Percentage Change 2000-2020
			2010	2015	2020	
Bay	148,217	167,631	172,000	183,900	194,800	31.4
Escambia	294,410	311,755	316,200	328,000	338,900	15.1
Holmes	18,564	19,464	19,700	20,400	21,000	13.1
Okaloosa	170,498	196,540	202,400	218,000	232,400	36.3
Santa Rosa	117,743	142,144	148,200	163,400	177,500	50.8
Walton	40,601	57,093	60,800	70,300	79,300	95.3
Washington	20,973	23,719	24,800	27,700	29,000	38.3
Region Totals	811,006	918,346	944,100	1,011,700	1,072,900	32.3

Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 2008

recreation. Camping, hunting, trail activities and a myriad of freshwater sports - including boating, fishing, water skiing, diving and swimming - are pleasurable activities with no urban area in sight.

Economy

The large presence of the United States military in this region plays a key role in the local economy and is a major factor in land use patterns, including the availability of recreation land. Military spending is a major component of employment and earnings in the region. According to a 2007 study by the Hass Center for Business Research at the University of West Florida, 45 percent of all military and civilian defense employment in Florida is centered in the West region. Military installations contain more than a half million acres of land in the region. Each service of the military provides extensive outdoor recreation opportunities for active and retired staff and their dependents. Public hunting is provided on more than 287,000 acres of wildlife management areas on the Eglin and Tyndall reservations.

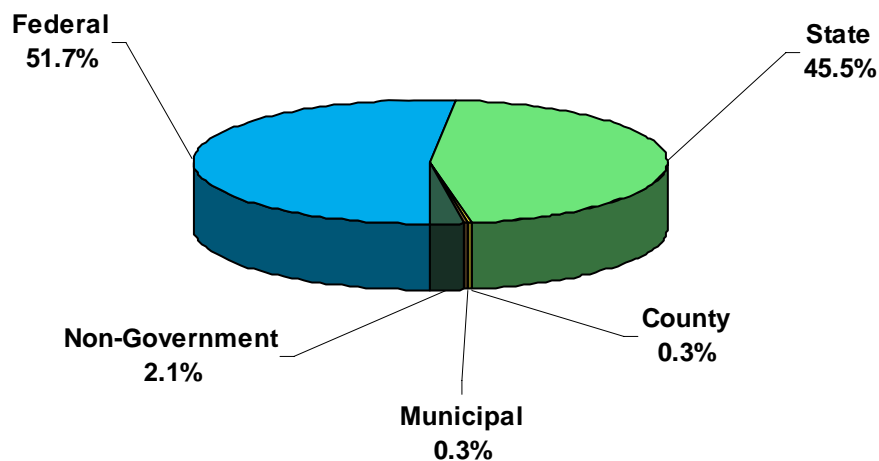
Demographics

Estimated population for the seven county area exceeded 918,000 in 2007. Mid-range projections estimate 1.1 million residents by 2020, a 32 percent increase from the 2000 census. Population densities range from a low of 40 persons per square mile in Holmes and Washington counties to a high of 470 persons per square mile in Escambia County. Table 4.1.1 displays the projected population growth for the region through 2020.



Eglin Air Force Base, Okaloosa County

Figure 4.1.2
Outdoor Recreation Acreage by Category of Provider
West Florida Region



Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities

West Florida's beaches, bays and estuaries are major attractions that offer an abundance of high quality opportunities for water-

based recreation. The region has just more than one million acres available for outdoor recreation from both the public and private sectors, or 1.12 acres per capita. Figure 4.1.2 displays the distribution of outdoor recreation acreage among the various levels of providers.



St. Andrews State Park, Bay County



Tyndall Youth Center, Bay County

Federal and state agencies provide more than 95 percent of the outdoor recreation land in the region. Federally-managed lands account for 51 percent of the land with Eglin Air Force Base providing most of the acreage. Other federally-managed sites include Gulf Islands National Seashore, Tyndall Air Force Base and Pensacola Naval Air Station. In addition, 45 miles of hiking trails, 467 RV/trailer campsites, 31 baseball fields and 59 tennis courts are provided at federal areas.

State agencies provide 45 percent (468,312 acres) of outdoor recreation land in the region. The region contains 15 state parks, four aquatic preserves and four state forests that offer resource-based activities including hiking, horseback riding and picnicking. The state also provides 166 miles of canoe and kayak trails, 18 miles of saltwater beaches, four saltwater piers and 16 historic sites.

Although county and municipal governments make up a small portion of the outdoor recreation land in West Florida, they provide the overwhelming majority of user-oriented facilities. Local governments manage a total of 759 recreation sites containing over 6,000 acres. These areas provide 434 baseball and softball fields, 249 basketball goals, 117 golf holes and 111 football fields. In addition to user-oriented facilities, local governments provide 11 miles of saltwater beach, 42 miles of jogging trails and 22 miles of nature trails, much of which are frequently used by locals and tourists alike.

A combination of commercial, non-profit and club organizations make up the private sector supply, totaling 21,794 acres. The private sector manages 98 of the 118 inventoried outdoor swimming pools, 35 of the 47 golf courses and 3,500 of the 4,447 saltwater marina slips in the region. In addition, the private sector is the leading provider of tennis courts, shuffleboard courts and freshwater marina slips. Most notably, the private



Lake Stone Campground, Escambia County

sector accounts for 72 percent of the RV/trailer campsites in the region.

Table 4.1.2 displays West Florida's outdoor recreation resources by category of provider. Table 4.1.3 displays the major outdoor recreation areas provided or managed by federal, state and local government entities.



Emerald Beach RV Park, Okaloosa County

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.1.2
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities by Category of Provider
West Florida Region
2007**

RESOURCE/FACILITY	UNITS	Federal	State	County	Municipal	Non-Government	TOTAL
OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS	Areas	19	76	395	364	211	1,065
LAND	Acres	52,159.3	406,620	2,393	3,175	21,005	954,787
WATER	Acres	52,192	77,917	777	137	789	131,812
ACRES TOTAL	Acres	573,785	484,700	3,170	3,312	21,794	1,086,762
RESOURCE-BASED							
CABINS	Cabins	36	46	0	0	82	164
TENT CAMPSITES	Sites	555	919	20	2	472	1,968
RV CAMPSITES	Sites	467	827	135	0	3,802	5,231
HISTORIC SITES	Sites	20	16	2	19	9	66
COMMEM STRUCTURES	Structures	1	0	2	16	2	21
MUSEUMS	Museums	4	2	0	6	22	34
PICNIC TABLES	Tables	887	776	1,244	1,071	2,589	6,567
HUNTING AREAS	Acres	285,861	371,809	0	0	855	658,525
BIKE TRAIL PAVED	Miles	0.0	15.6	1.2	11.9	3.0	31.7
BIKE TRAIL UNPAVED	Miles	6.0	71.3	2.4	4.7	0.0	84.4
CANOE TRAIL	Miles	80.2	166.0	9.0	0.0	40.0	295.2
HIKING TRAIL	Miles	45.0	211.3	9.7	9.1	24.1	299.2
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	Miles	14.5	48.0	10.0	0.4	0.0	72.9
JOGGING TRAIL	Miles	17.2	6.3	10.9	30.6	2.7	67.7
OHV TRAIL	Miles	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NATURE TRAIL	Miles	18.8	59.3	10.0	11.7	5.6	105.4
FRESHWATER BEACH	Miles	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.9	0.3	2.2
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	33	80	84	15	13	225
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	35	82	86	16	14	233
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	7	5	3	15	13	43
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Feet	387	605	866	3,364	3,534	8,756
FRESHWATER JETTIES	Feet	120	5	150	0	250	525
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Marinas	2	0	0	0	3	5
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Slips	6	0	0	0	55	61
FRESHWATER PIERS	Piers	14	7	30	13	7	71
FRESHWATER PIERS	Feet	3,700	346	1,549	1,405	496	7,496
SALTWATER BEACH	Miles	86.0	18.1	4.3	7.2	3.0	118.6
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	14	6	30	45	44	139
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	22	10	35	61	49	177
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	20	11	7	31	17	86
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Feet	15,425	1,150	1,625	3,457	3,045	24,702
SALTWATER JETTIES	Feet	1,000	5	250	56	890	2,201
SALTWATER MARINAS	Marinas	9	0	2	3	75	89
SALTWATER MARINA SLIPS	Slips	459	0	15	473	3,500	4,447
SALTWATER PIERS	Piers	6	4	18	28	10	66
SALTWATER PIERS	Feet	5,950	2,056	11,189	22,407	3,385	44,987
USER-ORIENTED							
BASEBALL FIELDS	Fields	31	7	196	238	15	487
BASKETBALL GOALS	Goals	38	4	73	176	44	335
EQUIPPED PLAY AREAS	Areas	17	11	118	174	38	358
FOOTBALL FIELDS	Fields	11	2	54	60	6	133
GOLF COURSES, 18-HOLE	Courses	6	0	0	6	35	47
GOLF COURSES, 9-HOLE	Courses	2	0	0	0	8	10
GOLF COURSES, EXECUTIVE	Courses	1	1	1	0	42	45
GOLF HOLES TOTAL	Holes	144	3	9	108	694	958
MULTI-USE COURTS	Courts	6	5	8	5	14	38
MULTI-USE FIELDS	Fields	8	3	61	52	18	142
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS	Pools	12	2	0	6	98	118
RACQUETBALL COURTS	Courts	9	23	5	10	5	52
SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	Courts	2	6	6	25	62	101
TENNIS COURTS	Courts	59	35	38	153	204	489
VOLLEYBALL COURTS	Courts	0	0	8	5	3	16

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.1.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
West Florida Region
2007**

Federal Areas

	<u>Acres</u>		<u>Acres</u>
Military Installations		State Parks (continued)	
Eglin Air Force Base	460,909	Deer Lake	1,995
Tyndall Air Force Base	28,823	Eden Gardens	162
National Park Lands		Falling Waters	173
Gulf Islands National Seashore (Florida portion)	66,584	Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou	346
State Areas		Grayton Beach	2,172
Aquatic Preserves		Henderson Beach	219
Fort Pickens	34,000	Navarre Beach	130
Rocky Bayou	480	Perdido Key	290
St. Andrew's Bay	25,000	Ponce de Leon Springs	349
Yellow River Marsh	16,435	St. Andrews	1,170
Florida Scenic Highways		Tarkiln Bayou	4,262
Pensacola Scenic Bluffs Highway	<u>Miles</u> 11	Topsail Hill	1,643
Greenways and Trails		Yellow River Marsh	815
Blackwater Heritage Trail	10	Water Management District Lands	
State Forests		<i>Northwest Florida WMD</i>	
Blackwater River*	<u>Acres</u> 206,351	Blackwater River	380
Cottage Hill	31	Choctawhatchee River*	60,596
Pine Log *	8,621	Econfina Creek*	41,168
Point Washington *	15,321	Garcon Point	3,245
State Parks		Lower Escambia*	34,919
Big Lagoon	732	Perdido River *	5,456
Blackwater River	636	Yellow River*	17,721
Camp Helen	182	Wildlife Management Areas	
		Blue Water Creek*	21,000

*Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Reported County and Municipal Areas

	<u>County</u>		<u>Municipal</u>	
	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres
Bay	99	288	120	666
Escambia	104	1,193	97	630
Holmes	13	65	8	52
Okaloosa	50	223	95	1,211
Santa Rosa	59	300	17	370
Walton	40	444	16	273
Washington	30	657	11	112

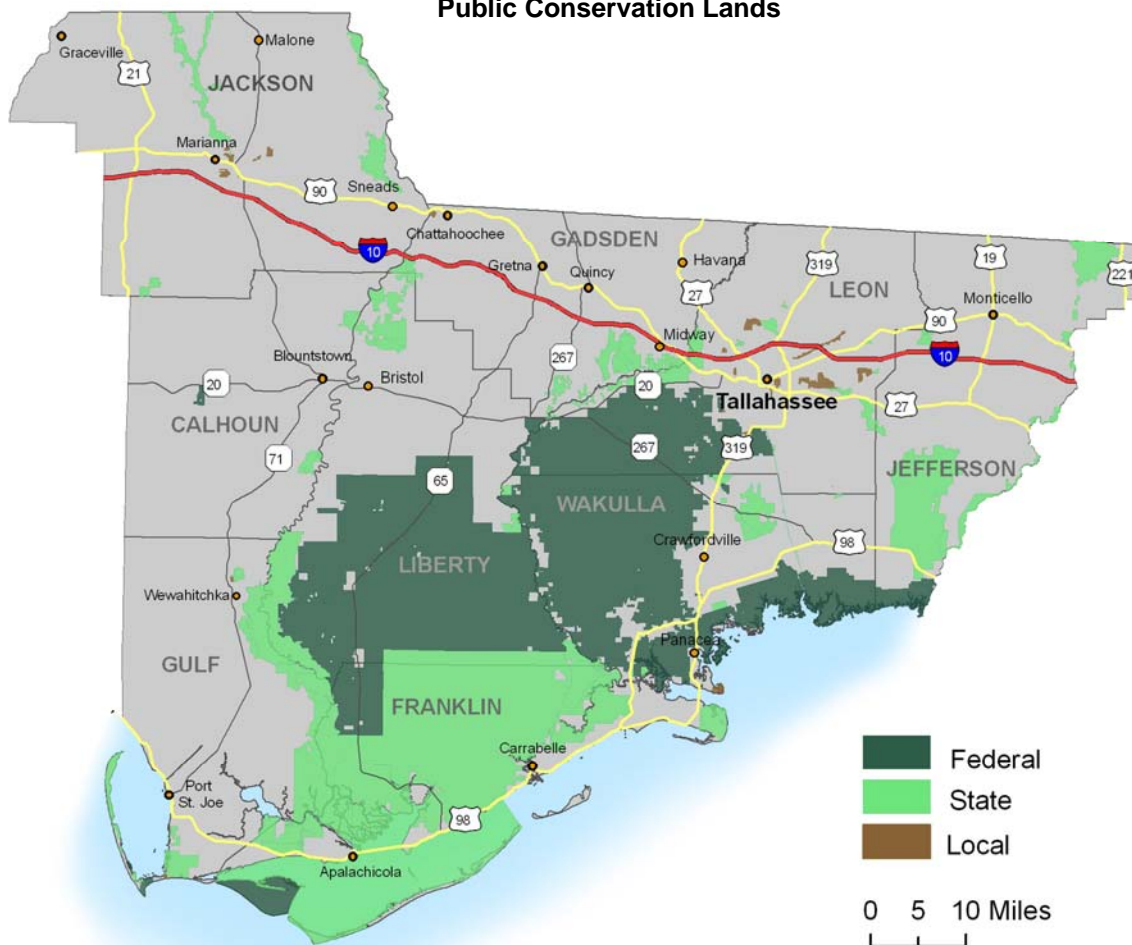
Apalachee Region

The Apalachee Region is comprised of nine counties and 29 municipalities covering 6,757 acres. The coastlines of Franklin, Gulf and Wakulla counties extend 86 miles east to west along the Gulf of Mexico in the northern Big Bend area. Calhoun, Gadsden, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon and Liberty counties are located inland.

The Apalachicola and Ochlockonee Rivers divide the region into three distinct geographical areas. Although the Apalachicola River is located entirely within Florida, it is

formed by the confluence of two rivers outside the state: the Flint River in Alabama and the Chattahoochee River in Georgia. As the Apalachicola flows south to the Gulf of Mexico, its waters strongly influence the estuarine conditions in the highly productive Apalachicola Bay system. Along the coast, barrier islands provide sandy beaches and help to protect the mainland from the full force of tropical storms. Typical natural features in the northern part of the region include riverine swamps and wetlands, forested uplands and vast pinelands.

Figure 4.2.1
Public Conservation Lands





The Old Capitol Building in Tallahassee, Leon County

Economy

The economy of the region is heavily dependent on government employment and spending. Tallahassee, the state capital, is located in Leon County which, as the seat of government for the fourth largest state in the nation and home to two major state universities, is the most urbanized county in the region and is a principal business and commercial hub. The surrounding counties are predominantly rural and contain well over a million acres of public conservation land. Every county in the region with the exception of Leon County, has been designated as a “Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern” by the state. This designation provides incentives and benefits aimed at giving these communities an advantage in attracting industries and jobs.

Regional employment in timber harvesting, pulp and paper manufacturing, and fishing and seafood processing has significantly declined. In the past two decades, thousands of acres of timberland have been offered for sale in response to structural changes in the pulp and paper industry. In the 1990s, saltwater net ban legislation seriously curtailed the seafood industry, and major storms in 2002, 2004 and 2005 further damaged the region’s fisheries. In 2007, drought conditions dealt yet another blow to one of the region’s remaining seafood sectors - shellfish harvesting. Disruptions to the historical flows of fresh water from the Apalachicola River have had substantial negative impacts on the region’s once vigorous shellfish industry.

Tourism is another major component of the region’s economy. Many out-of-state visi-

**Table 4.2.1
Current and Projected Population
Apalachee Region**

County	2000	2007	Projections			Percentage Change 2000-2020
			2010	2015	2020	
Calhoun	13,017	14,477	14,800	15,600	16,300	25.2
Franklin	9,829	12,249	12,400	13,000	13,500	37.3
Gadsden	45,087	49,398	50,700	52,700	54,600	21.1
Gulf	14,560	16,815	17,100	17,900	18,600	27.7
Jackson	46,555	50,416	53,100	54,800	56,500	21.4
Jefferson	12,902	14,494	14,700	15,300	15,800	22.5
Leon	239,452	272,896	279,200	297,300	312,400	30.5
Liberty	7,021	7,772	7,900	8,300	8,700	23.9
Wakulla	22,863	29,417	32,500	36,500	40,200	75.8
Region Totals	411,286	467,934	482,400	511,400	536,600	30.5

Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 2008

tors and Florida residents vacation in the region’s beach towns. Visitors also travel to the springs, sinkholes and caverns found in the region’s state parks, national forests and state forests. The region also has an abundance of historical and archaeological sites, which are highly popular among both tourists and residents.

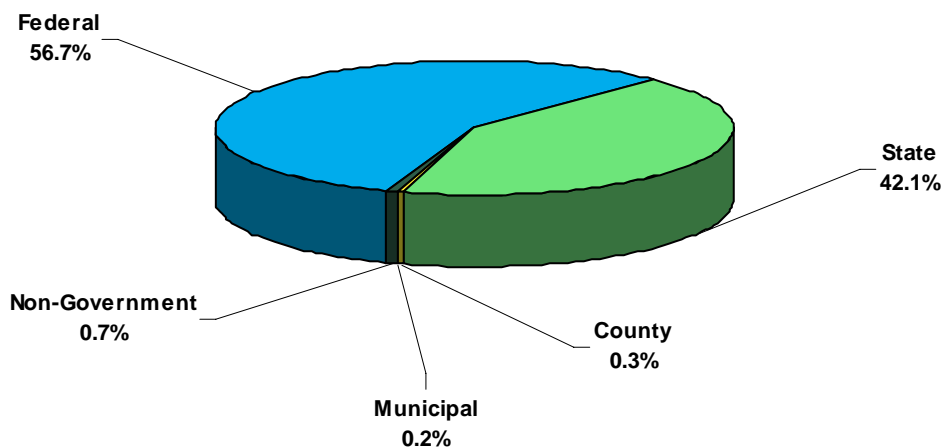
Demographics

In 2007, the Apalachee Region contained 2.5 percent of Florida’s total population, most residing in Leon County. Total estimated 2007 population for the nine-county area was 468,000. Mid-range projections estimate 537,000 residents by 2020, a 30 percent increase from 2000. Population density ranges from nine persons per square mile in Liberty County to 409 persons per square mile in Leon County. Table 4.2.1 displays population and projected growth for the region through 2020.



Blountstown Greenway, Calhoun County

Figure 4.2.2
Outdoor Recreation Acreage by Category of Provider
Apalachee Region



Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities

The region's diverse geography provides a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities. The sandy Gulf beaches, barrier islands, bays and estuaries of the *Coastal Lowlands* and the large areas of forested uplands provide for camping, hiking, nature study, bicycle riding, saltwater and freshwater beach activities, fishing and boating. The Apalachicola National Forest covers 569,638 acres in Franklin, Leon, Wakulla and Liberty counties and offers a wide range of outdoor recreation on a large scale. The largest national forest in Florida, it is also one of the largest remaining intact areas of freshwater savannas and pine forests in the state. Also in the region, St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge is a bird watchers paradise which every year attracts visitors from all over the world as this outdoor recreation activity gains in popularity. Local communities in the region are turning to nature-based tourism to promote and market the area's unique natural resources, including the still largely undevel-

oped coastlines and many rural communities.

The Apalachee Region has over 1.6 million acres of land available for outdoor recreation use, or 3.5 acres per capita. As shown in Figure 4.2.2, virtually all of the outdoor recreation land is provided by public agencies. Federally-managed lands account for a large portion of the resource-based outdoor recreation opportunities. Of the hunting lands, 60 percent is managed by the federal government. Federal agencies also provide 280 miles of hiking trails, 132 miles of nature trails and 47 miles of unpaved bicycle trails. The major federal properties are the Apalachicola National Forest, St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge and the St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge.

State agencies are the second largest category of outdoor recreation providers in the region. State agencies manage 42 percent of the inventoried land available for outdoor recreation. There are 98 state owned sites that provide 484 tent campsites, 308



T.H. Stone Memorial St. Joseph Peninsula State Park, Gulf County

RV/trailer campsites, 150 miles of off-highway vehicle trails and 65 miles of unpaved bicycle trails.

Although less than one percent of the recreation acreage in the region is administered by local governments, these suppliers provide the bulk of user-oriented facilities. There are 329 local government outdoor recreation sites that provide 239 baseball/softball fields, 202 basketball goals, 176 equipped play areas and 127 tennis courts. In addition to the user-oriented facilities they provide, local governments provide extensive resource-based opportunities, particu-

larly for the freshwater and saltwater shoreline fishing including seven saltwater fishing piers and 14 freshwater piers.

Within the private sector, there are 96 outdoor recreation sites distributed over 11,934 acres of land. The private sector provides the majority of cabins, tent campsites and RV/trailer campsites. This sector also offers 15 freshwater marinas with a total of 412 slips and 16 saltwater marinas providing 743 marina slips for recreational boating use. The non-government sector also provides the majority of the region's golfing opportunities.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

Table 4.2.2
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities by Category of Provider
Apalachee Region
2007

RESOURCE/FACILITY	UNITS	Federal	State	County	Municipal	Non-Government	TOTAL
OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS	Areas	11	98	180	149	96	534
LAND	Acres	905,604	472,731	5,046	2,822	11,499	1,397,702
WATER	Acres	12,957	266,777	37	37	435	280,243
ACRES TOTAL	Acres	918,561	739,508	5,083	2,859	11,934	1,677,945
RESOURCE-BASED							
CABINS	Cabins	0	50	6	0	166	222
TENT CAMPSITES	Sites	40	484	98	2	1,060	1,684
RV CAMPSITES	Sites	85	308	115	20	1,914	2,442
HISTORIC SITES	Sites	7	75	4	65	25	176
COMMEM STRUCTURES	Structures	0	5	0	4	0	9
MUSEUMS	Museums	0	8	2	5	3	18
PICNIC TABLES	Tables	176	757	656	476	1,247	3,312
HUNTING AREAS	Acres	571,624	374,798	0	0	0	946,422
BIKE TRAIL PAVED	Miles	0.0	29.0	5.8	12.9	0.0	47.7
BIKE TRAIL UNPAVED	Miles	47.0	65.3	21.8	26.1	0.0	160.2
CANOE TRAIL	Miles	75.2	153.5	5.0	0.0	0.0	233.7
HIKING TRAIL	Miles	279.5	182.9	32.6	43.0	16.8	554.8
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	Miles	34.0	67.5	6.8	17.7	5.0	131.0
JOGGING TRAIL	Miles	37.0	23.9	13.9	41.9	1.0	117.7
OHV TRAIL	Miles	0.0	150.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	150.0
NATURE TRAIL	Miles	131.7	75.5	25.8	36.5	28.7	298.2
FRESHWATER BEACH	Miles	0.2	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.3
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	15	54	68	3	19	159
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	15	62	103	5	25	210
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	1	4	32	4	18	59
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Feet	0	1,710	3,645	564	1,321	7,240
FRESHWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	0	0	0	0
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Marinas	1	0	0	0	15	16
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Slips	10	3	0	0	412	425
FRESHWATER PIERS	Piers	1	5	14	0	5	25
FRESHWATER PIERS	Feet	50	384	2,178	0	548	3,160
SALTWATER BEACH	Miles	22.3	25.3	1.8	0.3	1.1	50.7
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	1	3	8	12	17	41
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	1	4	13	21	20	59
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	0	4	3	1	1	9
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Feet	0	175	1,700	664	250	2,789
SALTWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	0	0	0	0
SALTWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	1	0	2	16	19
SALTWATER MARINA SLIPS	Slips	0	30	0	86	743	859
SALTWATER PIERS	Piers	0	0	1	6	3	10
SALTWATER PIERS	Feet	0	0	225	2,105	350	2,680
USER-ORIENTED							
BASEBALL FIELDS	Fields	0	10	95	144	7	256
BASKETBALL GOALS	Goals	0	27	105	97	15	244
EQUIPPED PLAY AREAS	Areas	0	10	54	122	23	209
FOOTBALL FIELDS	Fields	0	12	14	31	3	60
GOLF COURSES, 18-HOLE	Courses	0	2	0	1	6	9
GOLF COURSES, 9-HOLE	Courses	0	1	0	1	9	11
GOLF COURSES, EXECUTIVE	Courses	0	0	0	0	2	2
GOLF HOLES TOTAL	Holes	0	45	0	27	198	270
MULTI-USE COURTS	Courts	0	1	8	9	6	24
MULTI-USE FIELDS	Fields	0	11	17	32	8	68
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS	Pools	0	5	0	13	28	46
RACQUETBALL COURTS	Courts	0	59	4	21	5	89
SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	Courts	0	1	4	2	7	14
TENNIS COURTS	Courts	0	68	36	91	25	220
VOLLEYBALL COURTS	Courts	0	0	3	8	0	11

Table 4.2.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
Apalachee Region
2007

Federal Areas

	<u>Acres</u>	State Parks (continued)	<u>Acres</u>
Army Corps of Engineers		Edward Ball Wakulla Springs	6,055
Lake Seminole (Florida portion)*	7,952	Florida Caverns	1,279
National Estuarine Research Reserves**		John Gorrie Museum	1
Apalachicola Bay	246,766	Lake Jackson Mounds	205
National Forests		Lake Talquin	552
Apalachicola*	569,638	Letchworth-Love Mounds	188
National Wildlife Refuges		Natural Bridge Battlefield	9
St. Marks (Wakulla and Jefferson		Ochlockonee River	544
County portion)*	69,815	Orman House	1
St. Vincent*	12,490	San Marcos de Apalache	15

State Areas

Aquatic Preserves		St. Marks River	2,584
Alligator Harbor	14,366	T.H. Stone Memorial St. Joseph	
Apalachicola Bay	80,000	Peninsula	2,716
Big Bend Seagrasses (Wakulla	100,000	Three Rivers	668
County portion)		Torreya	13,204
Lake Jackson	4,700	Water Management District Lands	
St. Joseph Bay	66,702	<i>Northwest Florida WMD</i>	
Florida Scenic Highways	<u>Miles</u>	Apalachicola River*	36,315
Big Bend Scenic Byway	220	Upper Chipola River*	7,377
Greenways and Trails		<i>Suwannee River WMD</i>	
Tallahassee-St. Marks Trail	16	Middle Aucilla*	9,218
State Forests	<u>Acres</u>	Wildlife Management Areas and	
Lake Talquin*	17,491	Wildlife & Environmental Areas	
Tate's Hell*	202,437	Apalachicola River*	64,471
Wakulla*	4,219	Aucilla (Jefferson County Portion)*	37,532
State Parks		Box-R*	8,397
Alfred B. Maclay Gardens	1,179	Flint Rock*	15,627
Bald Point	4,859	Joe Budd*	11,039
Constitution Convention	13	L. Kirk Edwards*	718
DeSoto Site	5	Robert Brent*	8,532
Dr. Julian G. Bruce St. George		Middle Aucilla River*	2,200
Island	2,023		

* Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

** National Estuarine Research Reserves are designated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and managed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas.

Table 4.2.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
Apalachee Region
2007
 (continued)

Reported County and Municipal Areas

	<u>County</u>		<u>Municipal</u>	
	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres
Calhoun	11	240	4	36
Franklin	35	165	18	26
Gadsden	20	45	32	134
Gulf	22	343	13	149
Jackson	24	1,310	20	410
Jefferson	5	87	1	2
Leon	42	2,310	56	2,067
Liberty	7	93	0	0
Wakulla	14	524	5	45



J. Lewis Hall, Sr. Park, Leon County

North Central Florida Region

The North Central Florida Region encompasses 7,245 square miles. It contains 11 counties and 33 municipalities located on the *Coastal Lowlands* and *Central Highlands* physiographic regions. The coastal counties of Dixie and Taylor share approximately 60 miles of coastline that contains large expanses of seagrasses, shallow banks and tidal marshlands along the upper Gulf of Mexico.

Estuaries formed by the region’s many rivers and creeks support an excellent fishery, which contributes to the area’s significance as a recreational resource. The inland counties of Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee and Union are a mix of forested uplands, agricultural lands and wetlands crisscrossed by rivers and streams. The region’s dominant hydrological system is the Suwannee River, which originates in the Okefenokee Swamp in Georgia and flows 245 miles through this region before it empties

Figure 4.3.1
Public Conservation Lands





Suwannee River Wilderness Trail, Alachua County

into the Gulf. The Suwannee and its several main tributaries are dotted with towns, parks and trails from which visitors can explore the river and its surrounding areas by canoe, kayak, bicycle, horse, automobile or on foot.

Economy

Agriculture, forest industries and fishing have provided employment for the region's population for generations. Changes in many traditional resource-based industries have resulted in job losses and worker displacement. All of the counties in the region with the exception of Alachua County are designated as "Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern" and qualify for state economic development incentives. Due to its abundance of high quality natural resources, the region is positioning itself as a nature-based tourism destination under the theme of "Original Florida." Alachua County, home

to the University of Florida, is the most urbanized of the 11 counties in the region. With the highest enrollment in the State University System, the university and its many institutes, research units and medical facilities is a catalyst for innovation and entrepreneurial activity that spills over into the surrounding communities.

Tourism in the North Central region is beginning to play an increasingly important role in the economy. Perhaps the largest tourist draw in the region is the University of Florida. Successful sports and athletic programs draw thousands of out-of-state visitors to these widely attended games. In addition, the Suwannee River, one of the best-known rivers in the United States, draws visitors year-round.

**Table 4.3.1
Current and Projected Population
North Central Florida Region**

County	2000	2007	Projections			Percentage Change 2000-2020
			2010	2015	2020	
Alachua	217,955	247,561	253,400	269,900	283,200	29.9
Bradford	26,088	29,055	29,600	30,900	32,200	23.4
Columbia	56,513	65,373	67,700	72,700	77,300	36.8
Dixie	13,827	15,808	16,300	17,500	18,600	34.5
Gilchrist	14,437	17,106	17,800	19,700	21,500	48.9
Hamilton	13,327	14,705	14,900	15,400	15,800	18.6
Lafayette	7,022	8,215	9,200	10,100	10,500	49.5
Madison	18,733	19,944	20,300	21,000	21,700	15.8
Suwannee	34,844	39,608	42,800	46,100	49,100	40.9
Taylor	19,256	22,516	22,900	23,900	24,800	28.8
Union	13,442	15,722	16,100	16,900	17,600	30.9
Region Totals	435,444	495,613	511,000	544,100	572,300	31.4

Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 2008

Demographics

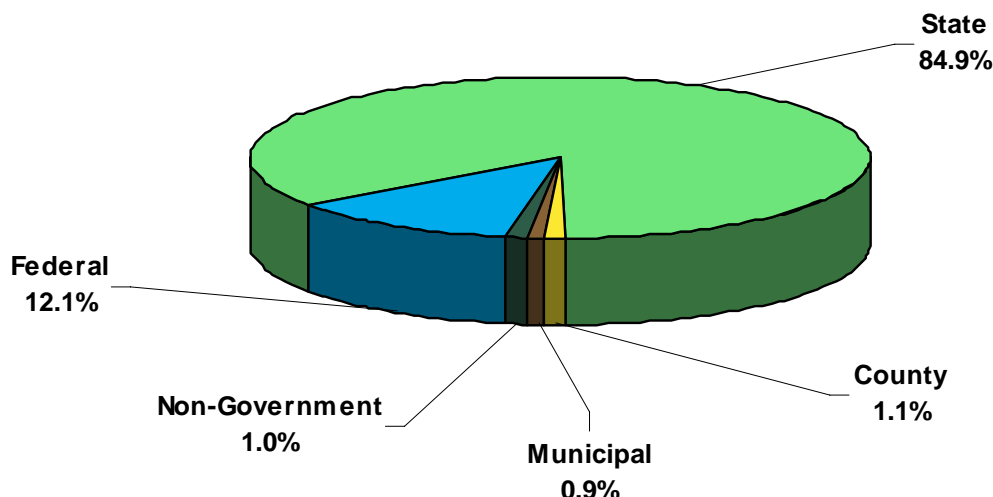
In 2007, the North Central region contained 2.7 percent of Florida’s total population, reaching 496,000. Mid-range projections estimate 572,000 residents by 2020, a 31

percent increase from 2000 census figures. Population densities range from 15 persons per square mile in Lafayette County to 283 persons per square mile in Alachua County. Table 4.3.1 displays projected population growth for the region through 2020.



Steinhatchee River, Dixie County

Figure 4.3.2
Outdoor Recreation Acreage by Category of Provider
North Central Florida Region



Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities

The diversity of this region’s natural, cultural and historic resources supports a wide and diverse array of recreation opportunities. Many of these are water-based, owing to the vast marshes, estuaries and seagrasses of the Gulf coast and the largest concentration of first magnitude freshwater springs in the entire world.

More than 1.1 million acres are available for outdoor recreation in the North Central region. Three federally-administered management areas are located in the region. The Osceola National Forest, Lower Suwannee River National Wildlife Refuge and St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge provide 136,767 acres of land for low-intensity outdoor recreation. Nearly 115,000 acres of the feder-

ally-managed lands are available for public hunting.

State agencies provide more than 960,000 acres of outdoor recreation lands in the region, or 85 percent of the total recreation acreage. Most of the state-managed sites were acquired by the Suwannee River Water Management District. The region’s 17 state parks provide more than 46,000 acres of land. The state is the largest provider of recreational trails in the region with 205 miles of unpaved bicycle trails, 151 miles of equestrian trails, 354 miles of hiking trails, 104 miles of nature trails and 38 miles of off-highway vehicles trails. State agencies also provide 219 tent campsites, 213 RV/trailer campsites and 27 cabins, among other facilities.



Alachua County Fairgrounds, Alachua County

Local governments provide 392 individual outdoor recreation sites in the region containing over 22,000 acres. County and municipal governments account for 90 percent of the baseball fields, 83 percent of the basketball goals and 85 percent of the football fields in the region. Local governments also provide the majority of museums, paved bicycle trails, and both freshwater and saltwater shoreline fishing facilities.

The private commercial sector plays a vital role in providing recreation areas and facilities. Non-governmental providers make more than 11,000 acres available for public uses at 108 sites. Private campgrounds and fish camps play a particularly important role in providing water access facilities, including 28 boat ramps, 5,560 campsites and 288

rental cabins. The private sector also provides many user-oriented sites, including swimming pools, golf courses and tennis courts. Some of these sites are provided by private forest management operations.

The Suwannee River Wilderness Trail is the centerpiece of a large-scale, cooperatively managed recreational resource that ties together federal, state and water management district lands in partnership with local governments and private sector businesses in the region. The trail consists of a series of recreational hubs and more remote river camps spaced a day's paddle apart. Visitors can enjoy the Suwannee on a trip of a day or two, or travel the entire 170-mile length of the trail from the town of White Springs to the river's mouth at the town of Suwannee.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.3.2
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities by Category of Provider
North Central Florida Region
2007**

RESOURCE/FACILITY	UNITS	Federal	State	County	Municipal	Non-Government	TOTAL
OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS	Areas	4	136	217	175	108	640
LAND	Acres	136,767	389,737	11,721	9,660	11,072	558,956
WATER	Acres	100	572,166	775	573	219	573,833
ACRES TOTAL	Acres	136,867	961,902	12,496	10,232	11,291	1,132,788
RESOURCE-BASED							
CABINS	Cabins	0	27	0	0	288	315
TENT CAMPSITES	Sites	25	219	64	15	1,370	1,692
RV CAMPSITES	Sites	0	213	125	6	4,190	4,534
HISTORIC SITES	Sites	1	39	21	4	5	70
COMMEM STRUCTURES	Structures	0	2	3	1	0	6
MUSEUMS	Museums	0	18	5	8	2	33
PICNIC TABLES	Tables	20	526	756	618	2,298	4,218
HUNTING AREAS	Acres	114,361	227,794	0	0	0	342,155
BIKE TRAIL PAVED	Miles	0.0	26.8	25.8	16.7	0.0	69.3
BIKE TRAIL UNPAVED	Miles	0.1	204.5	15.1	0.0	11.0	230.7
CANOE TRAIL	Miles	7.0	184.5	22.0	0.0	38.0	251.5
HIKING TRAIL	Miles	27.3	354.0	42.3	22.9	39.8	486.3
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	Miles	50.0	150.7	25.0	0.3	20.0	246.0
JOGGING TRAIL	Miles	0.0	31.3	17.3	18.9	1.1	68.6
OHV TRAIL	Miles	200.0	38.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	238.0
NATURE TRAIL	Miles	3.0	103.8	45.5	31.9	22.7	206.9
FRESHWATER BEACH	Miles	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.5	1.4
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	1	25	84	6	28	144
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	2	28	93	7	49	179
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	0	2	2	2	15	21
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Feet	0	120	90	2,520	3,175	5,905
FRESHWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	722	0	0	722
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	0	0	0	13	13
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Slips	0	3	2	0	305	310
FRESHWATER PIERS	Piers	0	8	7	7	7	29
FRESHWATER PIERS	Feet	0	1,040	580	1,514	238	3,372
SALTWATER BEACH	Miles	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	2	7	7	0	9	25
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	2	7	8	0	10	27
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	2	0	0	0	6	8
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Feet	20	0	0	0	515	535
SALTWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	0	0	0	0
SALTWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	0	0	0	8	8
SALTWATER MARINA SLIPS	Slips	0	0	0	0	236	236
SALTWATER PIERS	Piers	1	0	1	0	0	2
SALTWATER PIERS	Feet	50	0	700	0	0	750
USER-ORIENTED							
BASEBALL FIELDS	Fields	0	10	83	104	13	210
BASKETBALL GOALS	Goals	0	30	212	206	53	501
EQUIPPED PLAY AREAS	Areas	0	7	93	115	37	252
FOOTBALL FIELDS	Fields	0	5	34	32	7	78
GOLF COURSES, 18-HOLE	Courses	0	0	0	1	5	6
GOLF COURSES, 9-HOLE	Courses	0	0	0	0	8	8
GOLF COURSES, EXECUTIVE	Courses	0	0	0	0	2	2
GOLF HOLES TOTAL	Holes	0	0	0	18	198	216
MULTI-USE COURTS	Courts	0	1	37	11	8	57
MULTI-USE FIELDS	Fields	0	16	102	42	10	170
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS	Pools	0	2	2	8	36	48
RACQUETBALL COURTS	Courts	0	18	17	37	1	73
SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	Courts	0	4	3	16	27	50
TENNIS COURTS	Courts	0	50	41	71	34	196
VOLLEYBALL COURTS	Courts	0	30	28	16	10	84

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.3.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
North Central Florida Region
2007**

Federal Areas

National Forests	<u>Acres</u>	Suwannee River Wilderness Trail	<u>Miles</u>
Osceola (Columbia County portion)*	108,300	Trail	170
National Wildlife Refuges		University of Florida	<u>Acres</u>
Lower Suwannee River (Dixie County portion)*	27,866	Austin Cary Memorial Forest	2,083
St. Marks (Taylor County portion)*	681	Water Management District Lands	

State Areas

Aquatic Preserves		<i>St. Johns River WMD</i>	
Big Bend Seagrasses (Taylor and Dixie County portion)	545,000	Lochloosa *	10,333
St. Martins Marsh	23,000	Longleaf Flatwoods	1,388
Florida Scenic Highways	<u>Miles</u>	Newnans Lake	6,504
Old Florida Heritage Highway	48	<i>Suwannee River WMD</i>	
Greenways and Trails		47 Bridge	392
Palatka to Lake Butler Trail (Bradford and Union County Segment)	20	Alapahoochee	1,075
Nature Coast Trail (Dixie and Gilchrist County segment)	23	Allardt	443
State Forests	<u>Acres</u>	Allen Mill Pond	608
Big Shoals*	1,629	Avoca	126
Twin Rivers *	14,882	Bay Creek	2,233
State Parks		Belmont	93
Big Shoals	1,652	Big Pine	128
Devil's Millhopper	67	Blue Sink	710
Dudley Farm	327	Branford Bend	1,025
Econfina River	4,528	Cabbage Creek*	2,387
Forest Capital	14	Cabbage Grove*	2,047
Ichetucknee Springs	2,534	Camp Branch	200
Lafayette Blue Springs	195	Christian	338
Madison Blue Spring	44	Cuba Bay	1,988
Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings	72	Cypress Creek *	1,328
O'Leno	1,714	Cypress Creek South	21
Paynes Prairie	20,795	Duck Pond	151
Peacock Springs	278	Falling Creek	504
River Rise	4,482	Falmouth Spring	276
San Felasco Hammock	6,986	Fox Trail	199
Stephen Foster	846	Gar Pond	877
Troy Spring	78	Goose Pasture*	1,060
Suwannee River	1,934	Hart Springs Estate	99
		Hartsfield	326
		Holton Creek*	2,531
		Hopewell	550
		Hunter Creek	276
		Jennings Bluff	500
		Jerry Branch	519
		Jones Mill Creek*	2,884

*Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

Table 4.3.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
North Central Florida Region
2007
 (continued)

<i>Suwannee River WMD (continued)</i>	<u>Acres</u>	<i>Suwannee River WMD (continued)</i>	<u>Acres</u>
Lamont*	804	Sneads Lake	150
Levings	193	Steinhatchee Falls	1,766
Lindsey	876	Steinhatchee Rise	3,559
Linville	173	Steinhatchee Springs*	20,909
Little Creek	558	Sugar Creek	670
Little River*	2,203	Sunnyvale	540
Little Shoals	400	Suwannee Springs	135
Log Landing	1,147	Suwannee Street	624
Mallory Swamp*	30,501	Swift Creek	319
Mattair Springs	1,188	Trillium Slopes	60
McAlpin	1,045	Troy Springs *	1,810
Mt. Gilead*	2,109	Tyree	213
Mud Swamp	837	White Springs	277
Natural Well Branch	3,713	Woods Ferry	1,094
New Pine Landing	43	Wildlife Management Areas, Wildlife & Environmental Areas, and Mitigation Parks	
Osteen	203	Aucilla (Taylor County portion)*	1,000
Owens Spring	474	Big Bend*	71,813
Peacock Slough	1,174	Fort White	1,329
Purvis Landing	335	Grove Park*	19,637
R.O. Ranch	2,500	PotashCorp-White Springs*	2,000
Rocky Creek	251	Raiford*	16,000
Ruth Springs	649	San Pedro Bay*	21,760
Sandlin Bay*	4,128	Suwannee Ridge*	1,429
Santa Fe Swamp*	5,708		
Sapp Landing	433		
Shelly	812		

*Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Reported County and Municipal Areas

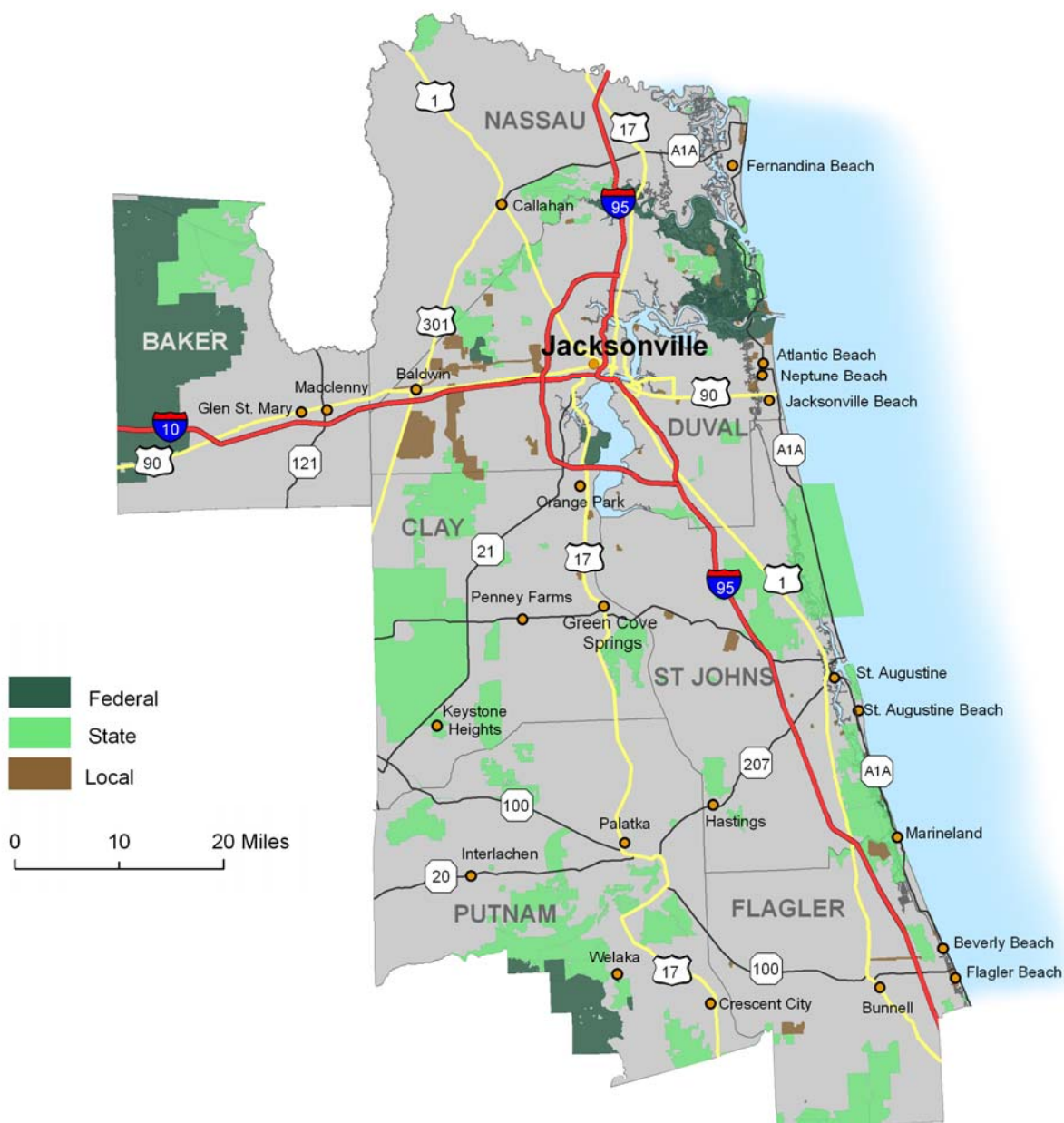
	<u>County</u>		<u>Municipal</u>	
	<i>Areas</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Areas</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Alachua	69	9,354	98	9,097
Bradford	9	17	17	64
Columbia	18	1,130	19	394
Dixie	25	193	5	10
Gilchrist	17	303	7	29
Hamilton	13	64	6	19
Lafayette	17	618	1	4
Madison	13	222	7	45
Suwannee	18	289	4	24
Taylor	11	176	7	67
Union	8	100	4	487

Northeast Florida Region

The Northeast Florida Region encompasses 5,096 square miles in seven counties located across the *Coastal Lowlands* and *Central Highlands*. The coastal counties of Nassau, Duval, St. Johns and Flagler extend 140 miles along the Atlantic Ocean from the

Georgia border to the southern border of Flagler County. Five primary barrier islands offer miles of sandy beach access and vast marshlands, open water and small islands of coastal scrub and hammock vegetation.

Figure 4.4.1
Public Conservation Lands





Pellicer Creek, St. Johns County

The inland counties of Baker, Clay and Putnam extend north to south along a central ridge of continuously high ground that straddles the boundary between the *Northern Highland* and the *Trail Ridge* physiographic regions. The *Trail Ridge* is a relict barrier island dominated by well-drained sandhill soils, remnants of a geological era when these areas formed the Atlantic coastline.

The region is crisscrossed by rivers, creeks and blackwater streams, and its river basins were critical factors in shaping the state's history and development. The region's dominant system is the lower St. Johns River. The St. Johns, originating in central Florida, is the longest river lying completely within the state and flows northward for 310 miles before emptying into the Atlantic Ocean at the town of Mayport. After merging with the Nassau River, it forms a vast and highly productive estuarine system of salt marshes and tidal creeks. The St. Mary's River flows in a southerly and then eastern direction from the Okefenokee Swamp, dipping into Florida through Baker and Nassau counties before moving northward to form the state border and empty into the Atlantic at Kings Bay. The Northeast re-

gion's outstanding natural and cultural resources support excellent outdoor recreation opportunities, many of which are water-based.

Economy

Consolidated Duval County/City of Jacksonville is one of the largest metropolitan areas in the United States, in terms of size. It is the economic engine for this region and its dynamic mix of business and industrial development is unique in Florida. Anchored by an excellent airport with extensive domestic flights and one of Florida's busiest deep-water ports, this region continues to rely on a mix of natural resources, industrial development, military bases, history and culture, and a sophisticated hospitality infrastructure that is attractive to visitors.

The region has a dynamic tourism industry. The success of tourism in this region is due to the amenities that a large metropolitan area can offer, such as downtown areas, sporting events, concerts, restaurants and special events. A large metropolitan area combined with nearby, yet isolated beaches,

**Table 4.4.1
Current and Projected Population
Northeast Florida Region**

County	2000	2007	Projections			Percentage Change 2000-2020
			2010	2015	2020	
Baker	22,259	25,623	26,400	28,400	30,200	35.7
Clay	140,814	184,644	194,700	221,200	245,800	74.6
Duval	778,879	897,597	922,800	989,900	1,051,800	35.0
Flagler	49,832	93,568	103,500	129,400	153,800	208.6
Nassau	57,663	69,569	72,500	80,100	87,200	51.2
Putnam	70,423	74,799	75,800	78,400	80,800	14.7
St. Johns	123,135	176,935	185,800	216,800	245,800	99.6
Region Totals	1,243,005	1,522,735	1,581,500	1,744,200	1,895,400	52.5

Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 2008

world class golf courses and the largest river in Florida provide tourists and residents with a large variety of activities from which to choose.

Demographics

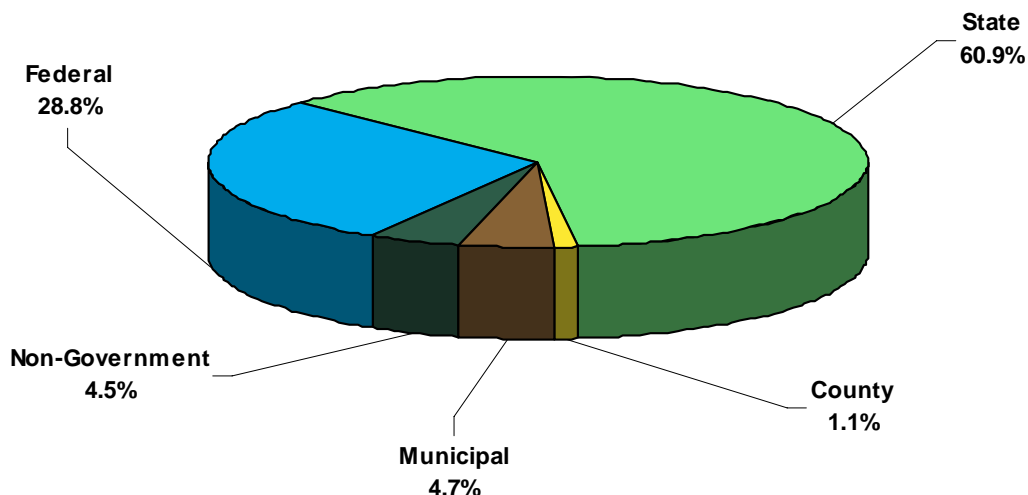
The Northeast region's population represented eight percent of Florida's total population in 2007, reaching 1.5 million. Mid-

range projections estimate 652,400 new residents by 2020, (a 52 percent increase from 2000), making this region one of the fastest-growing in Florida. Population density ranges from a low of 44 persons per square mile in Baker County to a high of 1,160 persons per square mile in Duval County. Table 4.4.1 displays the current and projected population for the seven-county area through 2020.



*Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve,
Nassau County*

Figure 4.4.2
Outdoor Recreation Acreage by Category of Provider
Northeast Florida Region



Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities

More than 730,000 acres of public and private outdoor recreation land and water are located in the Northeast region. As shown in Figure 4.4.2, state agencies are the largest category of providers in terms of acreage, accounting for over 60 percent of all recreational acreage. Some 448,000 acres are provided at 76 separate areas, variously designated as state parks, state forests and wildlife management areas. These areas provide 19 miles of saltwater beach, 221,917 acres of hunting lands, 263 miles of hiking trails, five freshwater piers and two saltwater piers.

Federal agencies provide nearly 29 percent of the region's recreational acreage, totaling 212,295 acres, at seven primary management areas. The region contains portions of the Ocala and Osceola National Forests and the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, as well as four units of the National Park Sys-



Anastasia State Park, St. Johns County



Golf Course, Duval County

tem. Over half of the federally-administered acreage is available for public hunting. In addition to hunting, the federal agencies provide three freshwater piers, nine commemorative structures and 248 saltwater marina slips, among other facilities.

County and municipal governments administer 42,433 acres of land and water at 895 separate outdoor recreation areas. User-oriented activities are a major source of recreation for residents and tourists in the region. Local governments provide 94 percent of the baseball fields, 84 percent of the basketball goals and 92 percent of the football fields in the region. Local governments are the largest providers of many resource-based facilities, including bicycle, jogging and nature trails, freshwater and saltwater boat ramps, and freshwater and saltwater shoreline fishing facilities.

The private sector plays an important role as well. Private suppliers provide 205 recreation areas and 33,344 total acres. They account for 3,855 RV/trailer campsites, 590 cabins and 384 tent campsites and supply more freshwater and saltwater marinas than any other category. In addition, 88 percent of the region's golf courses are provided by the private sector.

Table 4.4.2 shows the Northeast region's outdoor recreation resource facilities by provider. Table 4.4.3 displays outdoor recreation opportunities provided or managed by national, state and municipal entities.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.4.2
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities by Category of Provider
Northeast Florida Region
2007**

RESOURCE/FACILITY	UNITS	Federal	State	County	Municipal	Non-Government	TOTAL
OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS	Areas	15	76	255	640	205	1,191
LAND	Acres	258,205	345,556	7,971	33,982	31,992	677,706
WATER	Acres	6,715	112,371	65	415	1,332	120,899
ACRES TOTAL	Acres	251,490	458,927	8,036	34,397	33,344	786,194
RESOURCE-BASED							
CABINS	Cabins	0	16	34	5	590	645
TENT CAMPSITES	Sites	88	514	182	134	384	1,302
RV CAMPSITES	Sites	32	331	90	356	3,855	4,664
HISTORIC SITES	Sites	246	51	13	24	9	343
COMMEM STRUCTURES	Structures	9	4	0	9	1	23
MUSEUMS	Museums	5	12	8	16	17	58
PICNIC TABLES	Tables	281	831	829	1,985	1,095	5,021
HUNTING AREAS	Acres	123,477	221,917	0	2,896	0	348,290
BIKE TRAIL PAVED	Miles	2.5	0.0	46.1	22.1	0.0	70.7
BIKE TRAIL UNPAVED	Miles	12	138.0	22.5	64.2	2.0	227.9
CANOE TRAIL	Miles	5.1	158.8	3.8	1.0	8.0	176.7
HIKING TRAIL	Miles	44.2	263.6	54.4	72.7	18.7	453.6
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	Miles	0.0	136.3	33.5	32.3	5.0	207.1
JOGGING TRAIL	Miles	5.5	5.0	26.8	60.1	3.5	100.9
OHV TRAIL	Miles	0.0	192.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	192.0
NATURE TRAIL	Miles	4.2	66.7	29.0	84.4	2.0	186.3
FRESHWATER BEACH	Miles	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.7	1.4
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	6	13	38	63	35	155
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	7	15	45	67	42	176
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	0	3	8	24	32	67
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Feet	0	1,740	1,411	2,518	2,827	8,496
FRESHWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	0	0	0	0
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	0	3	4	47	54
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Slips	0	0	173	107	2,246	2,526
FRESHWATER PIERS	Piers	3	5	19	26	11	64
FRESHWATER PIERS	Feet	75	285	2,135	3,254	2,252	8,001
SALTWATER BEACH	Miles	1.6	18.8	13.2	16.5	1.0	51.1
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	0	5	20	15	14	54
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	0	4	24	26	15	69
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	0	16	14	3	7	40
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Feet	0	5,648	2,750	455	300	9,153
SALTWATER JETTIES	Feet	1,250	6	50	5,000	0	6,306
SALTWATER MARINAS	Marinas	1	0	1	4	20	26
SALTWATER MARINA SLIPS	Slips	248	0	0	243	1,801	2,292
SALTWATER PIERS	Piers	0	3	10	4	5	22
SALTWATER PIERS	Feet	0	8,150	1,589	3,500	1,566	14,805
USER-ORIENTED							
BASEBALL FIELDS	Fields	16	6	235	318	12	587
BASKETBALL GOALS	Goals	9	30	255	312	71	677
EQUIPPED PLAY AREAS	Areas	22	10	130	275	31	468
FOOTBALL FIELDS	Fields	3	3	64	94	7	171
GOLF COURSES, 18-HOLE	Courses	1	0	0	6	53	60
GOLF COURSES, 9-HOLE	Courses	3	0	3	3	4	13
GOLF COURSES, EXECUTIVE	Courses	0	0	0	0	4	4
GOLF HOLES TOTAL	Holes	45	0	27	135	1,029	1,236
MULTI-USE COURTS	Courts	0	2	3	16	5	26
MULTI-USE FIELDS	Fields	2	11	39	60	22	134
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS	Pools	3	3	23	33	75	137
RACQUETBALL COURTS	Courts	6	10	34	13	18	81
SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	Courts	0	0	5	50	46	101
TENNIS COURTS	Courts	28	23	109	203	254	617
VOLLEYBALL COURTS	Courts	1	3	31	23	3	61

**Table 4.4.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
Northeast Florida Region
2007**

Federal Areas		<u>Acres</u>	Greenways and Trails (continued)	<u>Miles</u>
National Estuarine Research Reserves*			Palatka to Lake Butler Trail (Putnam and Clay County Segment)	16
Guana Tolomato Matanzas	55,000		State Forests	<u>Acres</u>
National Forests			Belmore	8,736
Ocala (Putnam County portion)**	23,622		Cary **	13,044
Osceola (Baker County portion)**	120,055		Etoniah Creek **	8,702
National Parks			Four Creeks	10,616
Castillo San Marcos National Monument	25		Jennings **	23,995
Fort Caroline National Monument	125		John Bethea**	37,736
Fort Matanzas National Monument	299		Matanzas **	4,668
Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve	46,000		Ralph E. Simmons **	3,638
National Wildlife Refuges			Watson Island	506
Okefenokee (Florida portion)	4,024		Welaka **	2,288
State Areas			State Parks	
Aquatic Preserves			Amelia Island	230
Fort Clinch	9,000		Anastasia	1,644
Guana River	51,500		Big Talbot Island	1,708
Nassau River-St. Johns River Marshes	55,000		Bulow Creek (Flagler County portion)	406
Pellicer Creek	605		Bulow Plantation Ruins	151
Florida Scenic Highways		<u>Miles</u>	Dunns Creek	6,235
A1A Scenic & Historic Coastal Byway	72		Faver-Dykes	6,046
Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway (Putnam County segment)	14		Fernandina Plaza	1
William Bartram Scenic & Historic Trail	17		Fort Clinch	1,436
Greenways and Trails		<u>Acres</u>	Fort George Island	659
Jacksonville-Baldwin Rail Trail	172		Fort Mose	41
Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway (Putnam County portion)	18,000		Gamble Rogers	134
West Jacksonville Greenway Connector	95		George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier	2
			Haw Creek (Flagler and Putnam County portion)	1,335
			Little Talbot Island	1,916
			Mike Roess Gold Head Branch	2,365
			Olustee Battlefield	691
			Pumpkin Hill Creek	3,967
			Ravine	146

* National Estuarine Research Reserves are designated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and managed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas.

**Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Table 4.4.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
Northeast Florida Region
2007
 (continued)

	<u>Acres</u>		<u>Acres</u>
State Parks (continued)		<i>St. Johns River WMD (continued)</i>	
Washington Oaks	426	Murphy Creek	1,842
Yellow Bluff Fort	2	Pellicer Creek	3,865
University of Florida		Rice Creek	4,202
Ordway-Swisher Preserve	9,100	Stokes Landing	274
Water Management District Lands		Twelve Mile Swamp	378
<i>St. Johns River WMD</i>		Wildlife Management Areas, Wildlife & Environmental Areas and Mitigation Parks	
Bayard**	10,320	Branan Field Mitigation Park	386
Black Creek Ravines	965	Camp Blanding**	56,000
Crescent Lake (Flagler County portion)	4,529	Caravelle Ranch (Putnam County portion)	13,373
Deep Creek North	4,483	Nassau**	13,892
Dunns Creek**	3,182	Relay**	19,672
Graham Swamp	3,084	Twelve Mile Swamp**	19,696
Julington-Durbin Creek	2,006	Guana River**	9,815
Moses Creek	2,042		

**Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Reported County and Municipal Areas

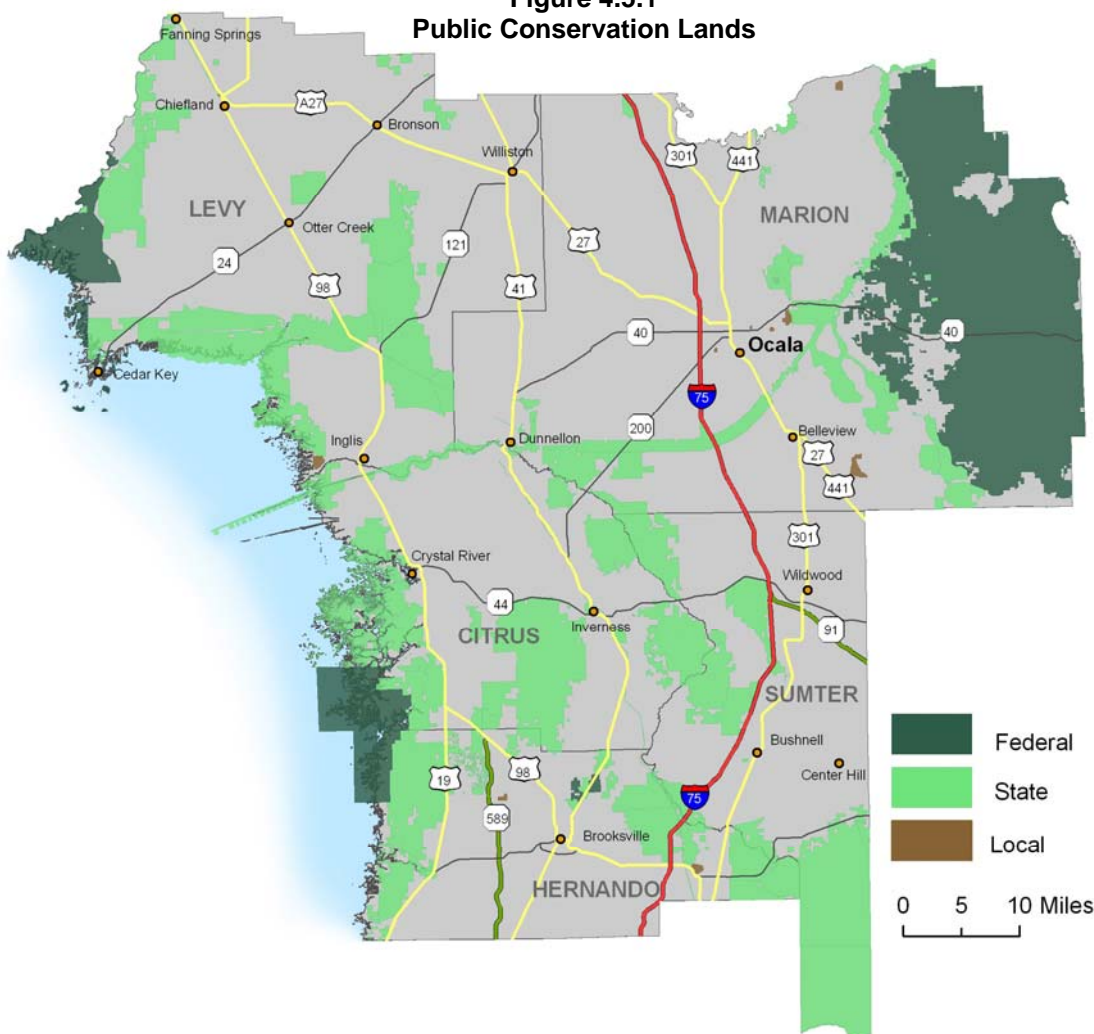
	<u>County</u>		<u>Municipal</u>	
	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres
Baker	12	1,672	3	12
Clay	42	1,525	9	51
Duval/City of Jacksonville			515	33,726
Flagler	62	2,192	27	193
Nassau	39	236	19	598
Putnam	24	135	51	391
St. Johns	76	1,650	16	99

Withlacoochee Region

The Withlacoochee Region in west central Florida encompasses 5,017 square miles. It is comprised of five counties and 21 incorporated municipalities. The coastal areas of Citrus, Hernando and Levy counties are predominantly lowlands consisting of intermittent swamps, saltwater marshes and islands along the Gulf of Mexico. The inland portions of these counties and the landlocked counties of Marion and Sumter feature gently rolling hills covered with woodlands, agricultural areas, freshwater lakes, rivers and springs.

Although the region has some 106 miles of coastline, it has only 4.2 miles of sandy beach fronting on the Gulf of Mexico, of which less than one-half mile is available for public recreation. What the region lacks in naturally occurring saltwater beach resources is made up for by its extremely diverse coastal and aquatic areas, which are among the most remote and pristine in Florida. These resources and others in the region provide excellent opportunities for many outdoor recreation activities including camping, hiking, hunting, horseback riding, birdwatching, fishing, boating, diving and swimming.

Figure 4.5.1
Public Conservation Lands





Cross Florida Greenway Land Bridge, Marion County

Economy

Rapid population growth is the primary factor in the region's economy. In-migration has not only changed the character of the region, but has also altered its economic base. Many traditional natural resource-based jobs in agriculture, fishing, forestry and mining have been displaced over several decades, and today the economy is dominated by services and retail trade. Marion County, known as "the horse capital of the world", has more horses than any other county in the United States, with 45 to 50 different breeds represented in the area. Nearly 29,000 residents are employed in the county's thoroughbred and equestrian industry. In addition, the development of large retirement communities has brought new growth to the area, but at a cost of placing increasingly greater demands on local governments for public services of all types.

Nature-based tourism is a major component of the region's economy and relies heavily on its resource-based public outdoor recreation lands. Major recreation resources in the region consist of state parks and forests, a portion of the Ocala National Forest and the wildlife-rich coastal areas. Visitors can easily access the region through Interstate 75 and major federal and state highways.



Private Hunting Land, Levy County

**Table 4.5.1
Current and Projected Population
Withlacoochee Region**

County	2000	2007	Projections			Percentage Change 2000-2020
			2010	2015	2020	
Citrus	118,085	140,024	145,000	158,200	170,300	44.2
Hernando	130,802	162,193	169,100	187,800	205,100	56.8
Levy	34,450	40,045	41,400	45,200	48,600	41.1
Marion	258,916	325,023	340,500	381,400	419,300	61.9
Sumter	53,345	89,771	97,400	117,400	136,100	155.1
Region Totals	595,598	757,056	793,400	890,000	979,400	64.4

Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 2008

Demographics

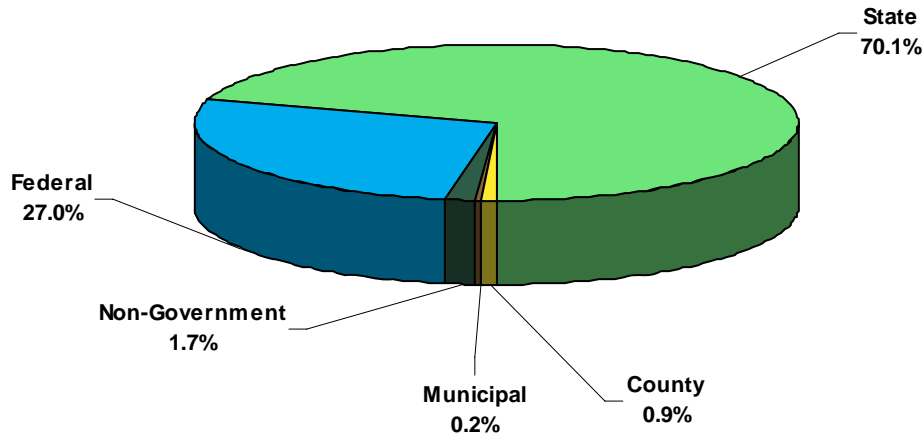
In 2007, population in the five-county region reached 757,000, or four percent of Florida’s population. Projections estimate 979,000 residents by 2020, a 64 percent increase from the 2000 census. Persons aged 65 and older make up more than 25 percent of

the region’s population, while the statewide percentage of this age category is 17 percent. Population density ranges from 36 people per square mile in rural Levy County to 339 people per square mile in Hernando County. Table 4.5.1 displays current and projected population for the region through the year 2020.



Ocala National Forest, Marion County

Figure 4.5.2
Outdoor Recreation Acreage by Category of Provider
Withlacoochee Region



Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities

The freshwater resources of the Withlacoochee Region include more than 800 lakes and rivers of various sizes. Lakes in the region may be small enough to swim across or large enough to support power boats, water skiing and sailing. The Tsala Apopka chain of lakes near Inverness links several large lakes and marshes into a continuous body of water more than 20 miles in length. Nine first magnitude springs are found in the region. Eight of these are contained in federal or state outdoor recreation areas. Silver Springs, in Ocala, is among the largest and most famous in the United States. The region lacks the saltwater beach resources of other regions in Florida, with less than one-half mile of beach in public and private outdoor recreation areas. Nevertheless, the numerous islands and miles of coastal shoreline offer a full range of other saltwater recreation opportunities.

Large-scale outdoor recreation resources in the region include most of the seven tracts

that comprise the Withlacoochee State Forest. They also include Marion County's portion of the Ocala National Forest, the Cedar Keys, Chassahowitzka, Crystal River and Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuges and many state parks, preserves, wildlife management areas and aquatic preserves. The Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway, another of the region's major outdoor recreation resources, connects Ocala National Forest to the Gulf of Mexico. Significant historic resources exist at Dade Battlefield and Yulee Sugar Mill Ruins Historic State Parks and at many state and local museums.

Over one million acres of land and water are available for outdoor recreation in the Withlacoochee Region. As shown in Figure 4.5.2, 98 percent of the region's outdoor recreation acreage is supplied by public agencies. Federally-provided outdoor recreation sites make up 27 percent of the region's total supply of outdoor recreation land and water. Nearly 300,000 acres of hunting land are provided within the region's national forests and wildlife refuges. Federal agencies are



Chassahowitzka River Campground and Recreation Area, Citrus County

also major providers of canoe trails, RV/trailer camping and shoreline fishing facilities.

As shown in Figure 4.5.2, state agencies are the largest provider of outdoor recreation acreage, supplying 70 percent of the total acreage in the region. State agencies are the largest public provider of tent camping, RV/trailer camping, hunting and recreational trails. Residents and visitors can access 374 miles of hiking trails, 259 miles of unpaved bicycle trails, 170 miles of equestrian trails and 30 miles of OHV trails on lands managed by state agencies.

The Withlacoochee Region's county and municipal governments play an important role in providing recreation opportunities. As in other regions, the local governments pro-

vide virtually all the opportunities for user-oriented types of recreation. Local governments provide a combined total of 330 recreation sites containing more than 13,500 acres. These provide 289 public baseball/softball fields, 454 basketball goals, 97 football fields and 145 tennis courts. Local agencies are the region's largest provider of jogging trails and freshwater and saltwater shoreline fishing facilities.

The private sector provides only 1.7 percent of the total recreation acreage of the region, but nearly one-third of all recreation areas. In addition, commercial businesses provide the majority of the region's camping, picnicking, freshwater boating, fishing and golf courses. A total of 645 cabins, 12,221 campsites, 60 freshwater boat ramps and 1,267 freshwater marina slips are provided by private commercial operations.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.5.2
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities by Category of Provider
Withlacoochee Region
2007**

RESOURCE/FACILITY	UNITS	Federal	State	County	Municipal	Non-Government	TOTAL
OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS	Areas	6	68	214	116	187	591
LAND	Acres	315,619	519,499	9,561	2,589	20,922	868,190
WATER	Acres	15,150	341,675	1,383	57	193	358,458
ACRES TOTAL	Acres	330,769	861,179	10,944	2,646	21,140	1,226,678
RESOURCE-BASED							
CABINS	Cabins	2	23	4	0	645	674
TENT CAMPSITES	Sites	85	403	221	0	2,614	3,323
RV CAMPSITES	Sites	400	514	113	0	9,607	10,634
HISTORIC SITES	Sites	3	57	6	18	7	91
COMMEM STRUCTURES	Structures	0	3	7	0	1	11
MUSEUMS	Museums	0	17	4	0	6	27
PICNIC TABLES	Tables	77	555	887	419	5,315	7,253
HUNTING AREAS	Acres	274,629	287,355	3,400	0	0	565,384
BIKE TRAIL PAVED	Miles	0.0	60.9	19.3	4.1	15.0	99.3
BIKE TRAIL UNPAVED	Miles	19	259.0	35.6	16.6	1.0	314.1
CANOE TRAIL	Miles	54.0	210.0	31.5	0.0	18.0	313.5
HIKING TRAIL	Miles	62.4	373.9	67.7	13.4	47.0	564.4
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	Miles	102.0	169.8	17.3	15.0	4.0	308.1
JOGGING TRAIL	Miles	0.0	14.7	50.7	15.3	0.5	81.2
OHV TRAIL	Miles	157.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	187.0
NATURE TRAIL	Miles	1.4	172.8	47.6	15.5	22.0	259.3
FRESHWATER BEACH	Miles	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.8	1.6
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	17	20	48	6	60	151
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	18	22	58	7	63	168
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	1	4	19	5	46	75
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Feet	300	867	1,309	1,050	5,355	8,881
FRESHWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	0	0	5	5
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Marinas	1	0	0	0	45	46
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Slips	12	19	0	0	1,267	1,298
FRESHWATER PIERS	Piers	2	3	15	4	10	34
FRESHWATER PIERS	Feet	200	1,150	712	818	1,575	4,455
SALTWATER BEACH	Miles	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.4
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	1	0	15	2	2	20
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	1	0	19	2	2	24
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	0	0	4	0	4	8
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Feet	0	0	1,020	0	0	1,020
SALTWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	1,830	0	0	1,830
SALTWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	0	1	1	4	6
SALTWATER MARINA SLIPS	Slips	0	6	39	2	76	123
SALTWATER PIERS	Piers	2	0	5	0	2	9
SALTWATER PIERS	Feet	800	0	1,115	0	120	2,035
USER-ORIENTED							
BASEBALL FIELDS	Fields	0	5	169	120	13	307
BASKETBALL GOALS	Goals	0	3	367	87	25	482
EQUIPPED PLAY AREAS	Areas	0	7	130	54	38	229
FOOTBALL FIELDS	Fields	0	0	76	21	4	101
GOLF COURSES, 18-HOLE	Courses	0	0	0	2	46	48
GOLF COURSES, 9-HOLE	Courses	0	0	0	2	9	11
GOLF COURSES, EXECUTIVE	Courses	0	0	0	0	4	4
GOLF HOLES TOTAL	Holes	0	0	0	54	648	702
MULTI-USE COURTS	Courts	0	0	28	14	7	49
MULTI-USE FIELDS	Fields	0	2	80	20	14	116
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS	Pools	0	2	5	3	77	87
RACQUETBALL COURTS	Courts	0	8	48	32	10	98
SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	Courts	0	3	37	49	145	234
TENNIS COURTS	Courts	0	15	78	67	64	224
VOLLEYBALL COURTS	Courts	0	3	24	7	8	42

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.5.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
Withlacoochee Region
2007**

Federal Areas		State Parks (continued)	
	<u>Acres</u>		<u>Acres</u>
National Forests		Fanning Springs	198
Ocala (Marion County portion)*	275,600	Fort Cooper	738
National Wildlife Refuges		Homosassa Springs	200
Cedar Keys	891	Manatee Springs	2,443
Chasshowitzka*	31,000	Rainbow Springs	1,472
Crystal River	80	Silver River	4,230
Lower Suwannee River (Levy County portion)*	23,353	Waccasassa Bay	34,099
		Yulee Sugar Mill Ruins	5
State Areas		Water Management District Lands	
		<i>St. Johns River WMD</i>	
Aquatic Preserves		Ocklawaha Prairie	6,077
Big Bend Seagrasses	300,000	Orange Creek *	3,512
Ocklawaha River	4,600	Sunnyhill	4,405
Rainbow Springs	125	<i>Southwest Florida WMD</i>	
St. Martins Marsh	23,000	Annutteliga Hammock	2,200
Florida Scenic Highways	<u>Miles</u>	Chasshowitzka River and Coastal Swamp	5,676
Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway (Marion County segment)	44	Flying Eagle*	10,950
Suncoast Scenic Parkway (Hernando County segment)	21	Green Swamp-East Tract* (Sumter County portion)	27,488
Greenways and Trails	<u>Acres</u>	Halpata Tastanaki	8,146
Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway (Marion County segment)*	40,178	Lake Panasoffkee*	9,911
		Panasoffkee Outlet	1,118
	<u>Miles</u>	Potts*	8,500
General James A. Van Fleet Trail (Sumter County segment)	4	Weekiwachee	11,206
Nature Coast Trail (Levy County segment)	9	<i>Suwannee River WMD</i>	
Withlacoochee Trail (Citrus and Hernando County segment)	44	Devil's Hammock*	7,636
State Forests	<u>Acres</u>	Wildlife Management Areas, Wildlife & Environmental Areas and Mitigation Parks	
Goethe *	51,851	Andrews *	3,800
Indian Lake	4,461	Caravelle Ranch (Marion County portion)*	13,422
Ross Prairie *	3,527	Chasshowitzka*	33,919
Withlacoochee *	97,333	Chinsegut	828
State Parks		Half Moon*	9,480
Cedar Key Museum	13	Fort McCoy*	8,688
Cedar Key Scrub*	5,022	Gulf Hammock*	24,625
Crystal River Archaeological Site	62	Perry Oldenburg	368
Crystal River	25,355		
Dade Battlefield	81		

*Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Table 4.5.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
Withlacoochee Region
2007
 (continued)

Reported County and Municipal Areas

	<u>County</u>		<u>Municipal</u>	
	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres
Citrus	66	1,558	23	303
Hernando	40	1,727	1	88
Levy	17	3,679	26	914
Marion	72	2,583	50	1,130
Sumter	19	1,393	16	210



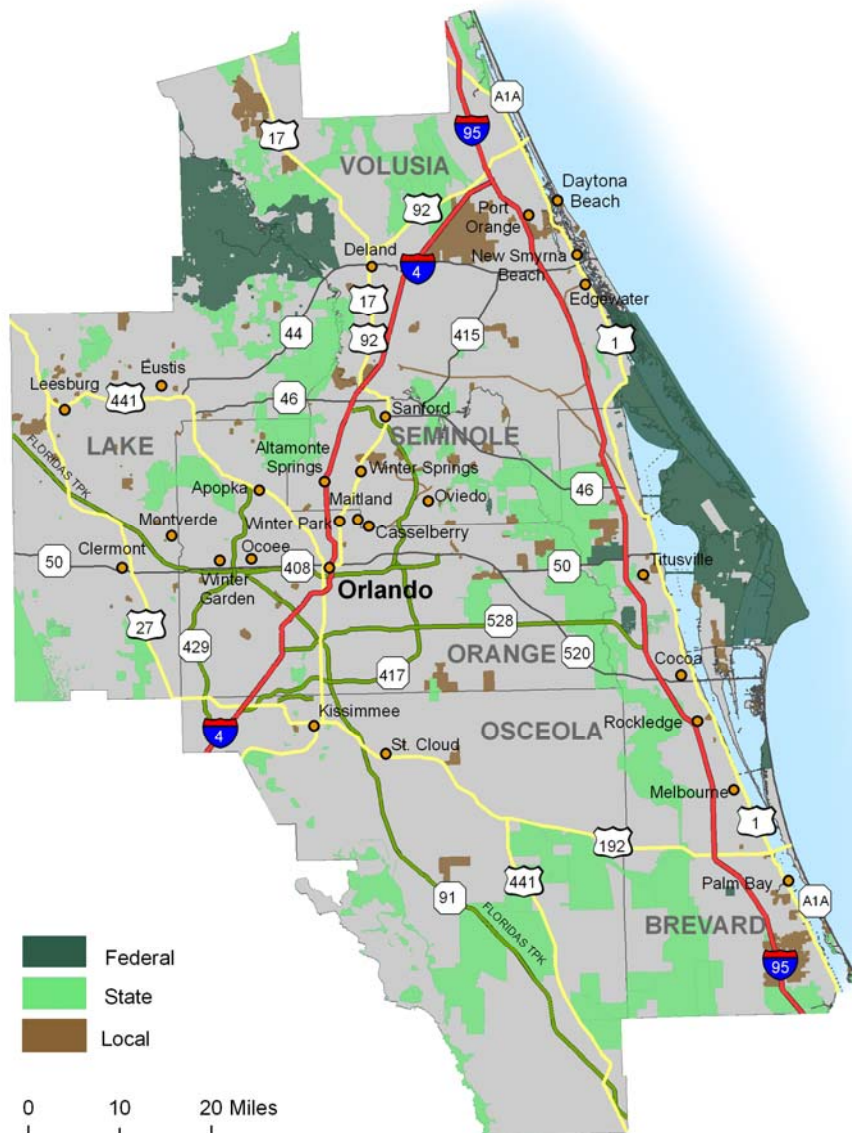
Silver Springs, Marion County

East Central Florida Region

The East Central Florida Region contains six counties and 67 municipalities spanning more than 7,000 square miles. The coastal counties of Volusia and Brevard extend 120 miles along the Atlantic Ocean from the southern border of Flagler County to the

northern border of Indian River County. Barrier islands and coastal lowlands define the coastal portions of the region, offering miles of sandy beach access on the Atlantic and thousands of acres of marshlands and open water in the region’s tidal lagoons. Separating the mainland of Brevard County from the barrier islands, the Indian River Lagoon is

**Figure 4.6.1
Public Conservation Lands**





Lake Louisa State Park, Lake County

the most biologically diverse estuary in North America. The inland counties of Lake, Orange, Osceola and Seminole contain forests and prairies, lakes, streams and rivers where one can view ancient cypress and oaks, abundant native wildlife and Native American mounds, among many other diverse resources. The headwaters of the St. Johns, Tomoka, Kissimmee, Wekiva and Palatka Rivers offer abundant freshwater outdoor recreation opportunities.

Economy

The economic base of the East Central region is a mix of tourism, agriculture, technology and services. Theme parks and sunshine have made the greater Orlando area famous as a world-class travel destination. The Orlando International Airport, a major global hub, handles millions of passengers each year who visit the region's nature-based recreation features, man-made attractions and cruise ships.

The tourism infrastructure in the East Central region is the major source of employment and earnings. The region is best known for the major attractions that are centered around the Orlando-Kissimmee-St. Cloud area. It is also home to Florida's Space Coast and the city that is synonymous with space exploration and technology, Cape Canaveral. Daytona Beach, world famous for its wide beach, is also a center for automobile and motorcycle racing.

The East Central region contains more than 2,000 square miles of public conservation land. These areas play an increasingly important role in the region's tourism-based economy and quality of life. This network of land protects watersheds and maritime areas, sustains native plants and animal species, and connects wildlife corridors. It not only expands outdoor recreational activities for the region's population, but also stimulates nature and heritage based tourism.

**Table 4.6.1
Current and Projected Population
East Central Florida Region**

County	2000	2007	Projections			Percentage Change 2000-2020
			2010	2015	2020	
Brevard	476,230	552,109	568,500	612,700	653,300	37.2
Lake	210,527	286,499	303,500	347,900	389,500	85.0
Orange	896,344	1,105,603	1,154,200	1,282,200	1,401,200	56.3
Osceola	172,493	266,123	287,500	343,200	395,500	129.3
Seminole	365,199	425,698	439,200	475,400	508,700	39.3
Volusia	443,343	508,014	522,500	561,000	596,500	34.5
Region Totals	2,564,136	3,144,046	3,275,400	3,622,400	3,944,700	53.8

Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 2008

Agriculture remains an important factor in the economy of the region. Cattle and sod farms still predominate much of the landscapes of interior counties. Ornamental nurseries are a major activity as well. Until the devastating freezes of the late 1980s, the rolling hills of the region were covered in citrus groves. Today, most of the citrus acreage has been replanted for silviculture or is in the process of residential and commercial development.

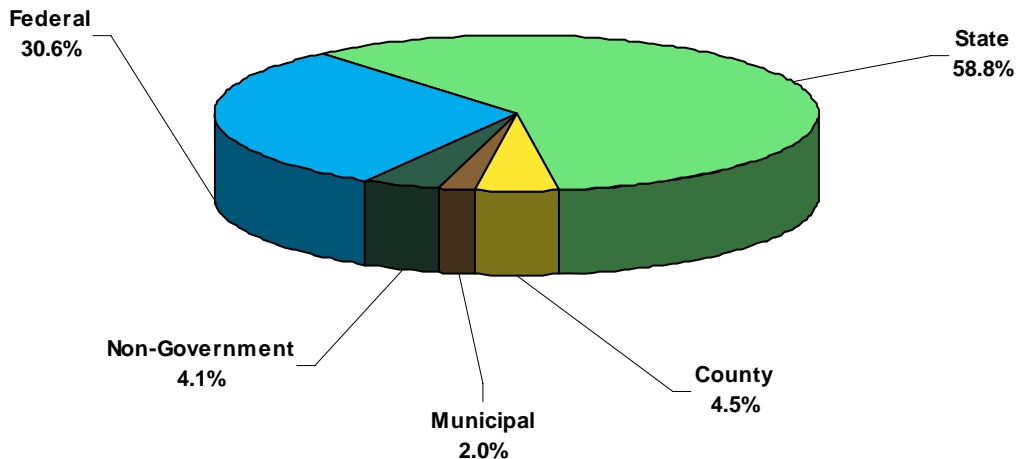
Demographics

In 2007, the East Central region's population of 3.1 million comprised 17 percent of Florida's total population. Estimates predict 1.4 million new residents by 2020, a 54 percent increase from 2000 census figures. Population densities range from a low of 201 persons per square mile in Osceola County to a high of 1,381 persons per square mile in Seminole County. Table 4.6.1 displays population and projected growth for the six counties from the 2000 census and estimates through 2020.



Bull Creek Wildlife Management Area, Osceola County

Figure 4.6.2
Outdoor Recreation Acreage by Category of Provider
East Central Florida Region



Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities

East Central Florida's topography, water resources and vegetation provide a diverse contrast in outdoor recreation resources. The region's principal rivers - the St. Johns and Kissimmee - and their major and minor tributaries provide an abundance of river-related recreation opportunities. The region's more than 100 miles of Atlantic beaches and vast coastal lagoon systems provide extensive saltwater recreational opportunities. The region's large tracts of wet and dry prairie and the scrub communities of the Lake Wales Ridge provide many excellent areas for wildlife-related outdoor recreation.

Nearly 1.2 million acres of public and private conservation and recreation lands are available for outdoor recreation in the region. Public agencies provide 96 percent of the outdoor recreation acreage, with state agencies providing the largest share. The private sector also plays an extremely important role

in providing outdoor recreation acreage in the region, second only to the Southwest Florida Region in terms of total acreage provided.

The federal government provides more than 360,000 acres of land and water distributed among 12 major outdoor recreation areas. Of the federal lands, 33 percent is available for public hunting. Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, the largest managed area in the region, provides more than 138,000 acres of land and water. The federal category is also the largest single provider of saltwater beaches in the region, supplying more than 30 miles.

State agencies together provide the largest percentage of outdoor recreation lands in the region, accounting for over 58 percent of all outdoor recreation acreage and close to 700,000 total acres. The state supplies miles of unpaved bicycle, equestrian, hiking and canoe trails. State agencies also provide nearly 85 percent of the total hunting lands in the region.



Lake Norris, Lake County

East Central Florida's county and municipal governments provide nearly 1,500 parks and recreation sites and six percent of the total outdoor recreation acreage in the region. Cities and counties are the largest providers of facilities for freshwater and saltwater shoreline fishing and recreational boating access. They also provide the majority of recreational trails for nature study, bicycling, jogging and horseback riding.

Table 4.6.2 displays East Central Florida's outdoor recreation resources by category of provider. Table 4.6.3 lists the major outdoor recreation areas provided or managed by national, state and municipal agencies.

The private sector provides four percent of the region's total outdoor recreation lands. Private suppliers provide the most tent and RV/trailer campsites. As seen in other regions of the state, the private sector also provides the vast majority of freshwater and saltwater marinas.

Table 4.6.2
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities by Category of Provider
East Central Florida Region
2007

RESOURCE/FACILITY	UNITS	Federal	State	County	Municipal	Non-Government	TOTAL
OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS	Areas	12	120	601	882	449	2,064
LAND	Acres	180,887	599,346	49,794	2,197	45,268	897,212
WATER	Acres	182,723	91,915	3,475	2,363	2,981	283,456
ACRES TOTAL	Acres	363,609	691,261	53,268	24,281	48,266	1,180,686
RESOURCE-BASED							
CABINS	Cabins	2	35	0	5	505	547
TENT CAMPSITES	Sites	129	685	417	521	2,795	4,547
RV CAMPSITES	Sites	145	362	653	32	33,911	35,103
HISTORIC SITES	Sites	94	48	38	32	83	295
COMMEN STRUCTURES	Structures	0	0	4	26	12	42
MUSEUMS	Museums	3	6	20	18	47	94
PICNIC TABLES	Tables	182	657	4,210	3,125	17,769	25,943
HUNTING AREAS	Acres	60,668	363,763	5,000	0	0	429,431
BIKE TRAIL PAVED	Miles	0.0	53.7	109.0	76.8	0.0	239.5
BIKE TRAIL UNPAVED	Miles	40.0	249.7	126.2	32.6	13.7	462.2
CANOE TRAIL	Miles	15.5	101.0	46.0	0.2	81.0	243.7
HIKING TRAIL	Miles	60.2	495.8	290.5	42.2	35.4	924.1
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	Miles	12.2	249.7	201.6	20.4	45.7	529.6
JOGGING TRAIL	Miles	0.0	64.2	129.2	96.3	23.9	313.6
OHV TRAIL	Miles	0.0	16.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	16.1
NATURE TRAIL	Miles	25.7	51.0	197.6	68.6	64.4	407.3
FRESHWATER BEACH	Miles	0.2	0.1	4.9	1.9	2.5	9.5
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	7	34	84	70	96	291
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	10	27	114	88	106	345
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	0	4	43	62	48	157
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Feet	0	460	26,760	16,667	6,508	50,395
FRESHWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	50	900	8,926	1,051	10,927
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	0	1	3	112	116
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Slips	0	62	6	214	3,452	3,734
FRESHWATER PIERS	Piers	1	7	36	62	22	128
FRESHWATER PIERS	Feet	50	352	3,197	7,714	5,788	17,101
SALTWATER BEACH	Miles	30.6	4.0	14.8	3.3	0.4	53.1
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	12	5	27	41	31	116
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	16	6	45	47	42	156
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	32	2	17	42	6	99
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Feet	7,277	88	19,962	8,604	1,250	37,181
SALTWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	500	0	0	650	1,150
SALTWATER MARINAS	Marinas	3	0	1	2	54	60
SALTWATER MARINA SLIPS	Slips	373	29	92	592	3,033	4,119
SALTWATER PIERS	Piers	3	5	27	24	6	65
SALTWATER PIERS	Feet	284	876	4,325	3,928	2,560	11,973
USER-ORIENTED							
BASEBALL FIELDS	Fields	9	12	328	429	42	820
BASKETBALL GOALS	Goals	24	6	666	536	136	1,368
EQUIPPED PLAY AREAS	Areas	16	9	308	419	103	855
FOOTBALL FIELDS	Fields	6	9	144	125	25	309
GOLF COURSES, 18-HOLE	Courses	1	1	2	10	100	114
GOLF COURSES, 9-HOLE	Courses	0	0	0	1	14	15
GOLF COURSES, EXECUTIVE	Courses	0	0	1	0	16	17
GOLF HOLES TOTAL	Holes	18	18	54	189	1,827	2,106
MULTI-USE COURTS	Courts	0	4	28	86	35	153
MULTI-USE FIELDS	Fields	2	3	151	95	45	296
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS	Pools	3	7	14	49	246	319
RACQUETBALL COURTS	Courts	8	33	90	140	43	314
SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	Courts	3	26	59	478	427	993
TENNIS COURTS	Courts	8	54	265	475	493	1,295
VOLLEYBALL COURTS	Courts	0	11	57	51	10	129

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.6.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
East Central Florida Region
2007**

Federal Areas		State Parks (continued)	
	<u>Acres</u>		<u>Acres</u>
National Forests		De Leon Springs	606
Ocala (Lake County portion)*	84,361	Haw Creek (Volusia portion)	1,727
National Parks		Hontoon Island	1,648
Canaveral National Seashore	57,627	Indian River Lagoon	502
National Wildlife Refuges		Kissimmee Prairie (Osceola County portion)	520
Archie Carr (Brevard County portion)	230	Lake Griffin	559
Lake Woodruff*	21,800	Lake Kissimmee	5,934
Merritt Island*	138,263	Lake Louisa	4,408
St. Johns	6,255	Lower Wekiva River	17,405
National Wild and Scenic Rivers	<u>Miles</u>	North Peninsula	564
Wekiva River	41.6	Rock Springs Run*	13,717
		Sebastian Inlet (Brevard County portion)	541
		St. Sebastian River (Brevard County portion)	10,465
		Tomoka	1,497
		Wekiwa Springs	7,737
		Water Management Districts Lands	
		<i>St. Johns WMD</i>	
		Buck Lake*	9,638
		Bull Creek*	23,470
		Canaveral Marshes	6,741
		Clark Bay*	4,793
		Emeralda Marsh*	7,089
		Heart Island*	12,082
		Lake Apopka Restoration Area	19,825
		Lake George*	11,973
		Lake Jesup	5,257
		Lake Norris	2,352
		Pine Island	850
		River Lakes*	36,156
		Seminole Ranch*	29,145
		Three Forks Marsh*	53,112
		Wekiva River Buffer	2,570
		Wiregrass Prairie	1,401
State Areas			
	<u>Acres</u>		
Aquatic Preserves			
Banana River	29,899		
Indian River Lagoon	27,966		
Mosquito Lagoon	36,000		
Tomoka Marsh	8,000		
Wekiva River	19,000		
Florida Scenic Highways	<u>Miles</u>		
Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway (Lake and Volusia segments)	58		
Green Mountain Scenic Byway	20		
Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway	166		
Ormond Scenic Loop and Trail	34		
Greenways and Trails			
General James A. Van Fleet Trail (Lake County segment)	14		
State Forests	<u>Acres</u>		
Holopaw	58		
Lake George*	21,176		
Little Big Econ*	10,236		
Seminole*	27,064		
Tiger Bay*	27,396		
State Parks			
Addison Blockhouse	6		
Blue Spring	2,644		
Bulow Creek (Volusia portion)	4,715		

*Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Table 4.6.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
East Central Florida Region
2007
 (continued)

	<u>Acres</u>	Wildlife Management Areas, Wildlife & Environmental Areas and Mitigation Parks	<u>Acres</u>
<i>Southwest Florida WMD</i>			
Green Swamp-Little Withlacoochee Tract*	37,545		
<i>South Florida WMD</i>		Hilochee (Lake County portion)*	6,246
Lower Reedy Creek (Osceola County portion)*	5,039	Prairie Lakes Unit - Three Lakes*	8,859
Shingle Creek	1,650	Salt Lake*	7,800
Upper Reedy Creek	4,070	Split Oak	1,689
		Three Lakes*	52,976
		Triple N Ranch*	15,391
		Tosohatchee*	30,701

*Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Reported County and Municipal Areas

	<u>County</u>		<u>Municipal</u>	
	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres
Brevard	247	12,014	184	1,619
Lake	45	713	103	1,055
Orange	92	16,211	246	5,926
Osceola	64	2,129	28	336
Seminole	37	6,131	84	1,048
Volusia	116	16,068	237	14,342



University of Central Florida, Orange County

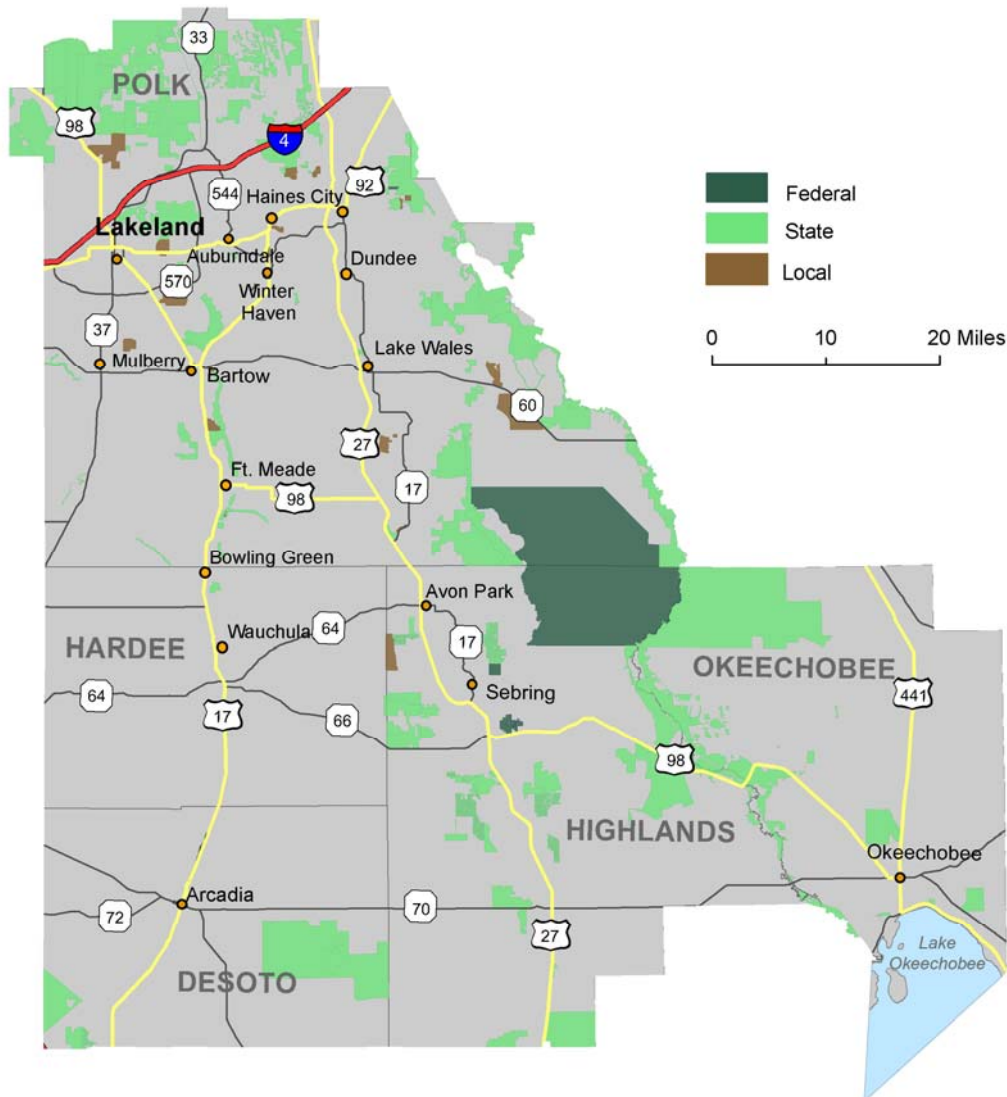
Central Florida Region

The Central Florida Region is the only one of the 11 planning regions with no coastal border and its outdoor recreation profile reflects this key distinction. The region encompasses 5,286 square miles and contains five counties and 25 municipalities.

The physiographic spine of the region is the *Lake Wales Ridge*, which contains prime examples of many highly imperiled ecosys-

tems, imperiled plant and animal species, and numerous large freshwater lakes. The Green Swamp in the northwestern part of the region forms the headwaters of five river systems and is the primary recharge area for the Floridan Aquifer in central Florida. The Kissimmee River and Lake Okeechobee are the region's other principal hydrological features, both of which play an important role in providing outdoor recreation opportunities.

Figure 4.7.1
Public Conservation Lands





Highlands Hammock State Park, Highlands County

Economy

The Central region remains largely rural in character. Agriculture, cattle production and phosphate mining represent the backbone of the regional economy. Most of the phosphate mining in the United States is conducted in the region. Polk County is the exception to the rural pattern of the region. Its

location in the heart of the Interstate 4 corridor between Tampa and Orlando makes it an attractive location for many transportation-related industries. Hardee, DeSoto, Highlands and Okeechobee counties have been designated as “Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern” to encourage economic development in the area.

Table 4.7.1
Current and Projected Population
Central Florida Region

County	2000	2007	Projections			Percentage Change
			2010	2015	2020	2000-2020
DeSoto	32,209	33,983	34,700	37,500	39,200	21.7
Hardee	26,938	27,520	27,700	28,300	28,700	6.5
Highlands	87,366	98,727	101,600	109,400	116,500	33.3
Okeechobee	35,910	39,030	39,700	41,500	43,100	20.0
Polk	483,924	581,058	602,500	660,500	713,900	47.5
Region Totals	666,347	780,318	806,200	877,200	941,400	41.3

Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 2008

Demographics

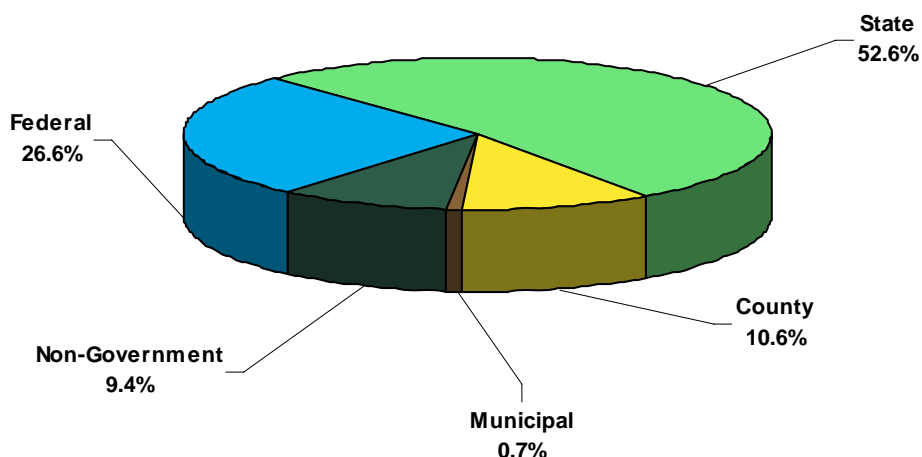
The region contained 4.2 percent of Florida’s total population in 2007. Projections are for 275,000 new residents to migrate to the region by 2020, a 41 percent increase from

2000. Population density ranges from 43 persons per square mile in Hardee County to 310 persons per square mile in the more urbanized Polk County. Table 4.7.1 displays the population for the five-county area and projections through 2020.



Fort Fraser Trail, Polk County

Figure 4.7.2
Outdoor Recreation Acreage by Category of Provider
Central Florida Region



Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities

Central Florida's landscapes provide a rich diversity of natural resources that support an abundance of high quality outdoor recreation opportunities. Particularly important are the region's rivers and lakes - including the

Peace and Kissimmee Rivers and Lakes Okeechobee, Arbuckle and Istokpoga. These waters support an outstanding fresh-water fishery that attracts fishermen and other sportsmen from across the United States. The Peace River winds 67 miles



Peace River, Hardee County

through Polk, Hardee and DeSoto counties providing excellent canoeing and kayaking. Public and private parks and recreation areas surrounding these waters provide opportunities for boating, camping, fishing and many other activities. More than 391,000 acres of outdoor recreation land and water are made available by the region's public and private providers.

Two federal properties offer limited public access in the region. Avon Park Air Force Range, managed by the U.S. Air Force, contains a portion of the Florida National Scenic Trail and conducts limited public hunting on a periodic basis. The Lake Wales Ridge National Wildlife Refuge is managed cooperatively by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and non-profit organizations as the first refuge designated for the recovery of endangered and threatened plants.

Just more than half of the total outdoor recreation acreage in the region is provided by state agencies. Eight state parks offer diverse resource-based activities for visitors. Public hunting is provided at eight state wildlife management areas and cooperatively managed sites. State level suppliers provide nearly 200 miles of single-purpose recreation trails for horseback riding, hiking, canoeing, bicycling, jogging and nature study.

Counties and municipalities provide a greater share of outdoor recreation acreage in the Central region than those anywhere else in the state. Local governments manage 503 recreation sites on over 46,000 acres. Together, they are the largest provider of resource-based facilities for historic site interpretation, jogging, paved-trail bicycling, freshwater shoreline fishing and freshwater boat ramps.



Private Fish Camp, Polk County

Private sector providers (commercial, club and non-profit organizations) supply nearly 39,000 acres of outdoor recreation land and water in the region. In this regard, they play a more significant role in providing outdoor recreation here than in any other region of the state. In addition, this category provides 119 of the 139 outdoor swimming pools, 981 of the 1,053 golf courses and 1,054 of the 1,082 freshwater marina slips in the region.

Table 4.7.2 shows Central Florida's outdoor recreation resources by category of provider. Table 4.7.3 identifies the major outdoor recreation opportunities provided or managed by national, state and municipal entities.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.7.2
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities by Category of Provider
Central Florida Region
2007**

RESOURCE/FACILITY	UNITS	Federal	State	County	Municipal	Non-Government	TOTAL
OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS	Areas	3	73	221	282	225	804
LAND	Acres	107,967	208,992	14,619	2,866	31,414	365,858
WATER	Acres	0	4,917	28,526	38	6,868	40,349
ACRES TOTAL	Acres	107,967	213,909	43,145	2,904	38,372	406,298
RESOURCE-BASED							
CABINS	Cabins	0	0	0	0	306	306
TENT CAMPSITES	Sites	25	287	46	10	642	1,009
RV CAMPSITES	Sites	0	251	371	0	24,812	25,434
HISTORIC SITES	Sites	0	1	9	6	8	24
COMMEM STRUCTURES	Structures	0	0	0	4	1	5
MUSEUMS	Museums	0	2	5	3	9	19
PICNIC TABLES	Tables	55	210	392	966	8,342	9,965
HUNTING AREAS	Acres	78,000	50,767	0	0	0	128,767
BIKE TRAIL PAVED	Miles	0.0	11.7	7.6	21.4	16.3	57.0
BIKE TRAIL UNPAVED	Miles	0.0	154.7	7.5	4.2	10.5	176.9
CANOE TRAIL	Miles	0.0	15.0	10.0	0.5	27.3	52.8
HIKING TRAIL	Miles	65.7	295.0	31.1	10.5	26.5	428.8
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	Miles	16.0	176.7	24.7	0.0	0.1	217.5
JOGGING TRAIL	Miles	7.7	15.8	2.7	22.9	8.8	57.9
OHV TRAIL	Miles	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NATURE TRAIL	Miles	8.2	121.4	27.2	15.9	22.4	185.1
FRESHWATER BEACH	Miles	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.7	2.7	3.7
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	1	19	100	50	79	249
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	1	24	116	56	86	283
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	1	2	9	11	36	59
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Feet	100	90	4,504	3,095	2,585	10,374
FRESHWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	0	25,750	0	25,750
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	0	0	0	147	147
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Slips	0	18	10	0	1,054	1,082
FRESHWATER PIERS	Piers	2	1	16	23	21	63
FRESHWATER PIERS	Feet	10	45	2,015	2,808	1,678	6,556
SALTWATER BEACH	Miles	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	0	0	0	0	0	0
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	0	0	0	0	0	0
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	0	0	0	0	0	0
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Feet	0	0	0	0	0	0
SALTWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	0	0	0	0
SALTWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	0	0	0	0	0
SALTWATER MARINA SLIPS	Slips	0	0	0	0	0	0
SALTWATER PIERS	Piers	0	0	0	0	0	0
SALTWATER PIERS	Feet	0	0	0	0	0	0
USER-ORIENTED							
BASEBALL FIELDS	Fields	0	1	180	186	12	379
BASKETBALL GOALS	Goals	0	0	214	190	47	451
EQUIPPED PLAY AREAS	Areas	0	3	74	130	35	242
FOOTBALL FIELDS	Fields	0	0	39	34	3	76
GOLF COURSES, 18-HOLE	Courses	0	0	0	2	40	42
GOLF COURSES, 9-HOLE	Courses	0	0	0	4	21	25
GOLF COURSES, EXECUTIVE	Courses	0	0	0	0	21	21
GOLF HOLES TOTAL	Holes	0	0	0	72	981	1,053
MULTI-USE COURTS	Courts	0	0	10	32	23	65
MULTI-USE FIELDS	Fields	0	1	25	36	16	78
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS	Pools	0	1	4	15	119	139
RACQUETBALL COURTS	Courts	0	3	19	51	14	87
SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	Courts	0	2	9	234	411	656
TENNIS COURTS	Courts	0	8	53	134	184	379
VOLLEYBALL COURTS	Courts	0	0	3	17	6	26

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.7.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
Central Florida Region
2007**

Federal Areas		<u>Acres</u>	<i>South Florida WMD (continued)</i>	<u>Acres</u>
Military Installations			Gardner-Cobb Marsh & Drasdo*	1,714
Avon Park Air Force Range	106,000		Kicco and Blanket Bay Slough*	12,164
National Wildlife Refuges			Lake Hatchineha/Catfish Creek*	958
Lake Wales Ridge	1,857		Lake Marion Creek *	8,083
			Micco Landing*	1,550
State Areas		<u>Miles</u>	Oak Creek, No Name & Starvation Slough*	4,106
Florida Scenic Highways			S-65E Impoundment & Paradise Run*	2,358
The Ridge Scenic Highway	35		Seaboard, Yates & Telex Marsh	2,105
Greenways and Trails			Sumica*	4,109
General James A. Van Fleet Trail (Polk County segment)	12		Turkey Hammock & Cornwell Marshes	4,659
Lake Okeechobee Trail (Okeechobee County segment)	20			
State Forests		<u>Acres</u>	<i>Southwest Florida WMD</i>	
Lake Wales Ridge*	26,563		Alafia River Reserve	334
State Parks			Deep Creek	2,000
Allen David Broussard Catfish Creek	8,087		Green Swamp-East Tract* (Polk County portion)	23,961
Colt Creek	5,062		Jack Creek	1,286
Highlands Hammock	9,251		RV Griffin Reserve	6,000
Kissimmee Prairie (Okeechobee County portion)	53,766		Wildlife Management Areas, Wildlife & Environmental Areas, Fish Management Areas and Mitigation Parks	
Lake June-in-Winter Scrub	846		Hilochee*	3,123
Lake Kissimmee	5,934		Lake Wales Ridge*	14,482
Okeechobee Battlefield	145		Osprey Unit - Hilochee*	6,093
Paynes Creek	410		Platt Branch	1,973
Water Management District Lands			Tenoroc	1,972
<i>South Florida WMD</i>				
Boney Marsh, Bluff Hammock & Hickory Hammock *	9,060			

*Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Reported County and Municipal Areas

	<u>County</u>		<u>Municipal</u>	
	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres
DeSoto	19	481	15	163
Hardee	7	1,446	17	50
Highlands	52	29,262	41	168
Okeechobee	25	460	2	8
Polk	118	11,496	207	2,525

Tampa Bay Region

The Tampa Bay Region encompasses 3,467 square miles and includes Pinellas, Pasco, Manatee and Hillsborough counties. The region is favored with nearly 700 miles of saltwater shoreline and all four counties in the region have frontage on the Gulf of Mexico or Tampa Bay. Both Manatee and Pinellas are buffered by barrier islands that offer miles of sandy beaches. The coastal areas of the region are heavily populated and highly urbanized, in contrast to the sparsely populated rural lands east of the metropolitan areas. The region's diverse water resources (both freshwater and saltwater) together with its miles of sandy Gulf beaches and thousands of acres of public lands, offer many excellent outdoor recreation opportunities.

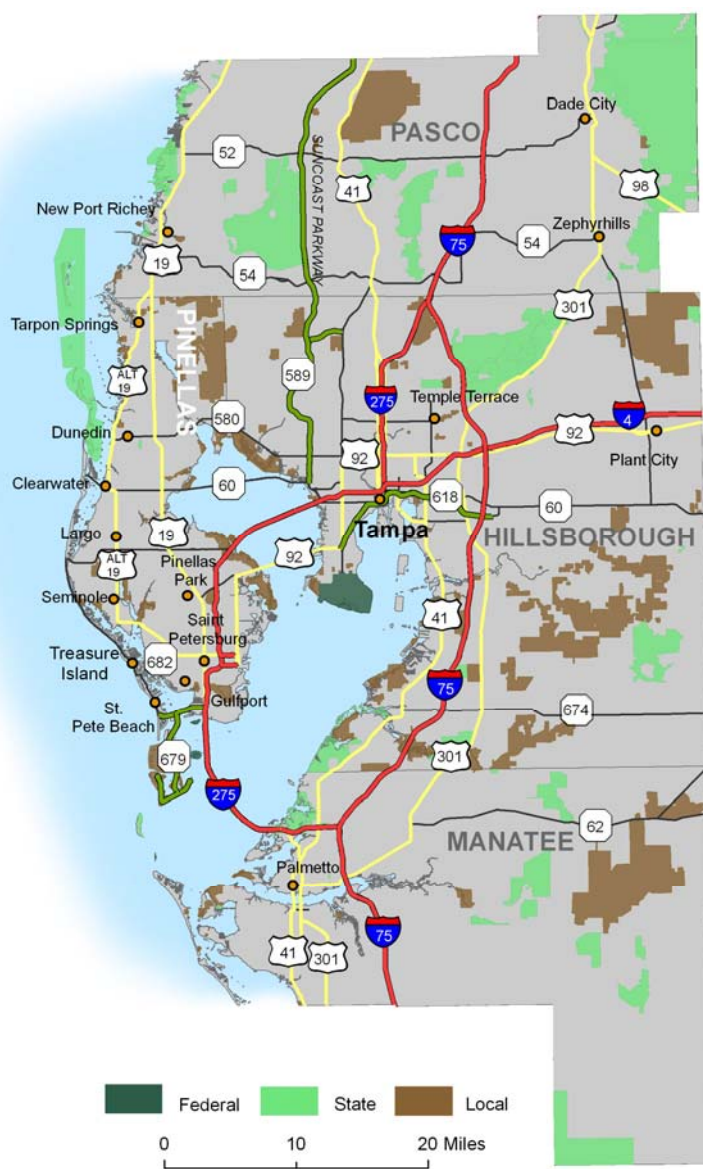
Economy

Anchored by Tampa International Airport, with extensive domestic and international scheduled flights, and three deep-water ports, business and industry play a major role in the region. The metropolitan area of Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater dominates as the region's economic center. Trade, services and construction are the major industries in the area. The coastal area continues to be a magnet drawing retirees, seasonal residents and tourists to the many miles of sandy beaches, boating access facilities and the relaxed lifestyle that this area has typified for generations.

Demographics

In 2007, the Tampa Bay Region's population of 2.8 million people made up 15.5 percent of Florida's population. Estimates project that an additional 846,000 residents will move to the region by 2020, a 34 percent increase from

Figure 4.8.1
Public Conservation Lands



**Table 4.8.1
Current and Projected Population
Tampa Bay Region**

County	2000	2007	Projections			Percentage Change 2000-2020
			2010	2015	2020	
Hillsborough	998,948	1,192,861	1,234,900	1,346,600	1,449,900	45.1
Manatee	264,002	315,890	327,500	358,400	387,000	46.6
Pasco	344,768	434,425	454,200	507,400	556,600	61.4
Pinellas	921,495	944,199	950,300	966,900	982,200	6.6
Region Totals	2,529,213	2,887,375	2,966,900	3,179,300	3,375,700	33.5

Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 2008

2000. Population density ranges from a low of 426 persons per square mile in Manatee County to a high of 3,370 persons per square mile in Pinellas County, the highest population density in the state. Table 4.8.1 displays current and projected population for the area from 2000 through 2020.

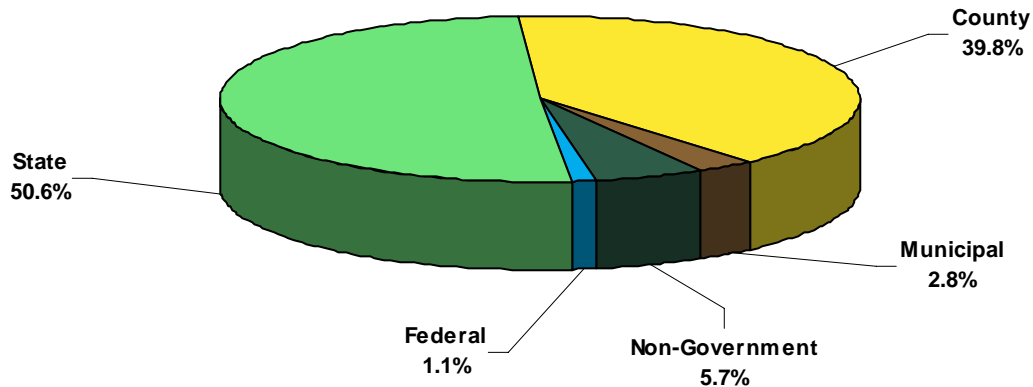
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities

The beaches and coastal wetlands of the Tampa Bay Region make it one of the state's best areas to enjoy saltwater-related outdoor recreation. The region's Gulf barrier islands, which include Honeymoon, Ca-



Alafia River State Park, Hillsborough County

Figure 4.8.2
Outdoor Recreation Acreage by Category of Provider
Tampa Bay Region



ladesi, Anna Maria, Anclote Key, Longboat Key and Mullet Key, possess some of the best sandy beaches in the country. The region's freshwater resources are significant as well. Rivers, including the Hillsborough, Manatee, Little Manatee, Myakka, Anclote, and Pithlachascotee, provide abundant boating, fishing, hunting and canoeing.

Nearly 326,000 acres of public and private outdoor recreation land and water are located in the Tampa Bay Region. Similar to other regions, over 90 percent of the acreage is managed by federal, state and local governments. Although private entities provide only six percent of the total acreage in the region, they provide a majority of the camping and boating-related facilities.

The federal government plays a relatively smaller role in providing outdoor recreation land in this region than in any other region in the state. The six federal recreation areas contain less than 3,800 acres, or just more

than one percent of the region's total. Half of the federal areas are comprised of national wildlife refuges. Although public access is restricted in some areas, public use opportunities include beach use and wildlife-dependent public uses such as wildlife observation, bird watching, fishing and photography.

State government agencies administer more than 156,000 acres and 85 sites in the region. One-third of the state-administered lands are within 17 state parks. State-administered areas provide 11 miles of salt-water beach, over 43,000 acres of hunting lands and 144 miles of hiking trails. State agencies provide more than 50 percent of the outdoor recreation lands in the Tampa Bay Region.

County and municipal governments play a large role in providing both resource-based and user-oriented recreation opportunities. Together, they provide programs and activities on over 146,000 acres of land and water



Pinellas Trail, Pinellas County

in 1,370 outdoor recreation areas. User-oriented activities are major activities for residents and tourists in the region. Local governments provide the majority of public water access facilities, including freshwater and saltwater boat ramps and shoreline fishing facilities. They also provide 711 of the 764 baseball fields, 942 of the 1,043 basketball goals and 238 of the 260 football fields in the region.

The private sector provides more than 19,000 acres for outdoor recreation at 396 sites. Private entities supply the majority of RV/trailer campsites, cabins and freshwater and saltwater marina slips in the region. They also provide 1,800 of the 2,097 golf holes.

Figure 4.8.2 displays the distribution of outdoor recreation acreage by category of managing agency for the Tampa Bay Region. Table 4.8.2 shows the region's outdoor recreation supply by level of provider. Table 4.8.3 shows the major outdoor recreation areas provided or managed by federal, state and local governments.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.8.2
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities by Category of Provider
Tampa Bay Region
2007**

RESOURCE/FACILITY	UNITS	Federal	State	County	Municipal	Non-Government	TOTAL
OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS	Areas	6	86	417	953	396	1,858
LAND	Acres	3,767	115,837	134,727	8,858	17,927	258,583
WATER	Acres	9	79,812	1,521	887	1,351	49,684
ACRES TOTAL	Acres	3,776	195,649	136,315	9,745	19,389	364,873
RESOURCE-BASED							
CABINS	Cabins	0	5	10	5	626	646
TENT CAMPSITES	Sites	50	312	284	7	538	1,191
RV CAMPSITES	Sites	294	295	265	0	28,707	29,561
HISTORIC SITES	Sites	0	2	5	9	1	17
COMMEM STRUCTURES	Structures	2	10	69	17	6	104
MUSEUMS	Museums	2	5	27	7	14	55
PICNIC TABLES	Tables	60	636	4,811	3,207	9,487	18,201
HUNTING AREAS	Acres	0	43,320	15,000	0	0	58,320
BIKE TRAIL PAVED	Miles	0.0	4.0	90.3	41.6	0.0	135.9
BIKE TRAIL UNPAVED	Miles	5.0	124.9	163.8	14.0	5.0	312.7
CANOE TRAIL	Miles	2.0	55.8	48.8	27.8	26.0	160.4
HIKING TRAIL	Miles	1	184.6	158.5	41.7	6.7	392.5
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	Miles	0.0	99.0	94.8	2.3	55.4	251.5
JOGGING TRAIL	Miles	7.5	3.2	90.7	56.8	4.7	162.9
OHV TRAIL	Miles	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NATURE TRAIL	Miles	4.9	20.9	126.3	37.5	4.6	194.2
FRESHWATER BEACH	Miles	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.0	23.4	24.0
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	0	10	36	10	22	78
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	0	11	53	15	23	102
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	0	4	18	31	19	72
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Feet	0	530	9,210	7,707	555	18,002
FRESHWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	0	30,551	0	30,551
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	0	0	1	10	11
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Slips	0	0	0	2	198	200
FRESHWATER PIERS	Piers	0	6	7	46	2	61
FRESHWATER PIERS	Feet	0	240	1,466	1,328	100	3,134
SALTWATER BEACH	Miles	3.3	11.4	9.4	17.9	9.8	51.7
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	1	3	48	57	34	143
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	2	3	99	69	40	213
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	1	8	45	70	23	147
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Feet	175	13,896	9,335	9,394	2,938	35,738
SALTWATER JETTIES	Feet	1,000	5	250	56	890	2,201
SALTWATER MARINAS	Marinas	1	1	1	13	89	105
SALTWATER MARINA SLIPS	Slips	35	108	8	1,655	6,019	7,825
SALTWATER PIERS	Piers	1	2	12	37	14	66
SALTWATER PIERS	Feet	60	11,725	12,525	10,789	4,137	39,236
USER-ORIENTED							
BASEBALL FIELDS	Fields	6	10	374	337	37	764
BASKETBALL GOALS	Goals	2	22	425	517	77	1,043
EQUIPPED PLAY AREAS	Areas	3	12	258	339	45	657
FOOTBALL FIELDS	Fields	3	5	137	101	14	260
GOLF COURSES, 18-HOLE	Courses	2	0	3	8	77	90
GOLF COURSES, 9-HOLE	Courses	0	0	0	1	18	19
GOLF COURSES, EXECUTIVE	Courses	0	0	0	3	23	26
GOLF HOLES TOTAL	Holes	36	0	54	207	1,800	2,097
MULTI-USE COURTS	Courts	4	0	157	101	22	284
MULTI-USE FIELDS	Fields	0	6	85	83	56	230
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS	Pools	2	1	9	42	231	285
RACQUETBALL COURTS	Courts	0	13	44	95	51	203
SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	Courts	0	0	19	529	606	1,154
TENNIS COURTS	Courts	6	67	226	396	635	1,330
VOLLEYBALL COURTS	Courts	0	4	7	10	2	23

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.8.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
Tampa Bay Region
2007**

Federal Areas		State Parks (Continued)		Acres
National Parks	<u>Acres</u>	Hillsborough River		3,789
DeSoto National Monument	25	Honeymoon Island		2,810
National Wildlife Refuges		Lake Manatee		549
Egmont Key	272	Little Manatee River		2,416
Passage Key	64	Madira Bickel Mound		10
Pinellas	394	Myakka River (Manatee County portion)		10,132
State Areas		Skyway Fishing Pier		20
Aquatic Preserves		Terra Ceia		1,876
Boca Ciega Bay	22,000	Werner-Boyce Salt Springs		3,999
Cockroach Bay	8000	Ybor City		1
Terra Ceia	26,000	Water Management District Lands		
Florida Scenic Highways	<u>Miles</u>	<i>Southwest Florida WMD</i>		
Bradenton Beach Scenic Highway	2	Cypress Creek		7,400
Courtney Campbell Causeway	9	Green Swamp - West Tract*		37,350
Palma Sola Scenic Highway	5	Edward Chance Reserve - Coker Prairie Tract		1,200
Suncoast Scenic Parkway (Hillsborough and Pasco County portion)	21	Edward Chance-Gilley Creek Tract		5,800
Greenways and Trails		Little Manatee River - Southfork Tract		970
Withlacoochee State Trail	2	Lower Hillsborough		16,000
State Forests	<u>Acres</u>	Myakka River - Flatford Swamp		2,357
Withlacoochee (Pasco portion)*	7,043	Upper Hillsborough*		9,961
State Parks		Starke Wilderness Preserve		
Alafia River	6,312	Serenova Tract		6,533
Anclote Key	12,177	Wildlife & Environmental Areas and Mitigation Parks		
Beker	1,739	Bullfrog Creek		833
Caladesi Island	4,528	Little Gator Creek		566
Cockroach Bay	103			
Egmont Key	545			
Judah P. Benjamin Confederate Memorial at Gamble Plantation	33			

*Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Table 4.8.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
Tampa Bay Region
2007
 (continued)

Reported County and Municipal Areas

	<u>County</u>		<u>Municipal</u>	
	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres
Hillsborough	186	58,139	182	21,253
Manatee	83	27,354	105	538
Pasco	41	32,749	46	349
Pinellas	107	18,072	620	6,618



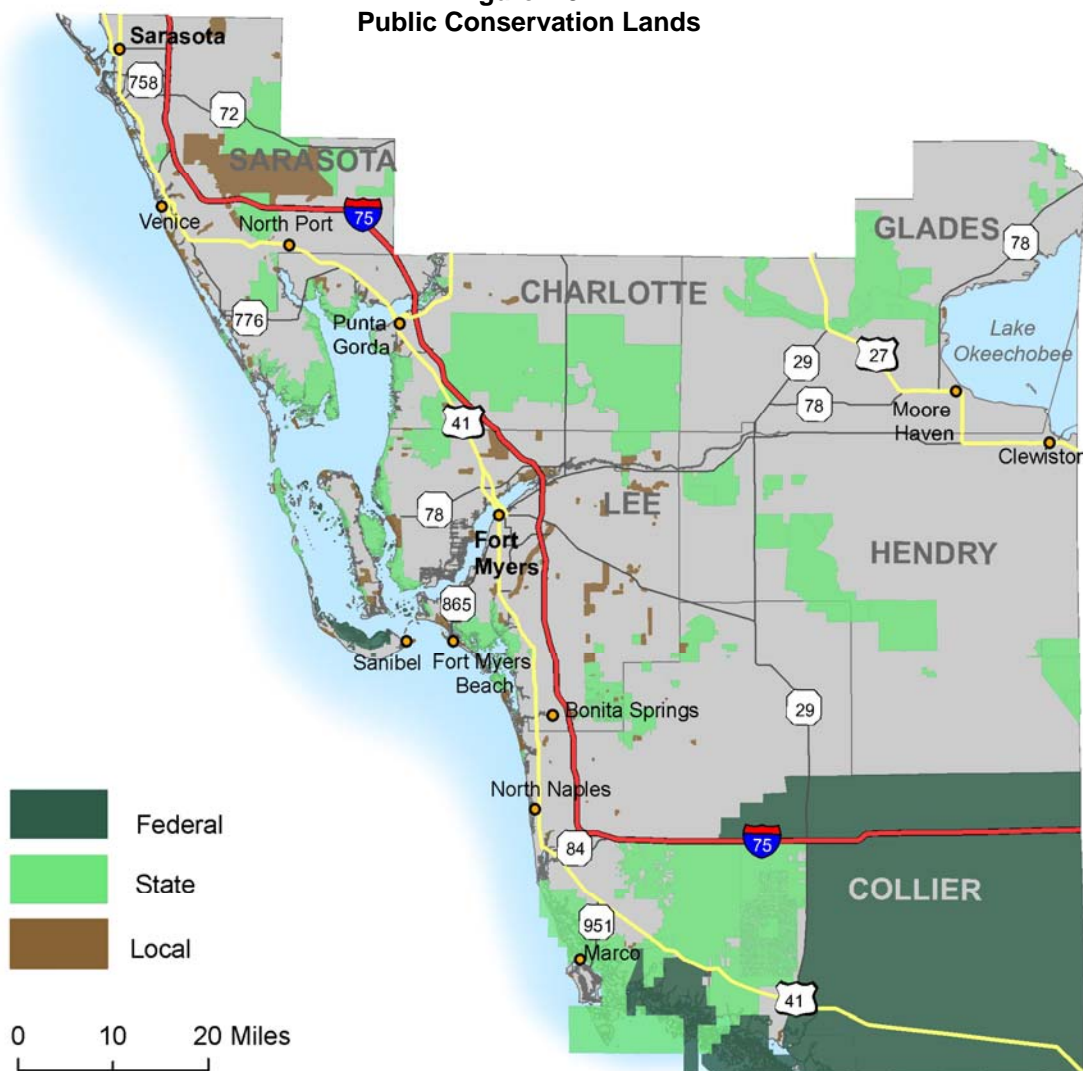
Cypress Forest Park, Pinellas County

Southwest Florida Region

The Southwest Florida Region covers 7,277 square miles and contains six counties lying between Sarasota Bay, the Ten Thousand Islands and Lake Okeechobee. The coastal counties of Charlotte, Collier, Lee and Sarasota together contain 128 miles of Gulf coastline that offer miles of sandy beach access. The region's estuarine areas are among the most biologically productive in the state. The wildlife of these areas provide outstanding opportunities for non-consumptive and consumptive recreational

activities. The far southern portion of the region's coastline remains virtually undeveloped due to the protected status of the extensive federal and state public lands. The region's vast mangrove ecosystems are some of the last remaining examples of the system that once flourished along south Florida's tidal wetlands. The non-coastal counties of Glades and Hendry are bordered by Lake Okeechobee on the east. These areas are primarily agricultural and rural, but also contain many large, intact natural areas.

Figure 4.9.1
Public Conservation Lands





Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park, Collier County

The region is drained by several river systems that originate inland and flow southwest to the Gulf. The Myakka and Peace Rivers discharge into Charlotte Harbor forming a vast estuary of some 2.9 million acres. The Myakka River was designated as a Florida Wild and Scenic River in 1985. The Caloosahatchee River, channelized in the 1880s to permit boat traffic directly between the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico, was pivotal to opening up southwest Florida to development.

Economy

The Southwest Florida Region relies on a mix of natural resources, history and culture, and a sophisticated hospitality industry to maintain its position as a premier tourism destination. The high quality of life and efficient transportation network that attracts visitors from all over the world also attracts a well-educated work force. The Interstate 75 transportation corridor provides easy access

to Tampa to the north and Miami to the south, while Southwest Florida International Airport offers extensive domestic and international air service. The opening of Florida Gulf Coast University in 1997, the state's 12th state university, and the expansion of several other colleges and universities into the region have spurred the development of technology firms and research parks that attract new business and create new jobs, especially in information technology and bio-science. Although not as widespread as it once was, agriculture continues to be an important source of income in the area. Truck crops and citrus grown on the western fringes of the Everglades supply much of the nation's winter supply of fresh vegetables. Cattle ranching continues to be a major component of the economies of Glades, Charlotte, Lee and Hendry counties.

**Table 4.9.1
Current and Projected Population
Southwest Florida Region**

County	2000	2007	Projections			Percentage Change
			2010	2015	2020	2000-2020
Charlotte	141,627	164,584	169,700	183,300	195,900	38.3
Collier	251,377	333,858	353,900	406,300	455,300	81.1
Glades	10,576	11,055	11,600	12,100	12,600	19.1
Hendry	36,210	39,651	40,800	43,800	46,700	29.0
Lee	440,888	615,741	654,600	756,700	852,000	93.2
Sarasota	325,961	387,461	400,600	436,100	468,800	43.8
Region Totals	1,206,639	1,552,350	1,631,200	1,838,300	2,031,300	68.3

Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 2008

Demographics

Total population for the region reached 1.5 million in 2007. Projections estimate that an additional 825,000 people will reside in the region in 2020, a 68 percent increase from 2000. Population densities range from 14

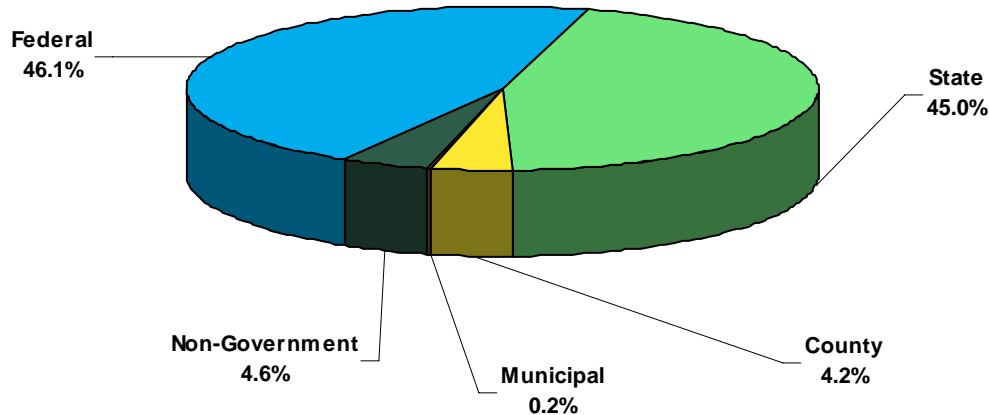
people per square mile in Glades County to 766 people per square mile in Lee County.

As in other parts of Florida, the region’s eastern counties are beginning to experience increasing urban development in rural areas. As this trend continues, and as



Myakka Wild and Scenic River, Sarasota County

Figure 4.9.2
Outdoor Recreation Acreage by Category of Provider
Southwest Florida Region



coastal lands become less available for development, population is expected to shift more and more toward these inland counties.

Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities

The region's coastal natural resources and its numerous rivers and lakes provide generous opportunities for outdoor recreation. Much attention by federal, state and local governments has been focused on acquiring and protecting these areas. The region has over 1.7 million acres of land and water available for outdoor recreation use. As shown in Figure 4.9.2, 95 percent of all outdoor recreation acreage is provided by public agencies.

Federally managed lands account for 46 percent of the available recreation acres in the region. Two major national parks—Big Cypress National Preserve and Everglades National Park—and five national wildlife ref-

uges provide more than 790,000 acres. These federal lands offer most of the region's public hunting opportunities and all of its inventoried supply of off-highway vehicle trails. They also provide an important share of the region's available supply of hiking and nature trails.

State agencies administer over 770,000 acres at 60 separate areas, representing 45 percent of the regional total. This figure does not include the 73,236-acre Babcock Ranch property which was acquired under the *Florida Forever* program in 2007. Thirteen state parks provide a wide range of activities, from saltwater swimming and camping to visiting the early 20th century utopian settlement at Koreshan. Three state forests and five wildlife management areas provide the majority of the state-supplied public hunting in the region. State agencies are the largest providers of canoe, equestrian and hiking trails in the region. They play a major role as well in providing opportunities for shoreline fishing.

Local park and recreation programs in the Southwest region play a more important role in providing water and beach access opportunities than in most other regions of the state. Cities and counties are the largest providers of saltwater and freshwater beaches, freshwater boat ramps and freshwater and saltwater fishing facilities. They are major providers of recreational trails as well, providing more paved bicycle trails, jogging trails and nature trails than any other category. As in the other regions, local governments are the principal providers of user-oriented facilities.

Within the private sector, there are 404 outdoor recreation sites encompassing 78,494 acres, or four percent of total regional acreage. The commercial sector provides the majority of cabins, RV/trailer campsites and tent campsites. As in many regions, the Southwest region's non-government providers are also the largest suppliers of freshwater and saltwater marinas (a combined total of 6,668 slips) and saltwater boat ramps.

Table 4.9.2 shows outdoor recreation resources and facilities by level of provider. Table 4.9.3 lists major outdoor recreation opportunities provided or managed by federal, state and municipal entities.



Imperial River Boat Ramp, Lee County

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.9.2
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities by Category of Provider
Southwest Florida Region
2007**

RESOURCE/FACILITY	UNITS	Federal	State	County	Municipal	Non-Government	TOTAL
OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS	Areas	19	60	417	220	404	1,120
LAND	Acres	724,705	473,831	69,533	2,508	76,117	1,346,694
WATER	Acres	65,312	304,669	2,187	324	1,887	374,378
ACRES TOTAL	Acres	790,017	778,500	71,722	2,748	78,498	1,721,486
RESOURCE-BASED							
CABINS	Cabins	0	17	0	0	191	208
TENT CAMPSITES	Sites	99	407	60	8	662	1,236
RV CAMPSITES	Sites	149	377	80	37	24,517	25,160
HISTORIC SITES	Sites	12	64	8	10	9	103
COMMEM STRUCTURES	Structures	1	3	3	7	3	17
MUSEUMS	Museums	10	8	11	8	15	52
PICNIC TABLES	Tables	94	562	2,184	791	11,820	15,451
HUNTING AREAS	Acres	525,000	246,385	0	0	0	771,385
BIKE TRAIL PAVED	Miles	71.0	5.0	49.9	29.7	35.0	190.6
BIKE TRAIL UNPAVED	Miles	9.0	89.3	50.2	11.6	7.5	167.6
CANOE TRAIL	Miles	51.0	58.5	30.9	20.0	51.0	211.4
HIKING TRAIL	Miles	120.5	236.0	74.8	4.8	73.0	509.1
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	Miles	0.0	60.4	29.0	0.0	6.0	95.4
JOGGING TRAIL	Miles	9.0	0.0	60.9	5.3	7.9	83.1
OHV TRAIL	Miles	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0
NATURE TRAIL	Miles	85.5	81.9	53.4	6.9	24.2	251.9
FRESHWATER BEACH	Miles	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1	1.3	2.0
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	2	17	40	6	32	97
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	3	22	46	7	28	106
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	1	4	10	10	178	203
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Feet	120	2,345	1,553	2,933	805	7,756
FRESHWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	0	1,340	0	1,340
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	0	0	1	19	20
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Slips	0	0	0	20	844	864
FRESHWATER PIERS	Piers	3	1	21	2	5	32
FRESHWATER PIERS	Feet	340	86	822	221	30,320	31,789
SALTWATER BEACH	Miles	16.8	12.7	25.7	6.7	5.4	67.3
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	1	3	31	8	65	108
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	1	7	48	16	67	139
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	0	7	50	12	29	98
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Feet	0	3,180	15,465	6,534	6,842	32,021
SALTWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	100	7,600	50	7,750
SALTWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	0	2	5	156	163
SALTWATER MARINA SLIPS	Slips	0	34	34	503	5,824	6,395
SALTWATER PIERS	Piers	1	0	28	15	28	72
SALTWATER PIERS	Feet	50	0	4,856	4,849	3,450	13,205
USER-ORIENTED							
BASEBALL FIELDS	Fields	1	0	231	76	6	314
BASKETBALL GOALS	Goals	0	4	267	63	39	373
EQUIPPED PLAY AREAS	Areas	0	7	178	72	39	296
FOOTBALL FIELDS	Fields	0	0	72	20	1	93
GOLF COURSES, 18-HOLE	Courses	0	0	2	4	96	102
GOLF COURSES, 9-HOLE	Courses	0	0	0	1	20	21
GOLF COURSES, EXECUTIVE	Courses	0	0	0	0	23	23
GOLF HOLES TOTAL	Holes	0	0	36	81	2,250	2,367
MULTI-USE COURTS	Courts	0	0	16	6	9	31
MULTI-USE FIELDS	Fields	0	0	57	13	22	92
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS	Pools	0	0	26	11	227	264
RACQUETBALL COURTS	Courts	1	0	44	19	21	85
SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	Courts	0	3	106	24	443	576
TENNIS COURTS	Courts	0	4	264	87	560	915
VOLLEYBALL COURTS	Courts	0	0	44	5	7	56

Table 4.9.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
Southwest Florida Region
2007

Federal Areas

	<u>Acres</u>		<u>Acres</u>
National Estuarine Research Reserves*		State Parks	
Rookery Bay	110,000	Cayo Costa	2,458
National Parks		Charlotte Harbor	42,475
Big Cypress (Collier County		Collier-Seminole	7,272
portion)**	575,684	Delnor-Wiggins Pass	166
Everglades (Collier County portion)	39,262	Don Pedro Island	231
National Wildlife Refuges		Estero Bay	10,457
Caloosahatchee	40	Fakahatchee Strand	75,898
Florida Panther	26,400	Gasparilla Island	127
J. "Ding" Darling	6,300	Koreshan	164
Matlacha Pass	512	Lovers Key	1,463
Pine Island	584	Mound Key	172
Ten Thousand Islands	31,150	Myakka River (Sarasota County	

State Areas

Aquatic Preserves		Oscar Scherer	1,382
Cape Haze	11,168	Stump Pass Beach	255
Cape Romano-Ten Thousand		State Wild and Scenic Rivers	<u>Miles</u>
Islands	50,000	Myakka River	34
Estero Bay	11,300	Water Management District Lands	<u>Acres</u>
Gasparilla Sound-Charlotte	149,168	<i>South Florida WMD</i>	
Harbor		Corkscrew Marsh**	25,089
Lemon Bay	7,667	Nicodemus Slough	2,219
Matlacha Pass	10,000	STA 5*	5,120
Pine Island Sound	50,000	<i>Southwest Florida WMD</i>	
Florida Scenic Highways	<u>Miles</u>	Deer Prairie Creek	10,128
Tamiami Trail Scenic Highway	69	Wildlife Management Areas,	
Greenways and Trails		Mitigation Parks and	
Lake Okeechobee (Glades and		Babcok/Webb**	65,770
Hendry County segment)	46	Dinner Island Ranch**	21,714
State Forests	<u>Acres</u>	Fisheating Creek**	18,272
Myakka**	8,593	Spirit of the Wild**	7,000
Okaloacoochee **	32,039	Hickey Creek	768
Picayune Strand**	77,827		

* National estuarine research reserves are designated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and managed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas.

**Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Table 4.9.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
Southwest Florida Region
2007
(continued)

Reported County and Municipal Areas

	<u>County</u>		<u>Municipal</u>	
	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres
Charlotte	78	4,415	11	102
Collier	54	3,144	46	57
Glades	12	502	1	2
Hendry	13	716	31	342
Lee	136	10,683	70	1,435
Sarasota	161	52,263	61	850



Ft. Myers Beach, Lee County

Treasure Coast Region

The Treasure Coast Region along the south central Atlantic coast encompasses 4,445 square miles and includes Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin and Palm Beach counties. The region's outstanding barrier island shoreline stretches 111 miles and provides some of the best recreational beaches in Florida. Large lagoons, including Indian River Lagoon, support highly productive es-

tuarine systems that offer outstanding recreational opportunities. Inland, large areas of wetlands have been set aside for water management, conservation and recreation by federal and state governments. Lake Okeechobee's eastern shoreline lies within this region, offering nationally renowned freshwater fishing, boating and hunting.

Figure 4.10.1
Public Conservation Lands



Economy

The region's economy depends heavily on services, tourism, agriculture and the development of new communities to meet the needs of a rapidly expanding population. While the western areas of the region are bordered by conservation lands that protect water resources for southern Florida, many of the former agricultural lands are in the process of being converted to urban development. Palm Beach County, the largest county in terms of land area east of the Mississippi River, is the most economically diverse county in the region. Even as development encroaches upon the Everglades Agricultural Area in western portions of the

county, it still leads the nation in the production of sugar cane and many winter vegetable crops. Similarly, while citrus production is still viable in western St. Lucie and Indian River counties, the groves and other agricultural areas continue to be converted to other uses.

The region is home to two deep water ports at Fort Pierce and Palm Beach. Palm Beach International Airport is a major gateway for residents and visitors to the region. The vast array of business involved in all aspects of tourism continues to play a major role in the area's economy.



Blue Cypress Conservation Area, Indian River County

**Table 4.10.1
Current and Projected Population
Treasure Coast Region**

County	2000	2007	Projections			Percentage Change 2000-2020
			2010	2015	2020	
Indian River	112,947	139,757	145,800	162,000	176,900	56.6
Martin	126,731	143,737	147,900	158,900	169,000	33.4
Palm Beach	1,131,191	1,295,033	1,335,500	1,444,000	1,543,800	36.5
St. Lucie	192,695	271,961	288,900	335,000	378,400	96.4
Region Totals	1,563,564	1,850,488	1,918,100	2,099,900	2,268,100	45.0

Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 2008

Demographics

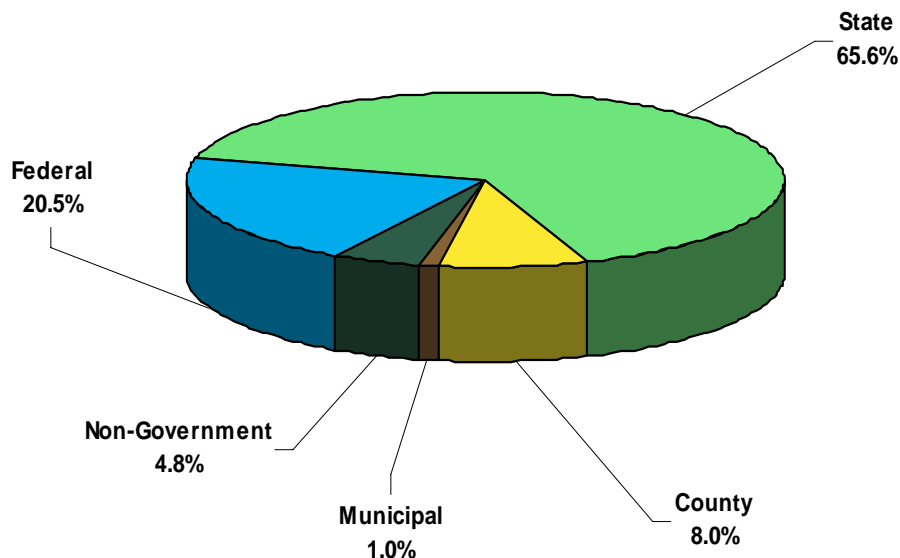
In 2007, the Treasure Coast’s population stood at 1.8 million, or 10 percent of the state’s total population. By 2020, nearly 250,000 new residents are projected to live in the region, a 45 percent increase. The population is growing as a result of the mi-

gration of retirees and seasonal residents. Population density ranges from a low of 259 persons per square mile in Martin County to a high of 656 persons per square mile in Palm Beach County. Table 4.10.1 displays current and projected population through 2020.



Sebastian Inlet State Park, Indian River County

Figure 4.10.2
Outdoor Recreation Acreage by Category of Provider
Treasure Coast Region



Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities

The primary natural features of the Treasure Coast Region include the sandy beaches of the Atlantic coast, a chain of barrier islands and their associated inlets and estuaries, diverse upland natural communities, large and intact wetland systems, and the fresh-water resources of Lake Okeechobee. These resources provide opportunities for the full range of resource-based outdoor recreation activities. Of particular significance to the region is the Indian River Lagoon, which covers an area of more than 883,000 acres and spans some 156 miles from north to south. In 1991, the Lagoon was designated a national estuary and today is the focus of joint state, federal and local land acquisition, planning and management to reverse the harm done in the past by impoundments, drainage practices and pollution. The Lagoon is vital to the Treasure Coast as

a nursery area for many species of fish and other aquatic species. Its outstanding wildlife values are one of the region's most significant outdoor recreation resources.

Nearly three-quarters of a million acres of land and water are available for outdoor recreation in the region. Consistent with distributions in other regions, federal agencies provide one-fifth of the recreation acreage, all of which is contained in three national wildlife refuges managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These areas offer outstanding opportunities for wildlife viewing, nature study, canoeing and hiking.

State agencies administer roughly two-thirds of the recreation lands in the region at 66 separate areas. State agencies are the largest suppliers of hunting acres and many types of recreational trails (unpaved bicycle trails, equestrian trails, hiking trails and na-



Calypso Bay, Palm Beach County

ture trails). Five state parks provide 3.5 miles of highly popular saltwater beaches and some of the best camping opportunities in the region. Water management lands protect slightly less than 180,000 acres for water resource protection and compatible resource-based activities.

County and municipal governments play a major role in providing both resource-based and user-oriented resources and facilities. Together, they provide nine percent of the region's total recreation land. Local agencies are the region's leading public providers of many types of resource-based facilities, including historic sites and museums, RV/trailer campsites, picnicking facilities, freshwater and saltwater beaches, piers,

boat ramps and some types of recreational trails. As is typical of other regions, they provide virtually all of the user-oriented facilities offered by the public sector.

The private sector provides 315 recreation areas and 21,794 acres, just less than five percent of the region's total. Private agencies account for the majority of RV/trailer and tent campsites and cabins. They are also the primary providers of freshwater and saltwater marina slips and golfing facilities.

Table 4.10.2 displays outdoor recreation resources in the Treasure Coast Region by category of provider. Table 4.10.3 lists major outdoor recreation opportunities provided by national, state and municipal agencies.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

Table 4.10.2
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities by Category of Provider
Treasure Coast Region
2007

RESOURCE/FACILITY	UNITS	Federal	State	County	Municipal	Non-Government	TOTAL
OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS	Areas	8	66	464	461	315	1,314
LAND	Acres	149,313	424,939	51,816	6,870	32,679	665,617
WATER	Acres	4,144	60,392	8,340	443	3,020	76,339
ACRES TOTAL	Acres	153,457	491,046	60,156	7,316	36,155	748,130
RESOURCE-BASED							
CABINS	Cabins	0	12	14	0	37	63
TENT CAMPSITES	Sites	8	227	132	62	375	804
RV CAMPSITES	Sites	138	186	591	996	5,160	7,071
HISTORIC SITES	Sites	0	3	5	11	16	35
COMMEM STRUCTURES	Structures	1	18	9	6	6	40
MUSEUMS	Museums	3	6	24	9	13	55
PICNIC TABLES	Tables	12	408	1,413	1,771	2,293	5,897
HUNTING AREAS	Acres	30,000	311,366	0	0	2,000	343,366
BIKE TRAIL PAVED	Miles	0.0	0.0	18.4	52.1	8.4	78.9
BIKE TRAIL UNPAVED	Miles	12.0	117.9	21.6	20.2	1.0	172.7
CANOE TRAIL	Miles	5.5	14.5	12.0	32.5	0.0	64.5
HIKING TRAIL	Miles	14.5	291.1	54.6	25.8	5.5	391.5
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	Miles	0.0	140.8	18.4	0.0	4.2	163.4
JOGGING TRAIL	Miles	0.0	1.7	34.7	35.4	9.1	80.9
OHV TRAIL	Miles	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NATURE TRAIL	Miles	1.4	44.9	38.6	24.0	7.6	116.5
FRESHWATER BEACH	Miles	0.0	0.0	9.6	0.1	0.1	9.8
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	4	20	27	20	9	80
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	6	20	36	32	9	103
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	100	200	2,086	4,385	375	7,146
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Feet	1	4	13	10	5	33
FRESHWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	0	150	50	50	250
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Marinas	2	1	2	4	13	22
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Slips	16	0	20	290	611	937
FRESHWATER PIERS	Piers	0	2	5	16	1	24
FRESHWATER PIERS	Feet	0	350	340	2,422	0	3,112
SALTWATER BEACH	Miles	3.5	7.8	12.3	10.4	6.4	40.4
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	0	3	33	39	16	91
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	0	5	51	50	15	121
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	1	3	35	15	17	71
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Feet	150	262	4,897	6,525	7,226	19,060
SALTWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	620	2,427	2,126	270	5,443
SALTWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	0	4	16	107	127
SALTWATER MARINA SLIPS	Slips	0	45	78	507	4,825	5,455
SALTWATER PIERS	Piers	1	0	14	10	3	28
SALTWATER PIERS	Feet	200	0	2,325	2,095	675	5,295
USER-ORIENTED							
BASEBALL FIELDS	Fields	0	8	354	214	13	589
BASKETBALL GOALS	Goals	0	4	565	304	58	931
EQUIPPED PLAY AREAS	Areas	2	5	236	236	40	519
FOOTBALL FIELDS	Fields	0	11	155	69	8	243
GOLF COURSES, 18-HOLE	Courses	0	0	4	9	146	159
GOLF COURSES, 9-HOLE	Courses	0	0	7	3	16	26
GOLF COURSES, EXECUTIVE	Courses	0	0	1	3	31	35
GOLF HOLES TOTAL	Holes	0	0	138	225	2,961	3,324
MULTI-USE COURTS	Courts	0	0	76	34	22	132
MULTI-USE FIELDS	Fields	0	5	206	86	11	308
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS	Pools	1	2	11	20	196	230
RACQUETBALL COURTS	Courts	0	20	199	74	28	321
SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	Courts	1	0	37	186	209	433
TENNIS COURTS	Courts	0	18	295	305	871	1,489
VOLLEYBALL COURTS	Courts	0	2	49	28	3	82

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.10.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
Treasure Coast Region
2007**

Federal Areas

National Wild and Scenic Rivers	<u>Acres</u>	State Parks (continued)	<u>Acres</u>
Loxahatchee	8	Jonathan Dickinson	11,479
National Wildlife Refuges		John D. MacArthur Beach	438
Archie Carr (Indian River County portion)	62	Savannas	7,192
Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee*	147,368	Seabranh	922
Hobe Sound	1,035	Sebastian Inlet (Indian River County portion)	430
Pelican Island	4,756	St. Sebastian River (Indian River County portion)	10,883

State Areas

Aquatic Preserves		St. Lucie Inlet	4,835
Indian River-Vero Beach to Ft. Pierce	11,000	Water Management District Lands	
Jensen Beach to Jupiter Inlet	22,000	<i>St. Johns River WMD</i>	
Loxahatchee River-Lake Worth Creek	9,000	Blue Cypress*	54,458
North Fork-St. Lucie	6,100	Fort Drum Marsh*	20,862
Florida Scenic Highways	<u>Miles</u>	Oslo Riverfront	336
Indian River Lagoon—Treasure Coast Scenic Highway	42	<i>South Florida WMD</i>	
Greenways and Trails		Allapattah Flats*	20,946
Lake Okeechobee (Martin and Palm Beach County segment)	39	DuPuis*	21,875
State Parks	<u>Acres</u>	STA 1W*	6,848
Atlantic Ridge	5,747	STA 3/4*	16,772
Avalon	658	Wildlife Management Areas and Wildlife & Environmental Areas	
Fort Pierce Inlet	1,141	Everglades & Francis S. Taylor (Palm Beach County portion)*	36,832
		Holey Land*	35,350
		J.W. Corbett	60,228
		John C. and Marianna Jones/Hungryland*	12,415
		Rotenberger*	28,760

*Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Reported County and Municipal Areas

	<u>County</u>		<u>Municipal</u>	
	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres
Indian River	71	8,858	50	494
Martin	74	2,134	29	141
Palm Beach	251	41,123	322	6,202
St. Lucie	68	8,042	60	479

South Florida Region

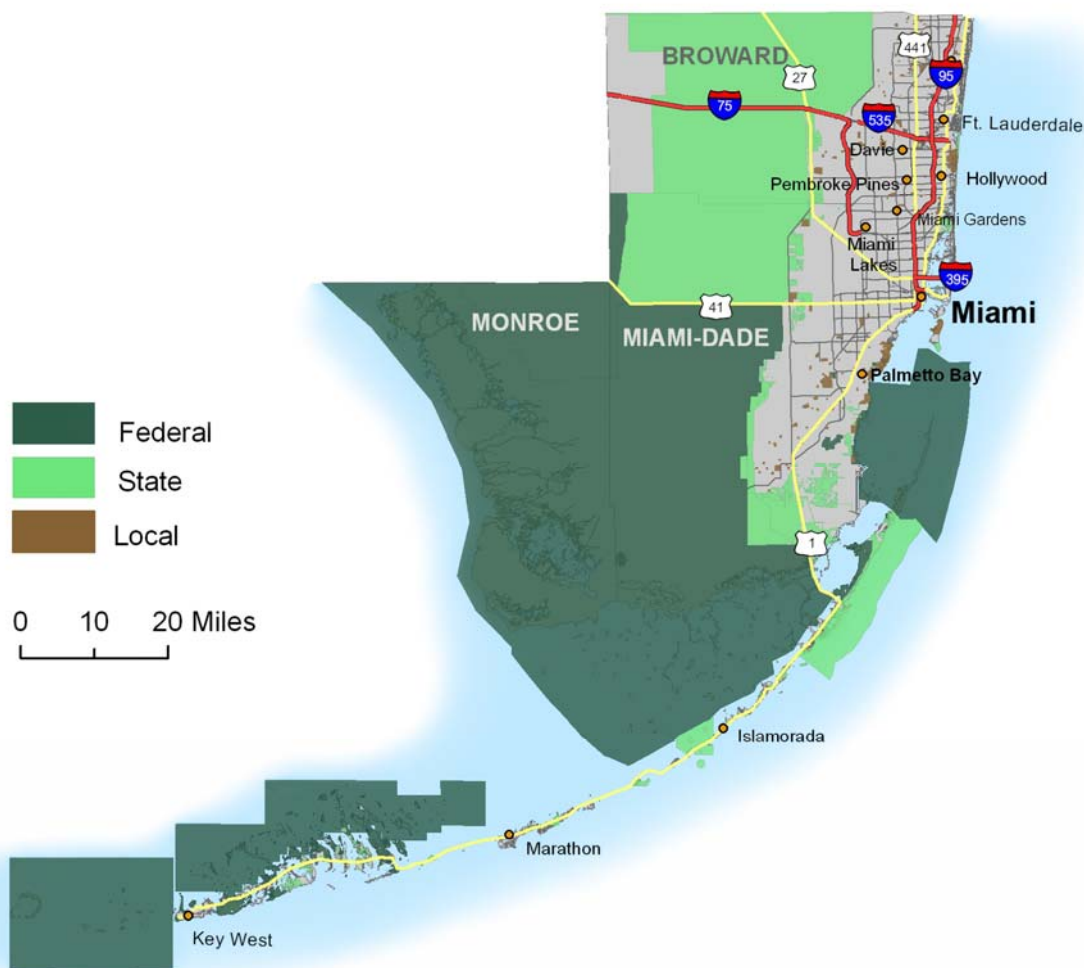
The South Florida Region encompasses 7,488 square miles at the southern tip of the state. It is comprised of Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties and 71 municipalities. Florida's most populated region, it is also home to the state's two best-known natural treasures, the Everglades and the Florida Keys. These areas possess inestimable natural values and support a tremendous diversity of resource-based recreation opportunities. To complement these unique

natural resources, the region offers outstanding urban recreation opportunities centered around a vibrant, diverse culture, the waters of Biscayne Bay and nearly 70 miles of sandy Atlantic Ocean beach.

Economy

As the state's most populated region, the South region offers a number of advantages to businesses, including proximity to more

Figure 4.11.1
Public Conservation Lands





Miami Marina at Bayside, Miami-Dade County

than 4.2 million residents and an annual visitor flow of more than twice that number. The region's highly diverse population and its proximity to markets in the Caribbean and Central and South America are advantages for the region's competitiveness in the global economy. Retail trade, services and construction are major sectors of the region's economy. The region is served by three international airports and three major seaports that are important in passenger traffic and cargo shipments. Miami International Airport is the 15th largest airport in the United States and served 32.5 million passengers in 2006. It provides extensive service to Central and South America. Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport primarily handles domestic traffic. The Port of Miami and Port Everglades are major freight and cruise terminals serving the Caribbean and other destinations. Key West has scheduled air service and a deep water port that handles cruise traffic.

Tourism is big business in South Florida. The famous beaches, world-class maritime facilities and services, entertainment, arts and the unique natural attractions of the Everglades and the Keys bring millions of people to the area each year. According to data collected by the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, 11.6 million people visited the Miami area in 2006. Of these, 54 percent were domestic visitors and 46 percent were international visitors. During their stays, they contributed \$16.3 billion in direct economic impact. Similarly, tourism is the major economic driver of the Keys. For the same time period, Monroe County bed tax revenue generated by transient hotel stays totaled \$14.6 million, a 2.3 percent increase over the previous year.

**Table 4.11.1
Current and Projected Population
South Florida Region**

County	2000	2007	Projections			Percentage Change 2000-2020
			2010	2015	2020	
Broward	1,623,018	1,765,707	1,806,300	1,915,800	2,016,400	24.2
Miami-Dade	2,253,779	2,462,292	2,512,300	2,645,500	2,768,300	22.8
Monroe	79,589	78,987	78,700	77,800	77,000	-3.3
Region Totals	3,956,386	4,306,986	4,397,300	4,639,100	4,861,700	22.9

Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 2008

Demographics

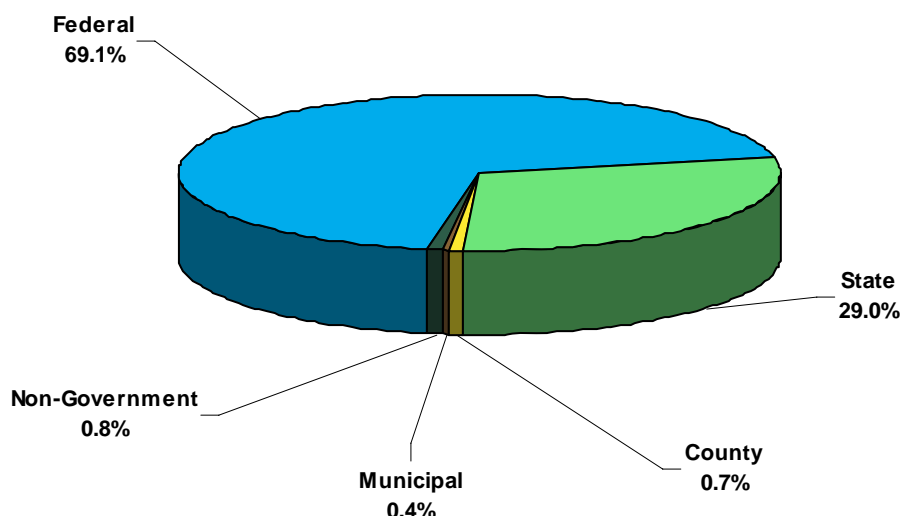
In 2007, the South region was home to 4.3 million people, or more than 23 percent of total Florida population. Projections estimate that 905,000 additional residents will live there by 2020, a 23 percent increase from 2000 census figures. The region's population continues to grow more diverse and slightly younger as a result of the influx of younger international immigrants who are

the most significant source of growth in the region. Population density ranges from a low of 78 persons per square mile in Monroe County to a high of 1,461 persons per square mile in Broward County, the second highest density in the state. Table 4.11.1 displays current population and projected future growth for the three-county area through 2020.



John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, Monroe County

Figure 4.11.2
Outdoor Recreation Acreage by Category of Provider
South Florida Region



Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities

South Florida's diverse natural, cultural and historical resources are unlike any other region in the state. The Atlantic Ocean and its sandy beaches, numerous bays, coastal marshes and marine sanctuaries offer excellent opportunities for camping, hunting, hiking, swimming, bicycling, fishing, bird watching, boating and saltwater beach activities. The Florida Keys provide South Florida with a rich diversity of plant and animal life within its low coastal topography, and support some of the most interesting and productive diving, snorkeling and fishing opportunities in the world. The 3,800-square mile Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary surrounds the entire archipelago and includes the productive waters of Florida Bay, the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic. Unique and precious cultural resources are also contained within the sanctuary. The proximity of coral reefs to centuries-old shipping routes has resulted in a high concentration of shipwrecks and an abundance of artifacts that

have attracted visitors from all over the world for years. The sanctuary contains one of North America's most diverse assemblages of estuarine and marine wildlife and vegetation, including mangrove-fringed shorelines, seagrass meadows and hardbottom habitats, thousands of patch reefs, and one of the world's largest natural coral reef tracts.

There are over three million acres of land and water available for outdoor recreation in the South region. The federal government is by far the largest supplier in terms of overall acreage, providing 69 percent of the total available. Nearly half of these acres are contained within one management unit, Everglades National Park. In no other region does the federal government play as large a role compared to other levels of providers. The federal lands provide ample outdoor recreation areas for participation in activities such as hunting, saltwater boating, freshwater boating, fishing and canoeing and kayaking.



Fort Lauderdale, Broward County

State government agencies provide more than 910,000 acres of outdoor recreation land and water at 77 managed sites (29 percent of the region's acreage total). State agencies are the region's largest provider of hunting acres, hiking and nature trails, and freshwater boat ramps. State suppliers provide a larger than average amount of some user-oriented facilities (tennis courts, racquetball courts and playing fields) primarily at state universities and community college campuses.

South Florida's county and municipal governments are among the state's most accomplished at providing a balanced range of resource-based opportunities for their residents and out-of-state visitors. They administer programs and activities on over 32,000 acres and nearly 1,500 outdoor recreation areas. User-oriented activities are major activities for residents and tourists in the South region. Local governments provide the vast majority of baseball fields, basketball goals and football fields in the region. In

addition, local governments provide a major share of recreational trails and water access facilities such as freshwater and saltwater boat ramps, marinas and shoreline fishing structures.

The commercial sector supplies the majority of camping opportunities in the region with a total of 10,202 RV/trailer campsites, 292 cabins and 678 tent campsites. Of all the suppliers in the region, commercial businesses are the largest providers of freshwater and saltwater boat ramps and marina slips. In addition, 83 percent of the golf courses in the region are located on club or commercial properties.

Table 4.11.2 shows the South region's outdoor recreation resources by provider. Table 4.11.3 lists major outdoor recreation opportunities provided or managed by national, state and municipal entities.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.11.2
Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities by Category of Provider
South Florida Region
2007**

RESOURCE/FACILITY	UNITS	Federal	State	County	Municipal	Non-Government	TOTAL
OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS	Areas	34	77	442	1,012	489	2,054
LAND	Acres	1,047,455	694,124	19,187	11,186	24,200	1,796,151
WATER	Acres	1,128,275	218,803	1,537	502	1,492	1,350,609
ACRES TOTAL	Acres	2,175,730	912,927	20,724	11,743	25,850	3,146,974
RESOURCE-BASED							
CABINS	Cabins	53	20	17	0	292	382
TENT CAMPSITES	Sites	208	225	151	29	678	1,290
RV CAMPSITES	Sites	519	203	703	580	10,202	12,207
HISTORIC SITES	Sites	2	25	32	29	20	108
COMMEM STRUCTURES	Structures	0	4	3	32	1	40
MUSEUMS	Museums	7	10	22	10	22	71
PICNIC TABLES	Tables	399	956	3,211	3,197	6,495	14,258
HUNTING AREAS	Acres	40,000	658,451	0	0	0	698,451
BIKE TRAIL PAVED	Miles	26.0	124.3	60.2	190.9	2.8	404.2
BIKE TRAIL UNPAVED	Miles	18.2	20.5	21.0	13.1	1.0	73.8
CANOE TRAIL	Miles	184.8	25.9	12.2	18.7	50.0	291.6
HIKING TRAIL	Miles	119.1	149.5	44.5	102.1	4.3	419.5
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	Miles	0.0	3.0	47.6	64.3	24.0	138.9
JOGGING TRAIL	Miles	1.5	5.6	61.7	113.1	9.1	191.0
OHV TRAIL	Miles	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NATURE TRAIL	Miles	19.0	112.3	70.6	42.7	9.2	253.8
FRESHWATER BEACH	Miles	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.9	1.0	2.6
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	4	48	20	30	8	110
FRESHWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	4	59	23	45	13	144
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	0	2	11	28	4	45
FRESHWATER CATWALKS	Feet	0	105	3,616	4,698	190	8,609
FRESHWATER JETTIES	Feet	0	42	1,560	3,125	0	4,727
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Marinas	0	1	0	0	6	7
FRESHWATER MARINAS	Slips	0	15	10	0	300	325
FRESHWATER PIERS	Piers	0	0	10	28	1	39
FRESHWATER PIERS	Feet	0	0	322	1,630	50	2,002
SALTWATER BEACH	Miles	16.2	12.0	4.7	24.8	10.0	67.7
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Ramps	8	11	41	48	94	202
SALTWATER BOAT RAMPS	Lanes	13	18	78	67	107	283
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Catwalks	1	2	7	18	37	65
SALTWATER CATWALKS	Feet	150	1,460	2,583	83,542	20,305	108,040
SALTWATER JETTIES	Feet	7,800	950	3,095	1,367	8,104	21,316
SALTWATER MARINAS	Marinas	4	2	7	22	299	334
SALTWATER MARINA SLIPS	Slips	324	57	1,005	1,662	10,917	13,965
SALTWATER PIERS	Piers	2	9	3	24	34	72
SALTWATER PIERS	Feet	120	100	1,530	7,499	4,192	13,441
USER-ORIENTED							
BASEBALL FIELDS	Fields	4	11	218	500	25	758
BASKETBALL GOALS	Goals	17	8	605	797	112	1,539
EQUIPPED PLAY AREAS	Areas	6	6	211	529	44	796
FOOTBALL FIELDS	Fields	2	10	88	257	17	374
GOLF COURSES, 18-HOLE	Courses	0	0	4	13	86	103
GOLF COURSES, 9-HOLE	Courses	0	0	3	4	11	18
GOLF COURSES, EXECUTIVE	Courses	0	0	0	4	22	26
GOLF HOLES TOTAL	Holes	0	0	99	315	1,958	2,372
MULTI-USE COURTS	Courts	1	1	31	81	19	133
MULTI-USE FIELDS	Fields	2	11	99	157	19	288
OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS	Pools	2	6	57	90	239	394
RACQUETBALL COURTS	Courts	3	40	149	242	70	504
SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	Courts	0	0	95	236	193	524
TENNIS COURTS	Courts	14	57	381	755	920	2,127
VOLLEYBALL COURTS	Courts	0	1	39	61	1	102

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 4.11.3
Major Outdoor Recreation Areas
South Florida Region
2007**

Federal Areas

	<u>Sq. Miles</u>		<u>Acres</u>
National Marine Sanctuaries		State Parks	
Florida Keys	1,792,000	Bahia Honda	491
National Parks	<u>Acres</u>	Bill Baggs Cape Florida	432
Big Cypress (Miami-Dade and Monroe County portion)	151,179	Curry Hammock	970
Biscayne	172,971	Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock	2,421
Dry Tortugas	64,657	Fort Zachary Taylor	56
Everglades (Miami-Dade and Monroe County portion)	1,469,279	Hugh Taylor Birch	175
National Wildlife Refuges		Indian Key	110
Crocodile Lake	6,800	John Pennekamp Coral Reef	63,836
Great White Heron	168,960	John U. Lloyd Beach	311
Key West	240,000	Lignumvitae Key	10,818
		Long Key	980
		Oleta River	1,033
		San Pedro	644
		The Barnacle	10
		Windley Key Fossil Reef	32

State Areas

Aquatic Preserves		Water Management District Lands	
Biscayne Bay	69,000	<i>South Florida</i>	
Biscayne Bay-Cape Florida to Monroe County Line	67,000	Everglades Buffer Strip	1,713
Coupon Bight	9,000	Southern Glades/Frog Pond*	33,938
Lignumvitae Key	7,000	Wildlife Management Areas and Wildlife & Environmental Areas	
Florida Scenic Highways	<u>Miles</u>	Everglades & Francis S. Taylor (Miami-Dade and Monroe County portion)*	639,180
Florida Keys Scenic Highway	106	Florida Keys	2,854
Greenways and Trails			
Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail	100		

*Hunting managed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a wildlife management area.

Reported County and Municipal Areas

	<u>County</u>		<u>Municipal</u>	
	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres
Broward	145	7,412	594	7,317
Miami-Dade	272	7,317	386	17,295
Monroe	25	160	32	283

Chapter 5 - Outdoor Recreation Demand and Need

There is no consensus in the field of recreation planning as to the most appropriate methods for measuring current and future demand for outdoor recreation resources and facilities. Since outdoor recreation resources and facilities are generally felt to be “free” goods and services, “demand,” as an economic concept, does not lend itself to practical application. No commonly accepted methods exist for determining, on a statewide or broad regional basis, the amount of outdoor recreation a person would “consume” under certain conditions of cost and availability. As a result, the use of the term “demand” is common as a means of expressing the actual participation in recreation activity by some defined group or population over a fixed period of time. Such measurements can provide reasonably sound estimates of recreation demand and are vital to long-range statewide outdoor recreation planning.

conducts periodic surveys of resident and tourist participation in outdoor recreation activities. The Florida Statewide Outdoor Recreation Participation Study was completed by the University of Florida, Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism in 2002. To obtain the resident data, random telephone surveys of 3,610 residents were conducted regarding their participation in 29 different outdoor recreation activities. Participants were asked to identify each activity they participated in during the preceding 12 months. The tourist participation data was obtained in cooperation with VISIT FLORIDA from mail-out surveys completed by permanent United States residents who had visited Florida during the prior 12 months. As in the resident participation survey, participants were asked to identify the activities they participated in during their most recent trip to Florida. A total sample of 2,659 visitors was collected. The methodologies used to conduct the resident and tourist surveys are described in Appendix F.

Outdoor Recreation Demand

To estimate outdoor recreation demand in Florida, the Division of Recreation and Parks

Based on the results of the surveys, the percentages of Florida residents and tourists

Emerging Activities

Adventure Racing

Also known as Eco-Challenge, adventure racing is a resource-based competitive race utilizing a wide range of disciplines. Usually a race includes a combination of two or more outdoor based activities such as trail running, orienteering, paddling, biking, climbing and other rope elements. Races are offered in a variety of formats and lengths. Two to four person teams can compete in coed and single sex teams. The lengths of races vary from a couple of hours to a few days. Races also include checkpoints and occasionally include puzzles and brain teasers to solve for bonus points during the race.



Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

**Table 5.1
Statewide Resident and Tourist Participation, 2007**

	Residents		Tourists	
	Percent of Residents Participating ¹	Number of Participants ²	Percent of Tourists Participating ¹	Number of Participants ²
Resource-Based				
Saltwater Beach Activities	57.2	11,277,724	54.4	46,285,304
Visiting Archaeological and Historic Sites	48.7	9,101,667	21.6	20,433,540
Picnicking	44.3	8,248,470	13.0	11,920,746
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	43.5	8,927,743	8.0	6,612,431
Nature Study	37.1	7,286,902	21.6	20,173,810
Freshwater Beach Activities	26.8	4,316,737	7.1	5,823,381
Saltwater Boat Fishing	25.7	5,193,711	7.3	4,545,695
Hiking	22.6	3,968,756	5.0	4,654,262
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	21.4	3,965,018	1.0	1,072,568
Freshwater Boat Fishing	21.4	2,983,859	1.0	866,580
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	20.6	4,249,090	3.8	2,981,088
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	20.1	2,787,543	1.0	999,842
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	20.0	3,048,681	0.7	915,182
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	18.1	3,492,812	1.2	1,419,774
Tent Camping	15.9	2,877,159	1.2	653,236
Off Highway Vehicles	15.9	2,531,871	1.0	762,192
Canoeing and Kayaking	14.2	2,647,260	1.2	973,511
Hunting	11.5	1,534,565	0.4	114,565
RV/Trailer Camping	9.6	1,587,936	2.5	2,687,683
Horseback Riding	9.1	1,476,428	0.4	547,535
User-Oriented				
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	50.7	10,151,384	56.8	47,257,791
Baseball or Softball	20.1	3,677,399	3.5	3,119,266
Golf	19.3	3,850,919	9.6	8,804,329
Outdoor Basketball	16.9	3,422,509	2.6	999,532
Football	13.4	2,527,850	1.6	879,240
Outdoor Tennis	11.0	2,424,225	2.3	2,559,688
Soccer or Rugby	7.7	1,519,705	0.3	272,905
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	4.8	989,628	0.3	264,000
Outdoor Shuffleboard	3.3	640,297	2.9	2,650,806

¹ Percentage rates are based on the statewide resident and tourist samples.

² Statewide totals are calculated by adding regional resident and tourist participants.

who participated in each of the activities were calculated. The percentages indicate the number of residents and tourists in each region who actually took part in an activity at least one time during the preceding year. By applying these percentages to estimates of resident and tourist populations for 2007, the number of people who participated in each activity was calculated for the state as a whole and for each planning region. These methods were repeated using resident and tourist population projections for 2010, 2015 and 2020. Table 5.1 shows the statewide recreation participation by residents and visitors for 2007.

Saltwater beach activities remain the one activity in which the largest percentage of residents participated. Swimming in outdoor pools, visiting archaeological and historical sites, picnicking, bicycle riding on paved trails and nature study had the next highest percentages of participation. Approximately one-quarter of the residents participated in freshwater beach activities, hiking and saltwater and freshwater fishing. Resident participation rates for other activities ranged from 20.7 percent for saltwater shoreline fishing to 3.4 percent for outdoor shuffleboard.

Among tourists, swimming in outdoor pools had the highest level of participation at 56.8 percent. This was followed closely by saltwater beach activities at 54.4 percent. Visiting archaeological and historic sites, nature study, picnicking, bicycle riding on paved trails and golfing had the next highest levels of participation. Participation rates for the other activities ranged from 7.1 percent for freshwater beach use to 0.3 percent for soccer and rugby.

Table 5.5 through Table 5.33 depict the number of residents and tourists within the 11 planning regions who participated in each activity during 2007. The results are reported separately for water-related activities, land-related activities and user-oriented activities. Tables showing the projected future participants for the years 2010, 2015 and 2020 are contained in Appendix J.

Outdoor Recreation Preferences

While the percentage of the population that participated in an activity provides one measure of outdoor recreation demand, a fuller picture emerges by examining how often those who participated took part in the activity. Survey respondents were asked to list the recreation activities they participated in most often during the preceding 12 months. Table 5.2 shows the activities that had the most frequent participation by residents and tourists.

Residents reported frequent participation across many activities, but five activities - saltwater beach activities, outdoor swimming pool use, saltwater boat fishing, bicycle riding on paved trails and golf - were participated in the most frequently. Only handball/racquetball and shuffleboard were reported by less than one percent of residents as being among their top three. Tourist preferences, on the other hand, were concentrated in a much smaller group of activities. Five activities accounted for two-thirds of the tourist responses for the activity they participated in most frequently. Saltwater beach activities, outdoor swimming pool use and golf ranked the highest in frequency of participation among both residents and tourists.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

Table 5.2
Frequency of Participation Among Residents and Tourists

Activities	Percentage of Respondents					
	Most Frequent Activity		Second Most Frequent Activity		Third Most Frequent Activity	
	Residents	Tourists	Residents	Tourists	Residents	Tourists
Saltwater Beach Activities	14.3	27.2	7.4	15.4	11.2	5.9
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	10.1	26.5	7.5	15.4	5.6	5.6
Saltwater Boat Fishing	9.0	1.9	7.7	1.4	5.1	2.0
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	8.3	0.5	8.3	1.7	7.8	2.0
Golf	7.7	3.5	2.9	2.3	1.3	2.1
Nature Study	6.5	4.7	5.5	5.5	5.6	6.7
Freshwater Boat Fishing	5.1	0.3	7.5	0.2	6.9	0.1
Visiting Archaeological and Historical Sites	3.5	3.9	2.4	6.5	5.4	5.9
Hunting	3.4	0.0	2.4	0.2	2.0	0.0
Baseball or Softball	3.1	0.4	2.7	0.6	2.0	0.9
Hiking	3.1	0.7	3.8	1.0	5.1	0.9
Picnicking	2.7	0.6	2.9	3.5	4.0	3.7
Outdoor Basketball	2.3	0.0	2.5	0.8	1.6	0.5
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	2.2	0.2	5.0	0.1	4.0	0.1
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	2.2	0.9	4.4	0.8	4.7	0.8
Off-Highway Vehicle Riding	2.1	0.1	1.0	0.4	2.7	0.2
RV/Trailer Camping	2.0	1.5	2.1	0.2	0.9	0.2
Horseback Riding	1.7	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.9	0.0
Outdoor Tennis	1.7	0.6	1.5	0.4	2.0	0.9
Tent Camping	1.7	0.3	2.3	0.7	2.0	0.1
Freshwater Beach Activities	1.4	1.8	3.4	1.4	3.4	1.4
Football	1.3	0.2	1.2	0.1	1.8	0.3
Soccer or Rugby	1.1	0.2	1.3	0.0	1.1	0.1
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	1.0	0.0	4.6	0.2	4.0	0.2
Canoeing and Kayaking	0.8	0.0	2.2	0.1	1.8	0.3
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	0.7	0.0	1.0	0.2	1.1	0.1
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.2	3.1	0.5
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.9	0.2
Outdoor Shuffleboard	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.7

Measures to Encourage Participation

Another aspect of outdoor recreation demand that was examined in the Florida Statewide Outdoor Recreation Participation Study was the factors that influence a person's participation in outdoor recreation activities. The residents and tourists who were surveyed were asked to identify measures that would encourage them to increase their

level of participation in outdoor recreation. Residents cited increased accessibility to parks and public lands, more information about facilities and more facilities as their three top measures to encourage participation. Tourists listed more information about facilities, lower or no user fees and increased accessibility to parks and public lands as their primary factors. Tables 5.3 and 5.4 show the responses by residents and tourists.

Table 5.3
Measures That Would Encourage Greater Participation by Residents

Measures	Percentage of Respondents			
	Agree	Disagree	Uncertain	No Opinion
Increased Accessibility to Parks and Public Lands	68.1	20.8	8.4	2.7
More Information About Facilities	66.0	22.7	8.4	2.9
More Outdoor Facilities	61.1	23.9	11.2	3.8
No Fees Required to Participate	58.0	30.1	8.9	3.0
Better Repair of Facilities	57.9	25.4	12.1	4.6
Lower Fees Required to Participate	56.6	29.6	10.0	3.8
Better Security	53.6	30.4	12.0	4.0
More Organized Activities and Programs	49.1	35.8	11.9	3.2

Table 5.4
Measures That Would Encourage Greater Participation by Tourists

Measures	Percentage of Respondents			
	Agree	Disagree	Uncertain	No Opinion
More Information About Facilities	62.0	9.7	11.9	16.4
Lower Fees Required to Participate	51.1	12.5	19.7	16.8
No Fees Required to Participate	51.0	13.0	18.5	17.4
Increased Accessibility to Parks and Public Lands	40.7	14.8	23.6	20.8
More Outdoor Facilities	37.8	15.8	24.9	21.4
Better Security	31.4	18.6	27.2	22.9
More Organized Activities and Programs	26.2	26.1	25.7	22.0
Better Repair of Facilities	22.7	22.6	28.9	25.8

Comparing Demand and Supply

The resident and tourist demand figures derived from the participation study were compared to the supply data presented in Chapter 4. This produced estimates of the additional outdoor recreation resources and facilities that will be required to maintain current levels of services as resident and tourist populations increase in the future. An explanation of the process used to arrive at these estimates follows.

First, the level of service that is currently provided by each region's existing supply of resources and facilities was determined. "Level of service" as used in this plan means the amount of resources and facilities that are available to support an activity, expressed in terms of units of supply per 1,000 participants. For example, the level of service for hiking trails would be expressed as miles of trail per 1,000 participants. Levels of service were not calculated for certain outdoor recreation activities, such as saltwater and freshwater boating, since the resources that support them are so extensive that they can accommodate a virtually unlimited

amount of demand (for example, the open waters of the Atlantic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico and the state's thousands of lakes and rivers).

Next, each region's future level of service was estimated. "Future level of service" represents the amount of outdoor recreation resources and facilities that will be available to support an activity in a future year, assuming there is no increase in supply from the 2007 levels. Each region's existing supply of resources and facilities was applied to projections of resident and tourist participation for 2010, 2015 and 2020. Future levels of service decline for each projected year as the number of expected participants increases and the amount of resources and facilities remains constant.

Finally, the amount of additional outdoor recreation resources and facilities that will be required in the future to maintain current levels of service was estimated. In mathematical terms, the method used to calculate these estimates is expressed in Figure 5.1.

Figure 5.1
Method for Calculating Level of Service

$$\text{Level of Service} = \frac{\text{Resources and Facilities for an Activity}}{\left(\frac{\text{Participants in the Activity}}{1,000} \right)}$$

The results of the assessment are presented in Table 5.5 through Table 5.33. As shown in the tables, levels of service vary widely from region to region, depending on the available supply of resources and facilities, resident and tourist demand and population. To provide a standard by which the regions could be compared, the statewide median level of service for each activity was calculated. Regions in which the level of service falls below the statewide median for an activity are identified in the tables.

The estimates produced by this analysis are only one measure of outdoor recreation resource and facility needs in Florida. They represent only that portion of the total need that will be generated as a direct result of the state's projected population growth. They do not represent the amount of additional resources and facilities that will be needed to bring regions with the lowest levels of service up to a higher level of service. Neither

do they represent the conditions that exist in counties and cities. Outdoor recreation levels of service vary tremendously from community to community and are determined by complex factors that cannot be addressed practicably at a statewide level. The estimates are intended to reflect conditions in the region as a whole and should not be applied to particular communities.

Despite these limitations, the estimates presented in the plan are useful for identifying regional and statewide patterns of outdoor recreation supply and demand and for making reasonably sound estimates of the additional resources and facilities that will be needed in the future if Florida is to keep pace with its rapid population growth. The following section presents the results of the plan's assessment on an activity-by-activity basis.

Emerging Activities

Culturally Diverse Activities

Sports that are common in other cultures are finding their way on to Florida sports fields. Sports like cricket and rugby have a large following around the world. Cricket is becoming more prevalent in some parts of the country and specifically in parts of Florida. Multi-purpose fields that support soccer and football can be used for this sport. League cricket has become so popular in southeast Florida that Broward County has built a special stadium that can host national and international competitions.

Increased international immigration from the Indian sub-continent and from Caribbean nations where cricket is a national past time have fueled the growth of this sport. Rugby has also increased in popularity and can be played on multi-purpose fields. The Florida Rugby Union provides league play for several youth age groups, colligate groups and adults. As a result of the increasing population and its diversity, Floridians are offered a wider choice of recreation activities.



Findings by Activity

Water-Based Activities

Saltwater Beach Activities

Saltwater beach activities continue as the most popular form of resource-based recreation in Florida. Overall, 57 percent of residents and 54 percent of tourists participated statewide. Residents of the South, Tampa Bay and Treasure Coast regions had the highest participation rates of all regions. Tourist participation rates were highest in the West, Southwest and Apalachee regions, where the availability of beach resources is relatively high and tourism is concentrated in coastal communities and resorts. Resident and tourist rates were lowest in the Central region, where traveling long distances is necessary to reach any beach area, and in the North Central region where the availability of sandy beaches is low due to the low-energy Gulf coastline. In actuality, residents and tourists in these re-

gions would probably participate as frequently as people in other regions if adequate beach resources were available.

Tremendous regional variations in levels of service exist for saltwater beach activities. The Apalachee Region, where a relatively small population is combined with the highest availability of beaches, stands out as having by far the highest level of service of any region. In contrast, the North Central and Withlacoochee regions where few beach resources exist have the lowest levels of service. Statewide, more than 139 miles of beach will be required by 2020 if current levels of service are to be maintained. Unfortunately, providing this amount of additional beach resources will not be possible as the amount of remaining undeveloped beaches dwindles to zero. Increasing public access to the state's existing saltwater beaches will be required to accommodate future demands.

Table 5.5
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Saltwater Beach Activities
2007-2020

	Regions												State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South		
Percent of Participation*													
Residents	56.8	55.4	46.5	58.8	53.9	61.6	44.0	63.7	58.0	63.3	69.0	57.2	
Tourists	78.1	70.8	33.3	62.4	42.6	34.1	25.5	61.2	71.5	58.4	60.1	54.4	
Total Participants**													
2007	8,306,978	1,417,546	496,537	4,676,837	1,175,907	9,565,430	876,106	7,792,536	6,009,051	5,470,667	11,972,766	56,332,359	
2010	8,621,023	1,470,110	513,925	4,858,663	1,224,975	9,939,754	907,985	8,072,173	6,251,275	5,678,822	12,381,294	58,446,689	
2015	9,442,505	1,602,801	556,102	5,335,262	1,354,355	10,921,632	992,868	8,806,921	6,885,792	6,226,794	13,454,492	63,985,814	
2020	10,337,204	1,744,694	598,596	5,842,023	1,487,347	11,962,762	1,079,961	9,589,612	7,561,998	6,808,145	14,602,336	69,898,013	
Levels of Service (Linear Feet/1,000 Participants)													
2007	75	189	2	58	2	29	NA	35	59	39	30	54	
2010	73	182	2	56	2	28	NA	34	57	38	29	52	
2015	66	167	2	51	2	26	NA	31	52	34	27	48	
2020	61	153	2	46	1	23	NA	28	47	31	24	44	
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Linear Feet)													
2010	23,668	9,928	38	10,488	91	10,971	NA	9,799	14,319	8,115	12,191	114,805	
2015	85,578	34,989	130	37,979	331	39,748	NA	35,544	51,827	29,476	44,218	415,571	
2020	153,006	61,789	222	67,209	577	70,261	NA	62,970	91,800	52,139	78,473	736,594	

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.

NA represents resource or facilities that do not exist in the region.

BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Freshwater Beach Activities

Freshwater beach activities ranked third in statewide resident participation and fourth in tourist participation. This activity was considerably more popular among residents than visitors, with three times as many residents participating as tourists. Freshwater swimming areas are widely distributed in Florida and are often more convenient to residents than a long drive to a saltwater beach. Tourists are more likely to prefer a swim in an outdoor swimming pool over a visit to a freshwater lake or river. One exception is Florida’s freshwater springs, which attract large numbers of residents and tourists alike. The North Central, Northeast, Apalachee and Withlacoochee regions had

the highest resident participation rates in this activity.

The Tampa Bay, Treasure Coast and Central regions had the highest levels of service in the state. Some of the state’s highest concentrations of freshwater lakes and springs are found in these regions. Levels of service were lowest in the Northeast and South regions, where freshwater swimming resources are in relatively short supply. Significant projected needs for freshwater swimming areas exist for all regions in 2020. Statewide, nearly 12 miles of additional freshwater beach shoreline will be needed to maintain current levels of service through 2020.

Table 5.6
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Freshwater Beach Activities
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	28.9	32.2	32.6	32.5	32.0	26.3	26.2	24.1	18.9	17.3	17.2	26.8
Tourists	8.2	6.3	<0.1	7.9	16.2	7.8	3.9	7.6	5.0	4.7	5.8	7.1
Total Participants**												
2007	1,082,379	252,863	161,807	970,302	533,661	2,569,879	286,581	1,433,061	650,007	666,397	1,615,268	10,965,929
2010	1,121,234	261,451	166,830	1,008,696	556,467	2,671,468	296,520	1,480,580	678,620	691,411	1,664,404	11,363,200
2015	1,222,615	281,078	177,637	1,109,536	616,722	2,938,243	323,391	1,605,996	753,655	757,726	1,793,963	12,405,079
2020	1,330,549	300,480	186,843	1,211,301	677,513	3,215,511	349,278	1,734,752	829,515	825,065	1,928,731	13,471,140
Levels of Service												
(Linear Feet/1,000 Participants)												
2007	11	28	45	8	16	20	68	88	16	78	9	25
2010	10	27	43	7	15	19	65	85	15	75	8	24
2015	10	25	41	7	14	17	60	79	14	68	8	31
2020	9	23	39	6	12	16	55	73	13	63	7	20
Resource/Facility Requirements***												
(Linear Feet)												
2010	420	238	224	295	358	1,993	671	4,195	456	1,942	424	9,928
2015	1,515	783	707	1,069	1,303	7,227	2,486	15,267	1,654	7,091	1,540	35,964
2020	2,682	1,322	1,119	1,850	2,256	12,667	4,234	26,633	2,864	12,320	2,702	62,605

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and to urists who participated in a activity at least one time during the year.

*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.

BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Saltwater Boat Fishing

Florida’s coastline has tremendous potential for saltwater boating and boat fishing. Nearly 11 million residents and tourists participated in saltwater boat fishing in 2007. It is predominantly a resident activity, both statewide and in the regions, with nearly 26 percent of statewide residents, but only 7.3 percent of visitors participating. A notable exception was seen in the Apalachee Region with a 16.7 percent tourist participation rate. In this region, high quality saltwater fishing areas are easily accessible to visitors who trailer their boats from nearby south-eastern states.

The South region had the highest rate of resident participation at 40.4 percent. The proximity of prime fishing areas in the Atlantic Ocean, Florida Bay and the Florida Keys undoubtedly contribute to the popularity of saltwater boating and boat fishing there. The Southwest and North Central regions also had high resident participation rates at 29 percent and 27.8 percent, respectively. Because the resources involved in this activity are virtually unlimited, levels of service and future needs were not calculated.

Table 5.7
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Saltwater Boat Fishing
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	27.4	22.9	27.8	23.2	27.1	22.2	14.7	25.2	29.0	26.9	40.4	25.8
Tourists	7.7	16.7	<0.1	3.4	4.4	2.5	2.0	4.7	8.8	4.0	8.3	7.3
Total Participants**												
2007	1,013,701	379,729	137,599	557,334	284,783	1,262,090	155,429	1,180,688	1,082,066	793,517	2,979,898	10,937,094
2010	1,050,063	393,524	141,871	579,539	297,668	1,312,947	160,801	1,218,160	1,129,238	823,081	3,064,077	11,334,216
2015	1,144,936	427,608	151,061	637,904	331,866	1,446,780	175,341	1,317,320	1,252,927	901,764	3,286,616	12,375,637
2020	1,245,907	463,482	158,890	695,595	364,886	1,580,637	189,283	1,416,879	1,378,692	979,691	3,513,507	13,444,210

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing

More than 450 fishing piers and 60 miles of jetties and catwalks offer saltwater fishing opportunities to shoreline fishermen along Florida’s coastline. Unlike boat fishing, the cost of equipment required to participate in non-boat fishing is low and affordable to most people. The level of experience and physical effort required to participate are low as well. Statewide, 20.7 percent of residents participated, but only 3.8 percent of tourists. Resident participation rates were highest in the South, Northeast and Treasure Coast regions (30.5 percent, 24.3 percent and 21.9 percent, respectively), where some of the most popular and productive fishing piers and jetties in the state are located. The Apalachee Region displayed the highest rate of tourist participation with 14.6 percent, mirror-

ing the popularity of saltwater boat fishing among tourists in that region.

Regional levels of service were highest in the West and South regions. Many communities in these regions have at least one county or city-operated pier or other type of shoreline fishing facility. Levels of service were lowest in the North Central, Apalachee and Withlacoochee regions, where much of the coastline is of a shallow, low-energy nature. Seven regions are projected to have significant needs for non-boat fishing facilities by 2020. Statewide, more than 21 miles of additional shoreline fishing facilities will be needed to maintain current levels of service by 2020.

Table 5.8
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	20.9	15.2	16.2	24.3	20.3	21.4	17.3	20.5	21.7	21.9	30.5	20.7
Tourists	6.0	14.6	4.8	3.9	1.5	1.8	<0.1	4.4	5.8	2.7	2.8	3.8
Total Participants**												
2007	791,055	309,445	118,256	607,451	179,881	1,064,304	135,255	1,017,314	748,663	603,118	1,728,811	7,053,639
2010	819,473	320,811	122,210	631,619	188,243	1,107,467	139,741	1,049,977	781,610	625,535	1,772,294	7,306,030
2015	893,625	349,221	131,395	695,132	210,480	1,221,133	152,048	1,136,349	868,009	685,271	1,887,766	7,968,202
2020	972,598	379,382	140,159	758,183	231,518	1,333,352	163,176	1,223,592	955,372	743,958	2,001,410	8,635,282
Levels of Service (Feet of Pier, Jetty, Catwalk/1,000 Participants)												
2007	91	18	11	50	27	47	NA	76	71	49	83	66
2010	88	17	11	48	26	45	NA	74	68	48	81	64
2015	80	16	10	44	23	41	NA	68	61	43	76	59
2020	74	14	9	40	21	38	NA	63	55	40	71	54
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Feet of Pier, Jetty, Catwalk)												
2010	2,583	201	43	1,204	227	2,040	NA	2,478	2,331	1,107	3,592	18,211
2015	9,321	703	143	4,368	831	7,412	NA	9,030	8,445	4,058	13,129	65,988
2020	16,498	1,236	238	7,510	1,402	12,716	NA	15,649	14,627	6,956	22,516	114,119

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
NA represents resource or facilities that do not exist in the region.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Saltwater Boat Ramp Use

Recreational boating access to Florida’s coastal waters is highly valued by boaters, fishermen, hunters and other sportsmen. This activity was considerably more popular among residents than tourists. Statewide, 18.2 percent of residents participated in saltwater boat ramp use but, only 1.2 percent of tourists. Resident participation was highest in the South and North Central regions. The highest tourist participation (4.2 percent) was in the Apalachee Region, further reflecting the popularity of the region among boaters from other southern states.

The West and Apalachee regions had the highest levels of service in the state. Level of service was lowest in the Withlacoochee Region. The South and Southwest regions displayed the largest future requirements for additional boat ramp lanes (44 and 40 lanes, respectively) by 2020, a reflection of their projected rapid population growth. A total of 271 additional boat ramp lanes will be required across the state by 2020 to maintain current levels of service.

Table 5.9
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	16.0	17.0	22.9	21.1	21.2	15.8	12.9	18.7	15.8	14.5	25.1	18.2
Tourists	1.6	4.2	<0.1	1.1	2.9	1.2	<0.1	1.2	2.3	2.7	2.1	1.2
Total Participants**												
2007	310,448	147,810	113,392	388,944	213,774	765,547	100,574	653,497	409,660	465,803	1,403,566	4,401,349
2010	320,852	152,894	116,913	404,603	223,509	796,635	103,910	672,734	428,436	483,203	1,438,622	4,554,032
2015	347,902	164,692	124,486	445,808	249,359	878,515	113,061	723,883	477,697	529,448	1,531,742	4,955,003
2020	375,762	176,508	130,938	485,252	274,197	959,134	121,336	773,147	526,342	575,654	1,623,178	5,342,779
Levels of Service (Ramp Lanes/1,000 Participants)												
2007	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	NA	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
2010	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	NA	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
2015	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	NA	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
2020	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	NA	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Ramp Lanes)												
2010	6	2	1	3	1	6	NA	6	6	5	7	44
2015	21	7	3	10	4	23	NA	23	23	17	26	160
2020	37	11	4	17	7	39	NA	39	40	29	44	271

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 ** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 *** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
 NA represents resource or facilities that do not exist in the region.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Freshwater Boat Fishing

Florida is dotted with thousands of lakes and rivers that provided freshwater boat fishing opportunities for an estimated 4.8 million participants in 2007. Even more than salt-water boat fishing, it is almost exclusively a resident pastime, with only one percent of tourists participating statewide. Significant tourist participation rates were found in the Northeast and Central regions, where the St. Johns River, Lake Okeechobee, Lake Tohopekaliga and many other waters are nationally known for their excellent trophy (10 pounds or more) largemouth bass fishing and major fishing tournaments. Freshwater fishing is a major theme of nature-based tourism marketing efforts in these regions as well. Significant tourist rates were also

found in the Apalachee Region, where visitors from other states can easily trailer their boats.

Among residents, six regions had participation rates exceeding 20 percent. The highest rates were in the Apalachee and North Central regions. The large rivers and smaller creeks in those parts of the state provide convenient fishing opportunities to residents throughout the regions. High resident participation rates also occurred in the Central region where dozens of large lakes and hundreds of smaller ones are widely distributed. Because of the vast supply of open water area that is available for freshwater boat fishing, levels of service and estimates of future needs were not calculated.

Table 5.10
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Freshwater Boat Fishing
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	24.8	36.8	30.1	23.7	22.2	19.1	24.9	15.1	13.0	12.7	6.9	21.5
Tourists	<0.1	2.1	<0.1	3.4	1.5	1.4	2.0	1.2	1.2	<0.1	0.3	1.0
Total Participants**												
2007	227,812	206,462	149,066	565,354	194,727	918,969	235,194	549,635	283,541	235,398	342,964	4,854,503
2010	234,195	213,102	153,694	587,885	203,799	956,304	243,212	566,011	296,927	243,999	350,959	5,021,579
2015	250,617	227,216	163,650	647,108	227,931	1,054,642	265,010	609,520	332,058	267,125	372,260	5,460,459
2020	265,823	240,263	172,131	705,597	250,722	1,151,378	285,515	651,719	366,167	288,522	392,685	5,880,294

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing

Freshwater shoreline fishing is a very popular activity and is enjoyed by a wide range of people. It is a traditional activity that is common along waterways in rural communities. Like its saltwater counterpart, neither elaborate equipment nor special skills are required to enjoy a day of this type of fishing. It is also essentially a resident activity, with less than one percent of tourists taking part statewide. Resident participation rates were highest in the Apalachee, Northeast and North Central regions, where the Apalachicola, Suwannee and St. Johns Rivers and their many tributaries provide ample shoreline and excellent fishing. Among tourists, the Apalachee Region showed the highest tourist participation rate at 2.1 percent, followed closely by the Central region with 2.0 percent.

The Central and Southwest regions had the highest levels of service compared with the other regions. In addition to the high concentrations of freshwater resources in these regions, many local governments have constructed piers and catwalks that facilitate this activity. Levels of service were lowest in the Treasure Coast, South and Northeast regions. A considerable amount of additional facilities will be required to maintain current levels of service, particularly in the East Central region. Statewide, over 12 miles of freshwater shoreline fishing facilities will be required by 2020 to maintain current service levels as population and demand increase.

Table 5.11
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	19.9	29.7	23.4	26.4	19.3	20.7	22.2	16.9	15.5	11.3	8.4	20.1
Tourists	0.5	2.1	<0.1	1.1	1.5	1.2	2.0	1.7	1.5	0.7	0.6	0.7
Total Participants**												
2007	237,164	173,142	115,940	469,141	172,458	922,097	214,386	658,273	350,360	258,670	452,545	4,333,723
2010	244,378	178,752	119,540	488,059	180,464	959,726	221,714	678,260	366,801	268,216	463,641	4,482,085
2015	263,031	190,801	127,283	537,851	201,755	1,058,883	241,618	731,299	409,948	293,750	493,140	4,871,872
2020	281,241	202,053	133,880	585,273	221,916	1,155,551	260,411	783,293	451,983	318,229	521,928	5,241,984
Levels of Service (Feet of Pier, Jetty, Catwalk/1,000 Participants)												
2007	71	60	86	35	77	85	199	79	117	13	34	69
2010	69	58	84	34	74	82	193	76	111	13	33	67
2015	64	55	79	31	66	74	177	71	100	12	31	61
2020	60	51	75	28	60	68	164	66	90	11	29	57
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Feet of Jetty, Pier, Catwalk)												
2010	510	337	310	665	619	3,200	1,459	1,569	1,919	388	376	10,410
2015	1,830	1,061	978	2,416	2,266	11,634	5,421	5,734	6,954	1,425	1,376	37,761
2020	3,118	1,737	1,547	4,084	3,826	19,855	9,163	9,816	11,859	2,419	2,352	63,731

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 ** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 *** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Freshwater Boat Ramp Use

Just as for saltwater boat ramps, freshwater boat ramps provide vital access to Florida’s public waters for millions of boaters who lack other means of access. A large disparity exists between resident and tourist participation, as is the case for other boating-related activities. Resident participation was highest in the Apalachee, North Central and Northeast regions (30 percent, 30.8 percent and 26.1 percent, respectively). The highest tourist participation was in the Apalachee Region, again, likely due to its proximity to

visitors trailering their boats from southeastern states.

Regional levels of service were highest in the Central, South and West regions. Levels of service were lowest in the Northeast and Withlacoochee regions where resident participation rates are some of the highest in the state. An additional 434 freshwater boat ramp lanes will be needed across the state by 2020 to keep pace with future population growth and demand.

Table 5.12
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	20.7	30.0	30.8	26.1	21.2	19.5	24.0	12.6	11.3	11.3	5.9	20.2
Tourists	0.5	4.2	<0.1	2.8	2.9	1.3	2.0	1.2	1.5	0.7	0.3	1.0
Total Participants**												
2007	244,283	208,656	152,888	567,365	213,774	907,487	228,258	476,931	284,768	258,670	300,531	4,606,121
2010	251,697	215,621	157,635	590,052	223,509	944,424	236,046	491,305	297,877	268,216	307,636	4,764,859
2015	270,863	231,190	167,846	649,708	249,359	1,041,732	257,213	529,466	332,273	293,750	326,555	5,181,817
2020	289,548	246,283	176,545	708,023	274,197	1,137,097	277,147	566,719	366,154	318,229	344,786	5,581,415
Levels of Service (Ramp Lanes/ 1,000 Participants)												
2007	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.3
2010	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.3
2015	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.2
2020	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.2
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Ramp Lanes)												
2010	7	7	6	7	8	14	10	3	5	4	3	71
2015	25	23	18	26	28	51	36	11	18	14	12	256
2020	43	38	28	44	47	87	61	19	30	24	21	434

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 ** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 *** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Canoeing/Kayaking

Canoeing and kayaking appear to have gained in popularity in recent years. The requirements of this activity in terms of equipment, time and physical ability are such that most people can participate, and the availability of canoe rentals and outfitting services is improving in much of the state. Although it had the fewest participants of any of the water-related activities (14.2 percent of residents and 1.2 percent of tourists participating), its popularity among residents is greatest in the West, Tampa Bay, North Central and South regions where miles of excellent paddling trails exist. Among tourists, participation rates were highest in the Apalachee Region, followed by the Withlacoochee and Central regions. These regional participation rates correspond generally with the availability of designated canoe

trails and commercial canoe rental and outfitting services.

Better trail mapping and increased public awareness efforts regarding canoeing and kayaking trails are occurring at all levels of supply and by many businesses and user groups. Resident and tourist participation in this activity can be expected to increase as these efforts continue. Due to the virtually unlimited canoeing and kayaking resources in Florida, levels of service and future needs were not calculated. Additional efforts are needed to identify suitable trails to support the nearly 4.5 million participants projected by 2020.

Table 5.13
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Canoeing/Kayaking
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	19.4	14.2	15.4	13.7	13.4	14.7	7.6	16.2	10.7	13.4	15.3	14.2
Tourists	1.1	4.2	<0.1	0.6	2.9	0.9	2.0	1.5	0.8	<0.1	1.8	1.2
Total Participants**												
2007	286,858	134,772	76,444	242,590	154,389	659,349	99,939	609,147	221,094	248,475	933,302	3,666,553
2010	296,033	139,452	78,817	252,375	161,282	686,245	103,471	627,472	231,647	257,554	957,693	3,794,568
2015	319,825	150,442	83,923	278,130	179,555	757,116	112,962	676,128	259,346	281,965	1,022,366	4,130,687
2020	343,731	161,556	88,272	302,639	197,381	826,265	122,339	723,577	286,072	304,551	1,086,798	4,458,595

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

Land-Based Activities

Visiting Archaeological and Historic Sites

Considering the richness of Florida’s history and the wealth of archaeological sites that are protected under public ownership, it is not surprising that visiting these areas was the most popular land-based recreation activity among both residents and tourists. Nearly 49 percent of statewide residents and 22 percent of tourists participated. Much attention has been given to educating Florida residents about their state’s cultural heritage and promoting these areas to out-of-state visitors has been a mainstay of heritage tourism efforts. Nearly every Florida community has one or more historic sites within a short drive’s distance and these areas can make excellent day trip destinations for families. The Northeast, East Central, Apalachee and Tampa Bay regions had the

highest resident participation rates, with more than half of their residents participating. Among tourists, the Northeast, Withlacoochee and South regions had the highest rates at 46.6 percent, 32.4 percent and 27.9 percent, respectively.

Regional levels of service were highest in the Apalachee and North Central regions. Significantly higher numbers of inventoried sites occur in these regions. Level of service was lowest in the highly populated Tampa Bay Region. The Northeast and the East Central regions will have the most significant needs for additional historic sites by 2010. Statewide, 311 additional sites will be required by 2020 to maintain current service levels as population and demand increase.

Table 5.14
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Visiting Archeological and Historic Sites
2007-2020

	Regions												State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South		
Percent of Participation*													
Residents	49.9	50.8	44.2	58.3	47.7	52.9	34.2	50.4	43.7	47.3	50.2	48.7	
Tourists	24.0	27.1	19.0	46.6	32.4	17.7	19.6	23.9	25.0	18.8	27.9	21.6	
Total Participants**													
2007	2,853,353	680,440	371,100	3,714,638	943,603	5,612,308	676,862	3,779,036	2,462,928	2,260,181	6,343,801	27,224,551	
2010	2,958,315	704,818	383,748	3,859,440	983,293	5,833,682	701,482	3,908,505	2,566,014	2,345,424	6,549,936	28,227,132	
2015	3,232,514	764,132	413,684	4,239,105	1,088,019	6,414,875	767,044	4,249,566	2,836,181	2,570,856	7,092,279	30,855,188	
2020	3,527,654	825,841	442,937	4,639,678	1,194,994	7,021,554	834,279	4,605,266	3,117,619	2,803,360	7,665,779	33,598,431	
Levels of Service (Sites/1,000 Participants)													
2007	0.02	0.26	0.19	0.09	0.10	0.05	0.04	<0.01	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.05	
2010	0.02	0.25	0.18	0.09	0.09	0.05	0.03	<0.01	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.05	
2015	0.02	0.23	0.17	0.08	0.08	0.05	0.03	<0.01	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.04	
2020	0.02	0.21	0.16	0.07	0.08	0.04	0.03	<0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.04	
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Sites)													
2010	2	6	2	13	4	12	1	1	4	1	4	49	
2015	9	22	8	48	14	42	3	2	16	5	13	177	
2020	16	38	14	85	24	74	6	4	27	8	23	311	

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 ** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 *** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Nature Study

The great diversity of Florida’s wildlife and plant communities makes it a paradise for the study of nature. In 2007, an estimated 25 million residents and tourists participated in nature study, making it the second-most popular land-based activity surveyed. Anyone with sufficient interest can participate. Although no specialized facilities or equipment are required, trails that have been designed for educating visitors and interpreting the natural landscape can add tremendously to the enjoyment of the experience, particularly for those who are disabled or are less well-initiated in natural settings. The popularity of this activity is likely to increase even further as public education and nature-based tourism marketing efforts continue. Regional participation rates for residents were highest in the South, East Central and Tampa Bay regions, where extensive pro-

TECTED lands are convenient to highly populated urban areas. Tourist participation rates mirrored this with the highest rates occurring in the larger tourist markets where large, protected natural areas offer plentiful opportunities, often through organized nature study trips.

The less populated North Central, Withlacoochee and Apalachee regions, where there are many miles of trails and smaller resident and tourist populations, had the highest levels of service. The lowest levels of service were found in the densely populated coastal regions: Treasure Coast, South, Tampa Bay and to a lesser extent, the West. Additional nature study trails will be needed in all regions to maintain current levels of service, particularly in the rapidly growing East Central region.

Table 5.15
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Nature Study
2007-2020

	Regions												State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South		
Percent of Participation*													
Residents	39.3	36.8	29.8	39.6	34.0	42.1	30.2	40.3	32.7	38.5	44.8	37.1	
Tourists	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.9	
Total Participants**													
2007	2,538,299	819,641	299,752	2,305,370	707,328	5,101,423	686,632	3,941,873	2,924,054	2,887,554	5,375,525	25,056,387	
2010	2,632,159	849,864	310,185	2,395,349	736,954	5,302,022	711,792	4,080,780	3,042,772	2,997,242	5,548,502	25,986,179	
2015	2,877,419	925,719	335,356	2,631,304	815,094	5,828,492	778,640	4,446,125	3,353,788	3,286,243	6,003,747	28,422,876	
2020	3,142,013	1,006,492	360,560	2,879,342	895,181	6,381,435	847,834	4,832,151	3,683,791	3,591,238	6,484,015	30,989,465	
Levels of Service (Miles of Trail/1,000 Participants)													
2007	0.04	0.36	0.69	0.08	0.37	0.08	0.28	0.05	0.09	0.04	0.05	0.10	
2010	0.04	0.35	0.67	0.08	0.35	0.08	0.27	0.05	0.08	0.04	0.05	0.10	
2015	0.04	0.32	0.62	0.07	0.32	0.07	0.25	0.04	0.08	0.04	0.04	0.09	
2020	0.03	0.30	0.57	0.06	0.29	0.06	0.23	0.04	0.07	0.03	0.04	0.08	
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Miles of Trail)													
2010	4	11	7	7	11	16	7	7	10	4	8	92	
2015	14	39	25	26	40	58	26	25	37	16	30	333	
2020	25	68	42	46	69	102	46	44	65	28	52	586	

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 ** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 *** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Picnicking

Because of its simplicity and its relationship to so many other recreational pursuits, picnicking is one of the most popular outdoor activities in the state. It is largely a family-type of activity, although in Florida, many large social groups also enjoy picnicking, and it requires only that the participant enjoy a meal outdoors. Participation among residents was relatively even across the regions, with the Tampa Bay, Apalachee and West Florida regions showing slightly higher rates than the others. Tourist participation rates in the North Central region (33.3 percent) were distinctly higher than other re-

gions, with the Withlacoochee and Tampa Bay regions following at 23.5 percent and 19 percent.

The Central and Withlacoochee regions had the highest levels of service in the state. Levels of service were lowest in the Northeast and West regions. Significant projected needs for picnic tables exist for all regions in 2020. Statewide, nearly 27,000 picnic tables will be needed to maintain current service levels.

Table 5.16
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Picnicking
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	48.3	49.2	44.0	44.9	41.5	47.7	33.3	50.4	39.2	39.6	45.3	44.4
Tourists	16.4	18.8	33.3	15.7	23.5	9.3	17.6	19.0	17.3	9.4	14.1	13.0
Total Participants**												
2007	2,076,956	536,935	483,796	1,635,855	737,768	3,585,128	628,944	3,297,032	1,843,689	1,424,337	4,064,750	19,196,736
2010	2,152,205	555,847	500,788	1,700,258	769,100	3,727,993	651,757	3,407,962	1,922,095	1,477,710	4,186,941	19,894,532
2015	2,348,637	600,993	542,115	1,869,312	851,836	4,103,495	712,562	3,700,491	2,127,622	1,619,334	4,509,261	21,724,378
2020	2,558,646	647,261	583,884	2,042,522	935,719	4,487,564	774,700	4,002,954	2,339,694	1,762,332	4,843,507	23,604,481
Levels of Service												
(Tables/1,000 Participants)												
2007	3	6	9	3	10	7	16	6	8	4	4	6
2010	3	6	8	3	9	7	15	5	8	4	3	6
2015	3	6	8	3	9	6	14	5	7	4	3	5
2020	3	5	7	2	8	6	13	5	7	3	3	5
Resource/Facility Requirements***												
(Tables)												
2010	238	117	148	198	308	1,034	361	612	657	221	429	4,220
2015	859	395	508	717	1,121	3,751	1,325	2,227	2,380	807	1,559	15,285
2020	1,523	681	873	1,248	1,946	6,530	2,309	3,897	4,157	1,399	2,732	26,654

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 ** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 *** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails

In theory, one could ride a bicycle for recreation almost anywhere in Florida due to the easy availability of public roadways. In reality, however, paved trails that are specifically designed for bicycling are actually quite limited and are vital for full and safe public enjoyment of this activity. The participation rates identified in the University of Florida’s resident and tourist surveys reflected both types of bicycling. Bicycling on paved surfaces was the fourth most-popular land-based activity overall, accounting for more than 14.8 million participants. Statewide, 43.5 percent of residents and eight percent of visitors participated. Resident participation rates were highest in the South and East Central regions at 57.6 percent and 52.5 percent, respectively, with the Southwest, Tampa Bay, Northeast and Treasure

Coast regions following closely. Among tourists, the South (57.6 percent), East Central (52.5 percent) and Southwest (48.5 percent) regions had the highest participation rates.

The North Central, Apalachee and Withlacoochee regions had the three highest levels of service in the state. While large numbers of trails were inventoried in the more populated regions, those regions also had the highest demand. Levels of service were lowest in the West and Treasure Coast regions. Significant projected needs for paved trails exist for all regions through 2020. Statewide, more than 300 miles of additional paved trails will be needed just to maintain current levels of service as population and demand increase.

Table 5.17
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	35.7	34.1	35.5	47.2	38.9	52.5	35.1	47.8	48.5	47.0	57.6	43.5
Tourists	6.0	4.2	4.8	8.4	7.4	5.3	15.7	9.3	16.5	12.1	5.2	8.0
Total Participants**												
2007	926,319	227,489	213,812	1,228,932	426,801	2,827,629	601,834	2,288,672	1,933,064	1,759,364	3,263,175	14,841,323
2010	958,527	235,036	220,731	1,277,763	445,986	2,941,858	623,532	2,361,614	2,016,688	1,825,358	3,345,259	15,372,389
2015	1,042,429	251,772	236,299	1,406,074	496,879	3,242,540	681,472	2,554,585	2,235,936	2,000,380	3,563,241	16,765,691
2020	1,130,431	267,880	250,499	1,533,944	546,264	3,541,752	740,225	2,748,758	2,459,882	2,177,696	3,777,780	18,169,382
Levels of Service												
(Miles of Trail/1,000 Participants)												
2007	0.03	0.21	0.32	0.06	0.23	0.08	0.09	0.06	0.10	0.04	0.12	0.10
2010	0.03	0.20	0.31	0.06	0.22	0.08	0.09	0.06	0.09	0.04	0.12	0.09
2015	0.03	0.19	0.29	0.05	0.20	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.09	0.04	0.11	0.08
2020	0.03	0.18	0.28	0.05	0.18	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.08	0.04	0.11	0.08
Resource/Facility Requirements***												
(Miles of Trail)												
2010	1	2	2	3	4	10	2	4	8	3	10	51
2015	4	5	7	10	16	35	8	16	30	11	37	185
2020	7	8	12	18	28	60	13	27	52	19	64	320

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 ** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 *** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Hiking

Like other recreational trail activities, hiking's popularity has increased in recent years as a result of increased public education and promotion and the volunteer efforts of the Florida Trail Association. Florida has nearly 4,600 miles of hiking trails, most of which are located on the state's public lands. They provide a diverse range of hiking experiences, from a day's hike to a long-distance trek, from one end of the state to the other. More than 8.3 million people participated in hiking during 2007, with the number of participants divided evenly between residents and tourists. However, far more residents participated than tourists on a percentage basis (22.6 percent compared to five percent). Among residents, the highest partici-

ation rates were in the northern regions (North Central, Apalachee and Northeast). For tourists, most of the higher rates were in central and southwest Florida (Tampa Bay, Southwest and Central regions).

The Apalachee, North Central and Withlacoochee regions had the highest levels of service. Levels of service were lowest in the Tampa Bay and South regions, where hiking trails are in short supply. Significant needs for additional hiking trails are projected in all regions. Nearly 1,140 miles of additional hiking trails will be needed to maintain current levels of service through 2020.

Table 5.18
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Hiking
2007-2020

	Regions												State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South		
Percent of Participation*													
Residents	24.0	25.7	26.2	25.1	23.9	24.3	14.7	24.1	16.9	19.8	18.7	22.6	
Tourists	5.5	4.2	4.8	8.4	4.4	4.7	5.9	7.6	6.5	4.0	4.9	5.0	
Total Participants**													
2007	765,092	188,374	167,945	892,104	260,039	1,817,874	237,393	1,433,061	729,252	662,741	1,541,126	8,422,662	
2010	792,214	194,712	173,441	927,246	271,740	1,890,323	245,917	1,480,580	760,536	687,526	1,586,297	8,725,936	
2015	862,937	209,024	185,945	1,019,497	302,781	2,080,748	268,710	1,605,996	842,548	753,362	1,705,555	9,521,450	
2020	937,798	223,024	197,536	1,113,855	332,879	2,275,475	291,705	1,734,752	926,736	819,401	1,828,394	10,329,245	
Levels of Service													
(Miles of Trail/1,000 Participants)													
2007	0.39	2.95	2.90	0.51	2.17	0.29	1.81	0.27	0.70	0.59	0.27	0.60	
2010	0.38	2.85	2.80	0.49	2.08	0.28	1.74	0.27	0.67	0.57	0.26	0.58	
2015	0.35	2.65	2.62	0.44	1.86	0.25	1.60	0.24	0.60	0.52	0.25	0.53	
2020	0.32	2.49	2.46	0.41	1.70	0.23	1.47	0.23	0.55	0.48	0.23	0.49	
Resource/Facility Requirements***													
(Miles of Trail)													
2010	11	19	16	18	25	21	15	13	22	15	12	181	
2015	38	61	52	65	93	77	57	47	79	54	45	656	
2020	68	102	86	113	158	133	98	83	138	93	78	1,138	

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 ** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 *** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails

Unpaved trails are the preferred surfaces for “mountain biking,” a more rugged and athletic style of bicycle riding than its paved surface counterpart. Despite the physical requirements and somewhat specialized equipment that are needed to participate in the activity, biking on unpaved trails ranked fifth in popularity among the land-based activities and was enjoyed by more than five million participants. It is almost entirely a resident activity, with only one percent of tourists participating, although this could change as more national biking competitions are held in the state. Resident participation was distributed fairly evenly across regions, with the Northeast, South and East Central

regions leading the others. Among tourists, the Withlacoochee region stood out with the highest participation rate (2.9 percent), reflecting the popularity of the trails available there.

Similar to bicycle riding on paved trails, levels of service were highest in the North Central, Withlacoochee and Apalachee regions. These regions had some of the highest supply levels of all the regions. Level of service was lowest in the South region. Statewide, more than 500 miles of trails will be needed to maintain current levels of service in light of expected increases in population.

Table 5.19
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	20.4	22.9	23.9	28.5	21.6	23.4	16.4	19.8	14.6	16.3	24.6	21.4
Tourists	1.6	2.1	<.1	2.2	2.9	0.9	2.0	1.7	1.9	0.7	0.6	1.0
Total Participants**												
2007	350,790	141,270	118,488	569,376	216,249	933,311	169,301	741,362	364,705	350,214	1,152,696	4,838,979
2010	362,324	145,895	122,167	592,219	226,102	971,653	175,133	763,639	381,536	363,105	1,178,473	5,005,534
2015	392,283	155,969	130,080	652,307	252,268	1,072,761	190,935	822,789	425,698	397,632	1,247,279	5,443,043
2020	422,835	165,504	136,822	710,449	277,398	1,169,994	206,019	880,435	469,136	430,431	1,312,253	5,861,614
Levels of Service												
(Miles of Trail/1,000 Participants)												
2007	0.24	1.13	1.95	0.40	1.45	0.50	1.04	0.42	0.46	0.49	0.06	0.49
2010	0.23	1.10	1.89	0.38	1.39	0.48	1.01	0.41	0.44	0.48	0.06	0.48
2015	0.22	1.03	1.77	0.35	1.25	0.43	0.93	0.38	0.39	0.43	0.06	0.44
2020	0.20	0.97	1.69	0.32	1.13	0.40	0.86	0.36	0.36	0.40	0.06	0.41
Resource/Facility Requirements***												
(Miles of Trail)												
2010	3	5	7	9	14	19	6	9	8	6	2	82
2015	10	17	23	33	52	69	23	34	28	23	6	298
2020	17	27	36	56	89	117	38	59	48	40	10	504

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.

BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

RV/Trailer Camping

RV camping in Florida is changing and changes can be expected in the way that residents and tourists participate in this activity. Many private campgrounds have been sold for development in recent years increasing the relative importance of public areas to maintaining the overall supply of RV sites. Full-time RV camping is a reality for many retirees who are searching for an active lifestyle and affordable housing costs. Rising gasoline prices will dampen demand for this activity, but the long-term effects on participation are not certain. In 2007, Florida hosted an estimated 3.9 million resident and tourist RV/trailer campers. Ten percent of residents participated, with the highest rates clustered in the Northeast, Apalachee, North

Central and Withlacoochee regions. State-wide, 2.5 percent of tourists participated. It is worth noting that tourist participation in the North Central region was nearly twice the rate of any other region.

Significant regional differences in levels of service were found. The Central region stood out as having the highest level of service of any region, followed by the Southwest. The Northeast region, where fewer sites exist and demand is high, had the lowest level of service. Statewide, nearly 37,000 additional RV/trailer campsites will be needed by 2020 to maintain current levels of service.

Table 5.20
Demand and Need Summary By Region
RV/Trailer Camping
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	8.5	12.1	10.8	13.2	10.8	9.3	9.3	6.1	7.6	10.2	6.9	9.7
Tourists	3.8	<0.1	19.0	6.2	7.4	3.1	9.8	3.2	2.3	0.7	1.5	2.5
Total Participants**												
2007	459,390	56,500	205,471	575,349	214,005	980,308	277,740	488,451	282,848	239,054	526,687	3,908,616
2010	476,241	58,246	212,977	597,915	223,004	1,018,985	288,036	505,310	295,183	247,883	541,749	4,050,090
2015	520,256	61,748	231,852	657,123	246,748	1,120,532	315,295	549,701	327,526	271,490	581,548	4,421,130
2020	567,574	64,791	251,680	718,473	271,008	1,226,477	343,920	596,160	360,405	294,185	622,265	4,800,364
Levels of Service												
(Sites/1,000 Participants)												
2007	11	43	22	8	50	36	92	61	89	30	23	41
2010	11	42	21	8	48	34	88	59	85	29	23	40
2015	10	40	20	7	43	31	81	54	77	26	21	37
2020	9	38	18	6	39	29	74	50	70	24	20	34
Resource/Facility Requirements***												
(Sites)												
2010	192	75	166	183	447	1,385	943	1,020	1,097	261	349	5,865
2015	693	227	582	663	1,627	5,021	3,439	3,707	3,974	959	1,272	21,248
2020	1,232	358	1,020	1,160	2,832	8,815	6,060	6,518	6,899	1,631	2,215	36,970

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.

BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Tent Camping

To most participants, tent camping is a distinctly different recreational experience than RV/trailer camping. While many tent campers enjoy having the same amenities as their counterparts in recreational vehicles, most prefer to camp in areas that have been designated specifically for tent camping. Tent campers have the added advantage of being able to take their equipment with them to more remote sites that offer the solitude not found in most RV campground settings. Tent camping is far more popular among residents than tourists (15.9 percent of residents participated compared to 1.2 percent of tourists), while the opposite is true for RV/trailer camping (9.7 percent participation for tourists versus 2.5 percent for residents).

Statewide, nearly four million people went tent camping in 2007. The Northeast, West and East Central regions showed the highest participation rates among residents. Among tourists, the North Central, West and South regions had the highest rates.

The highest levels of service were found in the Withlacoochee and Apalachee regions. Levels of service were lowest in the South, Tampa Bay and Northeast where populations are much higher and fewer state and federal lands provide tent camping. In the East Central region alone, more than 1,150 tent campsites will be needed by 2020. Statewide, more than 4,300 sites will be needed by 2020 to accommodate the projected increases in participation.

Table 5.21
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Tent Camping
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	19.4	18.3	17.5	19.8	13.7	18.9	12.9	12.6	9.6	11.0	17.7	15.9
Tourists	1.6	<0.1	4.8	1.1	<0.1	0.8	<0.1	0.3	<0.1	<0.1	1.2	1.2
Total Participants**												
2007	341,298	85,474	124,627	368,895	103,923	765,280	100,574	391,872	148,676	202,704	947,524	3,982,205
2010	352,566	88,116	128,778	383,739	108,898	796,682	103,910	402,974	156,228	210,110	970,606	4,120,817
2015	381,840	93,414	138,389	422,798	122,157	879,482	113,061	432,570	176,063	230,024	1,031,986	4,484,794
2020	411,759	98,017	147,515	460,247	134,427	959,295	121,336	460,428	194,547	248,449	1,091,754	4,838,420
Levels of Service (Sites/1,000 Participants)												
2007	6	20	14	4	32	6	10	3	8	4	1	5
2010	6	19	13	3	31	6	10	3	8	4	1	5
2015	5	18	12	3	27	5	9	3	7	3	1	4
2020	5	17	11	3	25	5	8	3	6	3	1	4
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Sites)												
2010	65	52	56	52	159	187	33	34	63	29	31	698
2015	234	156	187	190	583	678	125	124	228	108	115	2,530
2020	406	247	311	322	975	1,153	208	208	381	181	196	4,309

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 ** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 *** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Off-Highway Vehicle Riding

Riding off-highway vehicles (OHVs) is growing in popularity in Florida, especially among families, and participation is expected to increase as new areas for OHV riding are provided. However, it is not an activity that reaches a large segment of the public. Nevertheless, more than 3.8 million people were estimated to have participated in OHV riding in 2007, nearly all of them Florida residents. The South, East Central and Tampa Bay regions displayed the highest number of participants; the Apalachee, North Central and Northeast regions had the highest rates of resident participation. Tourist participation rates, while low in all regions, were highest in the North Central region (4.8 percent).

Regional levels of service were highest in the Withlacoochee, North Central and Apalachee regions. Levels of service and resource/facility requirements could not be calculated in five regions because no inventoried OHV trails existed in those regions. However, all of those regions displayed significant participation in OHV riding among residents and measurable levels of participation among tourists. OHV trails undoubtedly exist in these regions, but are located on lands that could not be practicably inventoried for this plan. Statewide, nearly 180 miles of additional trails will be needed by 2020 just to maintain current levels of service. All regions have considerable needs for additional miles of OHV trails.

Table 5.22
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Off-Highway Vehicle Riding
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	18.9	24.1	21.1	19.5	13.4	13.7	12.0	12.6	13.5	9.9	11.8	16.0
Tourists	0.5	<0.1	4.8	2.2	<0.1	0.9	2.0	0.9	0.4	<0.1	1.2	1.0
Total Participants**												
2007	227,672	113,000	142,464	433,041	101,449	626,734	134,620	448,578	237,359	183,087	692,923	3,819,579
2010	234,620	116,493	147,168	450,343	106,305	652,267	139,302	461,862	249,077	189,777	710,667	3,951,911
2015	252,589	123,496	157,971	495,835	119,248	719,539	151,949	497,167	279,844	207,764	757,753	4,299,450
2020	270,165	129,581	168,111	540,413	131,227	785,345	164,179	531,289	308,973	224,406	804,363	4,634,964
Levels of Service												
(Miles of Trail/1,000 Participants)												
2007	NC	1.33	1.67	0.44	1.84	0.03	NC	NC	0.21	NC	NC	0.22
2010	NC	1.29	1.62	0.43	1.76	0.02	NC	NC	0.20	NC	NC	0.21
2015	NC	1.21	1.51	0.39	1.57	0.02	NC	NC	0.18	NC	NC	0.19
2020	NC	1.16	1.42	0.36	1.43	0.02	NC	NC	0.16	NC	NC	0.18
Resource/Facility Requirements***												
(Miles of Trail)												
2010	NC	5	8	8	9	1	NC	NC	2	NC	NC	29
2015	NC	14	26	28	33	2	NC	NC	9	NC	NC	105
2020	NC	22	43	48	55	4	NC	NC	15	NC	NC	178

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 ** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 *** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
 NC represents Levels of Service and Resource/Facility Requirements that could not be calculated.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Horseback Riding

More than two million people participated in horseback riding in 2007, nearly all of them Florida residents. Despite its growth in popularity in recent years, horseback riding is done by a relatively small portion of the population (9.1 percent of residents). The expense of owning a horse is relatively high and most people lack the necessary space to quarter horses. This can be alleviated to some extent in areas where horses are available for rent. Resident participation rates were highest in some of the north Florida regions (Northeast, North Central and Withlacoochee). In terms of participants, however, more riders lived in the urbanized regions centered on Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Tampa and Orlando (the South, Tampa Bay and East Central regions). Future participa-

tion in horseback riding will be influenced by the continued availability of trails on private land and whether the loss of opportunities on those areas is compensated by new opportunities on public lands.

The highest levels of service were found in the Withlacoochee, North Central and Central regions. These regions have some of the largest supplies of horseback riding trails in the state. Levels of service were lowest in the West and South regions where trails are in shorter supply. Significant projected needs for horseback riding trails exist in all regions in 2020, with the East Central region displaying the highest need. Statewide, nearly 480 additional miles of horseback riding trails will be needed to maintain current levels of service.

Table 5.23
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Horseback Riding
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	9.6	8.7	12.9	13.5	10.1	6.6	8.4	7.2	6.2	9.5	6.4	9.1
Tourists	1.1	2.1	<0.1	1.7	<0.1	0.9	<0.1	0.6	<0.1	0.7	<0.1	0.4
Total Participants**												
2007	196,682	74,629	63,703	306,736	76,705	404,955	65,894	264,431	96,202	225,976	275,817	2,043,224
2010	220,622	83,138	69,936	351,167	90,163	464,017	74,075	293,324	113,923	256,649	297,085	2,297,962
2015	220,622	83,138	69,936	351,167	90,163	464,017	74,075	293,324	113,923	256,649	297,085	2,297,962
2020	238,509	89,085	73,560	382,805	99,220	507,088	79,496	313,716	125,883	278,156	311,340	2,474,160
Levels of Service												
(Miles of Trail/1,000 Participants)												
2007	0.37	1.76	3.86	0.68	4.02	1.31	3.30	0.95	0.99	0.72	0.50	1.16
2010	0.36	1.70	3.75	0.65	3.83	1.26	3.19	0.92	0.94	0.70	0.49	1.12
2015	0.33	1.58	3.52	0.59	3.42	1.14	2.94	0.86	0.84	0.64	0.47	1.03
2020	0.31	1.47	3.34	0.54	3.11	1.04	2.74	0.80	0.76	0.59	0.45	0.95
Resource/Facility Requirements***												
(Miles of Trail)												
2010	2	5	8	8	10	21	7	8	5	6	3	78
2015	9	15	24	30	36	77	27	27	18	22	11	282
2020	16	25	38	51	60	134	45	47	29	38	18	477

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.

BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Hunting

Hunting ranked 24th in resident participation among the 29 recreation activities surveyed. As with horseback riding, the development of agricultural lands and loss of public access to large private landholdings have combined to reduce the amount of land available for public hunting. These reductions, together with the loss of wildlife habitat that has occurred throughout the state as a result of urban development, have combined to increase the pressure for hunting on public land. An estimated 2.4 million people hunted in Florida during 2007, nearly all of them residents. Only the Central and East Central regions reported a measurable amount of hunting by tourists. While the largest numbers of hunters lived in the heavily populated East Central, South and

Tampa Bay regions, the highest participation rates were found among residents of the state's northern regions (Apalachee, North Central and Withlacoochee) where the supply of available hunting lands is generally greatest.

Regional levels of service for hunting vary widely. The Apalachee region, with its relatively small population and large supply of public hunting land, stood out as having the highest level of service. In contrast, the Tampa Bay and Central regions, where fewer public hunting lands exist, had the lowest levels of service. Statewide, more than one million acres of additional land for hunting will be needed by 2020 to maintain current levels of service.

Table 5.24
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Hunting
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	14.0	22.6	19.3	12.7	14.1	6.2	9.3	7.9	7.3	4.9	5.4	11.6
Tourists	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.3	2.0	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.4
Total Participants**												
2007	128,144	105,756	95,555	192,473	106,398	269,271	113,812	228,497	113,693	91,544	233,383	2,493,415
2010	131,735	109,025	98,522	200,296	111,491	280,276	117,804	234,791	119,468	94,888	238,277	2,578,764
2015	140,972	115,580	104,904	220,901	125,065	309,283	128,557	251,599	134,636	103,882	251,380	2,803,001
2020	149,526	121,275	110,341	240,051	137,628	337,470	139,075	267,142	148,771	112,203	263,442	3,015,878
Levels of Service (Acres/1,000 Participants)												
2007	5,139	8,949	3,581	1,795	5,314	1,595	446	255	6,785	3,751	2,993	2,089
2010	4,999	8,681	3,473	1,724	5,071	1,532	431	248	6,457	3,619	2,931	2,020
2015	4,671	8,188	3,262	1,564	4,521	1,388	395	232	5,729	3,305	2,778	1,859
2020	4,404	7,804	3,101	1,439	4,108	1,273	365	218	5,185	3,060	2,651	1,727
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Acres)												
2010	18,453	29,258	10,623	14,037	27,064	17,552	1,781	1,606	39,182	12,546	14,646	178,324
2015	65,922	87,912	33,474	51,015	99,197	63,811	6,577	5,896	142,093	46,279	53,858	646,831
2020	109,878	138,881	52,942	85,378	165,954	108,764	11,269	9,863	237,997	77,490	89,956	1,091,604

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

User-Oriented Activities

User-oriented recreation activities are considered separately from resource-based activities in this plan because they do not depend on the availability or distribution of natural resources and require only that man-made facilities be available for the purpose. All user-oriented activities can be enjoyed year-round in Florida because of the state's mild climate. Team activities such as baseball, football and basketball, however, are subject to seasonal considerations that affect participation patterns throughout the year.

Participation in user-oriented activities was far greater among the state's residents than visitors. Participation percentages were highest in the urban areas where the greatest concentrations of Floridians live, and they increased in proportion to increasing population. Resident participation rates were consistently lower in the state's rural regions, which probably reflects a lack of available facilities in those regions rather than a lower relative level of interest in user-oriented activities. The favorite activities of residents, in the order of their statewide participation rates, were outdoor swimming pool use, baseball/softball, golf, basketball and football.

Tourists participated in user-oriented activities far less often than residents. Only one activity (outdoor swimming pool use), showed a greater percentage of tourist participation than resident participation. This

reflects tourists' general preference for resource-based types of recreation and other leisure activities and the limited amount of time they have to spend in the state. Generally, the highest tourist participation rates in user-oriented activities were seen in the regions with the largest tourist populations (East Central, Tampa Bay, Southwest, Treasure Coast and South). Outdoor swimming pool use, golf, baseball/softball, shuffleboard, basketball and tennis had significant percentages of tourist participation.

When considering levels of service for user-oriented activities, regions that had lower resident and tourist populations generally had the highest levels of service. These regions include the Apalachee, North Central and Withlacoochee regions. The regions with lower levels of service were among the most highly populated, the East Central, Northeast, South, Tampa Bay, Treasure Coast and West regions. The sheer number of people who live in these densely populated areas, combined with the tourists who visit, dramatically impact levels of service.

Significant needs for additional user-oriented facilities are identified in Table 5.25 through Table 5.33. In order to maintain current levels of service as population and demand increase through 2020, an additional 1,223 baseball/softball fields, 1,765 outdoor basketball goals, 778 football fields, 500 outdoor swimming pools, 2,095 tennis courts and 367 soccer fields will need to be provided.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

Table 5.25
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Baseball/Softball
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	22.0	21.1	23.9	22.2	16.0	21.8	16.9	24.5	16.1	15.5	18.7	20.2
Tourists	2.7	<0.1	4.8	3.9	1.5	1.4	7.8	7.6	5.4	4.0	4.3	3.5
Total Participants**												
2007	473,908	98,512	156,479	575,373	147,714	1,003,767	295,715	1,443,448	633,743	584,275	1,449,265	6,708,796
2010	490,029	101,558	161,618	598,237	154,536	1,044,645	306,391	1,491,253	661,191	606,193	1,490,902	6,948,379
2015	531,977	107,663	173,357	658,316	172,670	1,152,342	334,888	1,617,432	733,157	664,320	1,600,911	7,576,987
2020	575,505	112,968	184,295	718,174	189,909	1,257,771	363,837	1,746,895	806,614	723,227	1,713,603	8,208,678
Levels of Service (Fields /1,000 Participants)												
2007	1.0	2.6	1.3	1.0	2.1	0.8	1.3	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.5	0.8
2010	1.0	2.5	1.3	1.0	2.0	0.8	1.2	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.5	0.8
2015	0.9	2.4	1.2	0.9	1.8	0.7	1.1	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.7
2020	0.8	2.3	1.1	0.8	1.6	0.7	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.7
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Fields)												
2010	17	8	7	23	14	33	14	25	14	22	22	195
2015	60	24	23	85	52	121	50	92	49	81	79	708
2020	104	38	37	146	88	208	87	161	86	140	138	1,223

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Table 5.26
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Outdoor Basketball
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	14.5	14.9	18.0	20.8	13.7	19.7	16.0	17.3	13.5	13.8	24.6	16.9
Tourists	1.6	2.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	1.6	<0.1	1.7	0.4	1.3	0.9	2.6
Total Participants**												
2007	296,210	103,604	89,185	316,779	103,923	987,593	124,851	668,659	237,359	353,870	1,198,626	5,343,091
2010	359,148	122,311	102,985	395,083	134,427	1,237,230	150,624	795,436	308,973	436,095	1,369,648	6,530,360
2015	332,239	114,803	97,910	363,567	122,157	1,133,070	140,352	742,735	279,844	401,997	1,299,601	6,031,821
2020	359,148	122,311	102,985	395,083	134,427	1,237,230	150,624	795,436	308,973	436,095	1,369,648	6,530,360
Levels of Service (Goals/1,000 Participants)												
2007	1.1	2.4	5.6	2.1	4.6	1.4	3.6	1.6	1.6	2.6	1.3	1.5
2010	1.1	2.3	5.4	2.1	4.4	1.3	3.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	1.3	1.4
2015	1.0	2.1	5.1	1.9	3.9	1.2	3.2	1.4	1.3	2.3	1.2	1.3
2020	0.9	2.0	4.9	1.7	3.6	1.1	3.0	1.3	1.2	2.1	1.1	1.2
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Goals)												
2010	11	8	16	28	23	55	15	32	18	35	35	283
2015	41	26	49	100	85	202	56	116	67	127	130	1,024
2020	71	44	78	167	141	346	93	198	113	216	220	1,765

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

Table 5.27
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Football
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	12.9	12.4	18.0	18.7	9.2	11.0	15.6	15.5	10.4	9.5	16.3	13.5
Tourists	1.6	<0.1	4.8	<0.1	<0.1	0.7	<0.1	2.6	<0.1	<0.1	1.8	1.6
Total Participants**												
2007	281,972	57,948	127,175	284,700	69,282	492,881	121,383	701,787	161,794	176,548	975,735	3,862,438
2010	291,578	59,740	131,405	296,270	72,599	512,985	125,409	723,902	170,012	182,999	1,001,016	3,998,671
2015	316,575	63,331	141,186	326,750	81,438	565,958	136,453	782,449	191,597	200,344	1,068,071	4,356,249
2020	342,534	66,452	150,457	355,075	89,618	617,652	146,440	841,012	211,713	216,391	1,134,696	4,709,841
Levels of Service (Fields/1,000 Participants)												
2007	1.0	2.2	2.0	1.1	3.1	1.2	1.3	0.7	1.1	3.1	0.7	1.0
2010	0.9	2.1	1.9	1.0	3.0	1.2	1.2	0.7	1.1	3.0	0.7	1.0
2015	0.9	2.0	1.8	0.9	2.7	1.1	1.1	0.6	1.0	2.8	0.6	0.9
2020	0.8	1.9	1.6	0.9	2.4	1.0	1.1	0.6	0.9	2.5	0.6	0.8
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Fields)												
2010	9	4	8	12	10	25	5	15	9	20	17	125
2015	34	12	27	45	38	90	19	56	34	74	63	453
2020	59	19	45	75	64	153	32	97	57	124	108	778

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 ** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 *** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Table 5.28
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Golf
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	15.2	11.5	13.4	21.9	21.6	20.1	16.4	24.5	23.7	27.2	19.2	19.4
Tourists	9.3	<0.1	9.5	10.1	11.8	7.1	15.7	10.2	18.1	20.8	8.3	9.6
Total Participants**												
2007	1,065,488	53,602	142,232	946,219	375,070	2,227,025	456,175	1,698,626	1,658,111	2,035,751	2,067,581	11,671,457
2010	1,105,006	55,259	147,211	983,337	391,032	2,314,778	473,041	1,756,246	1,726,414	2,113,079	2,132,629	12,102,669
2015	1,208,284	58,581	159,286	1,080,731	433,189	2,545,138	517,728	1,908,119	1,905,386	2,316,825	2,303,950	13,232,888
2020	1,319,849	61,468	171,448	1,181,594	475,861	2,786,091	564,497	2,065,767	2,093,623	2,531,829	2,483,689	14,417,208
Levels of Service (Holes/1,000 Participants)												
2007	0.9	5.0	1.5	1.3	1.9	0.9	2.3	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.1	1.4
2010	0.9	4.9	1.5	1.3	1.8	0.9	2.2	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.1	1.4
2015	0.8	4.6	1.4	1.1	1.6	0.8	2.0	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.0	1.3
2020	0.7	4.4	1.3	1.0	1.5	0.8	1.9	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.2
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Holes)												
2010	36	8	8	48	30	83	39	71	98	126	75	617
2015	128	25	26	176	109	301	142	259	353	459	271	2,234
2020	229	40	44	307	189	529	250	453	622	810	477	3,929

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 ** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
 *** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

Table 5.29
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	4.1	4.6	5.4	5.0	4.2	6.8	3.6	5.4	2.8	3.9	6.9	4.8
Tourists	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	1.1	<0.1	0.2	<0.1	<0.1	0.8	<0.1	0.6	0.3
Total Participants**												
2007	37,969	21,731	26,755	144,343	32,167	264,312	27,745	155,794	98,656	71,927	388,895	1,157,258
2010	39,033	22,402	27,586	150,061	33,707	275,192	28,665	160,085	102,989	74,555	398,657	1,197,340
2015	41,770	23,749	29,373	165,080	37,810	303,888	31,189	171,545	114,354	81,622	424,582	1,302,606
2020	44,304	24,920	30,895	180,187	41,608	331,373	33,472	182,142	125,857	88,159	450,080	1,404,188
Levels of Service (Courts/1,000 Participants)												
2007	1.4	4.1	2.7	0.6	3.0	1.2	3.1	1.3	0.9	4.5	1.3	1.6
2010	1.3	4.0	2.6	0.5	2.9	1.1	3.0	1.3	0.8	4.3	1.3	1.6
2015	1.2	3.7	2.5	0.5	2.6	1.0	2.8	1.2	0.7	3.9	1.2	1.5
2020	1.2	3.6	2.4	0.4	2.4	0.9	2.6	1.1	0.7	3.6	1.1	1.4
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Courts)												
2010	1	3	2	3	5	13	3	6	4	12	13	66
2015	5	8	7	12	17	47	11	21	14	43	46	240
2020	9	13	11	20	29	80	18	34	23	72	79	407

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Table 5.30
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Outdoor Shuffleboard
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	1.3	1.5	1.5	0.3	6.2	5.0	6.2	2.9	6.2	4.6	2.5	3.4
Tourists	2.7	<0.1	4.8	2.8	2.9	2.4	5.9	4.7	6.2	2.0	2.8	2.9
Total Participants**												
2007	284,065	7,244	45,634	174,399	99,953	696,160	171,499	536,741	535,621	233,288	519,460	3,064,403
2010	294,866	7,467	47,333	181,115	104,240	723,454	177,838	556,477	557,408	242,097	537,584	3,179,177
2015	323,129	7,916	51,669	198,701	115,569	795,065	194,635	608,267	614,487	265,379	585,162	3,479,879
2020	353,986	8,307	56,300	217,919	126,967	870,714	212,209	664,025	674,982	289,483	636,302	3,800,054
Levels of Service (Courts/1,000 Participants)												
2007	0.4	1.9	1.1	0.6	2.3	1.4	3.8	2.2	1.1	1.9	1.0	1.6
2010	0.3	1.9	1.1	0.6	2.2	1.4	3.7	2.1	1.0	1.8	1.0	1.5
2015	0.3	1.8	1.0	0.5	2.0	1.2	3.4	1.9	0.9	1.6	0.9	1.4
2020	0.3	1.7	0.9	0.5	1.8	1.1	3.1	1.7	0.9	1.5	0.8	1.3
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Courts)												
2010	4	0	2	4	10	39	24	42	23	16	18	181
2015	14	1	7	14	37	141	88	154	85	60	66	656
2020	25	2	12	25	63	249	156	274	150	104	118	1,161

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

Table 5.31
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	41.3	36.2	42.4	46.7	53.6	60.8	39.1	60.8	60.3	60.1	56.7	50.7
Tourists	57.4	37.5	33.3	50.0	51.5	59.1	45.1	51.6	62.7	57.7	58.9	56.8
Total Participants**												
2007	6,095,879	782,678	476,152	3,742,672	1,332,254	15,107,133	1,247,777	6,773,791	5,412,368	5,362,389	11,258,626	57,135,098
2010	6,326,369	811,502	492,907	3,888,166	1,387,312	15,694,510	1,294,153	7,015,153	5,632,074	5,566,494	11,648,965	59,286,223
2015	6,929,292	883,746	533,723	4,269,531	1,532,368	17,234,121	1,416,829	7,649,579	6,207,658	6,103,707	12,673,886	64,921,226
2020	7,585,995	960,601	575,056	4,675,134	1,682,610	18,887,544	1,546,048	8,323,274	6,818,445	6,674,250	13,774,025	70,957,173
Levels of Service (Pools/1,000 Participants)												
2007	0.02	0.06	0.10	0.04	0.07	0.02	0.11	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.04
2010	0.02	0.06	0.10	0.04	0.06	0.02	0.11	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.03
2015	0.02	0.05	0.09	0.03	0.06	0.02	0.10	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.03
2020	0.02	0.05	0.08	0.03	0.05	0.02	0.09	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Pools)												
2010	4	2	2	5	4	12	5	10	11	9	14	78
2015	16	6	6	19	13	45	19	37	39	32	50	282
2020	29	10	10	34	23	80	33	65	69	56	88	500

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Table 5.32
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Soccer/Rugby
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacoochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	10.3	5.9	5.7	12.1	5.2	8.3	4.4	8.3	5.9	8.8	8.9	7.8
Tourists	<0.1	2.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.3	<0.1	<0.1	0.4	<0.1	0.9	0.3
Total Participants**												
2007	94,922	61,591	28,030	184,453	39,590	334,500	34,681	238,884	119,293	163,471	519,693	1,700,593
2010	97,581	63,752	28,900	191,950	41,485	348,231	35,831	245,463	125,014	169,443	533,000	1,758,915
2015	104,424	68,888	30,772	211,697	46,536	384,436	38,987	263,036	140,030	185,504	568,315	1,912,136
2020	110,760	74,133	32,367	230,049	51,210	419,311	41,840	279,285	154,480	200,362	603,272	2,057,986
Levels of Service (Fields/1,000 Participants)												
2007	1.5	1.1	6.1	0.7	2.9	0.9	2.2	1.0	0.8	1.9	0.6	1.1
2010	1.5	1.1	5.9	0.7	2.8	0.9	2.2	0.9	0.7	1.8	0.5	1.1
2015	1.4	1.0	5.5	0.6	2.5	0.8	2.0	0.9	0.7	1.7	0.5	1.0
2020	1.3	0.9	5.3	0.6	2.3	0.7	1.9	0.8	0.6	1.5	0.5	0.9
Resource/Facility Requirements*** (Fields)												
2010	4	2	5	5	6	12	3	6	4	5	7	60
2015	14	8	17	20	20	44	10	23	16	18	27	217
2020	24	14	26	33	34	75	16	39	27	30	46	367

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.
*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.
BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Outdoor Recreation in Florida, 2008

Table 5.33
Demand and Need Summary By Region
Outdoor Tennis
2007-2020

	Regions											State Total
	West	Apalachee	North Central	Northeast	Withlacochee	East Central	Central	Tampa Bay	Southwest	Treasure Coast	South	
Percent of Participation*												
Residents	10.9	9.3	7.2	12.1	7.2	12.4	8.4	12.2	11.3	13.8	18.7	11.0
Tourists	2.2	<0.1	<0.1	0.6	1.5	2.1	2.0	2.9	5.0	6.0	4.6	2.3
Total Participants**												
2007	317,427	43,461	35,674	218,531	80,906	857,402	106,876	636,664	531,941	699,864	1,495,195	3,989,198
2010	328,595	44,805	36,781	227,338	84,530	891,677	110,637	657,295	554,557	726,291	1,538,600	4,132,557
2015	357,706	47,498	39,164	250,517	94,140	981,795	120,759	711,821	613,841	796,136	1,653,233	4,508,623
2020	388,410	49,839	41,194	272,632	103,492	1,073,389	130,707	767,157	675,022	868,450	1,770,998	4,889,560
Levels of Service												
(Courts/1,000 Participants)												
2007	1.5	5.1	5.5	2.8	2.8	1.5	3.5	2.1	1.7	2.1	1.4	2.3
2010	1.5	4.9	5.3	2.7	2.6	1.5	3.4	2.0	1.6	2.1	1.4	2.2
2015	1.4	4.6	5.0	2.5	2.4	1.3	3.1	1.9	1.5	1.9	1.3	2.1
2020	1.3	4.4	4.8	2.3	2.2	1.2	2.9	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.2	1.9
Resource/Facility Requirements***												
(Courts)												
2010	17	7	6	25	10	52	13	43	39	56	62	334
2015	62	20	19	90	37	188	49	157	141	205	225	1,208
2020	109	32	30	153	63	326	85	273	246	359	392	2,095

* Percent of participation represents the percentage of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

** Total participants represents the combined number of residents and tourists who participated in activity at least one time during the year.

*** Resource/facility requirements represents the amount of additional resources and facilities that are needed to maintain 2007 levels of service through the projected years.

BOLD type represents regions with levels of service below the statewide median.

Chapter 6 - Outdoor Recreation Trends and Issues

Understanding outdoor recreation issues and anticipating emerging trends is an important element of the state's outdoor recreation plan. Florida is among the largest and most dynamic state in the nation. Changes in the state's social, economic and environmental systems will affect many aspects of people's lives, including how they recreate. Although these considerations do not lend themselves readily to quantitative analysis, it is nonetheless important that they be fully recognized and understood in future decision-making.

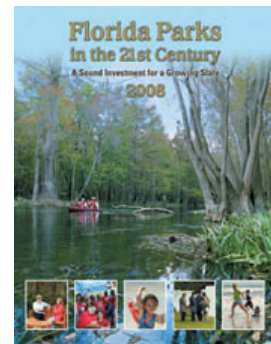
Beginning in November 2006, a series of 14 public participation workshops were conducted in cities throughout the state. By the final workshop session in June 2007, a broad cross-section of state, local and federal land managers, recreation users, local officials, recreation professionals and private citizens had contributed their views on the important outdoor recreation issues, problems and trends that face Florida. These comments and ideas were then compiled into several broad topics which are discussed further in this chapter. A list of the workshop locations and dates and a compilation of the comments received from the participants are contained in Appendix G.

Funding for Outdoor Recreation

By far, the issue that was expressed most often by participants at the public workshops was funding for outdoor recreation. Park and recreation agencies at every level of government are facing severe budget limitations. Funding for operating and maintaining parks, constructing and repairing park facilities, and providing visitor programs and

other services was reported to be at critically low levels throughout the state. Recreation providers are finding it more and more difficult to maintain their existing levels of service, let alone provide the additional facilities and services that are needed to keep pace with the state's increasing population.

The need for additional recreation funding is particularly great for local governments. Revenue shortfalls have necessitated budget reductions in many cities and counties, and park and recreation programs are often among the first services to be reduced. *Florida Parks in the 21st Century 2008*, a report released by the Florida Recreation and Park Association, The Trust for Public Land, the Florida League of Cities and the Florida Association of Counties, documents a combined need of \$10.5 billion to meet the needs identified in recreation and open space elements of local government comprehensive plans, based on current levels of service. The figure represents funds needed for acquiring new and expanded parks, renovating and restoring existing parks and constructing new park facilities.



State-level recreation providers are also facing funding reductions brought about by the declining economies of Florida and the nation. Revenue shortfalls and legislative caps on trust fund appropriations have reduced the level of funds available for operations and maintenance, facility repairs and construction, and visitor services at a time when

public demand and park visitation are reaching record levels. The Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) reported needs for land acquisition, repairs and renovations, and new facilities of \$173 million, \$102 million and \$339 million, respectively, in 2007. The Florida Division of Forestry (DOF) reported land acquisition, repair and renovation, and new facility needs of \$15.3 million, \$1.4 million and \$2.7 million, respectively, during the same year. Other agencies are facing similar situations. While budget reductions are necessary as economic belt-tightening measures, they nonetheless limit the ability of state-level recreation providers to maintain services for their current visitors and to meet the needs that will be created by new visitors in the future.

Realistically, this situation is not expected to change in the near future. The issue then becomes how to use existing funds with maximum efficiency to ensure that the highest needs and priorities are being met.

Planning for Florida's Future

Florida's growing population will need additional space for outdoor recreation and the associated infrastructure if the quality of life benefits that recreation provides today are to continue in the future. Whether an adequate supply of land is available will depend largely upon how the state manages its growth and urban development. If current development trends continue, millions of acres of land in Florida will be consumed by urban sprawl. Without forward-thinking growth plans and well-defined requirements for new parks and open space, Florida's communities may be left without sufficient lands for parks, trails and open space.

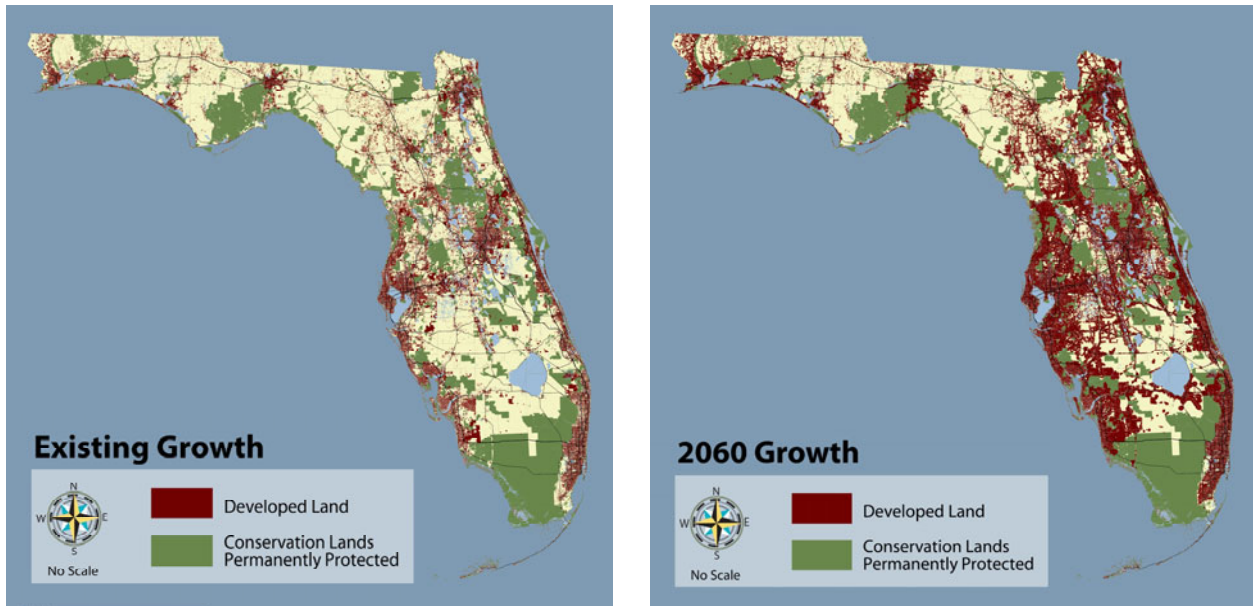
The study, *An Alternative Future*, prepared by the University of Pennsylvania, compares what Florida may look like in 2060 if current population growth and land development patterns continue unchanged with what it might look like under a different scenario. The study was based on an analysis of future population distribution prepared in 2006 by the University of Florida, *Florida 2060*. It predicts that if current trends continue unchanged, some 2.5 million acres of high priority conservation lands will be lost to urban development. The projected total cost of urbanization along these lines would be some \$695 billion. Under the alternative scenario, however, only 37,000 acres of high priority lands would be lost and 8.5 million acres would be preserved. The cost of urbanization in the alternative scenario would be \$174 billion, \$526 billion less than under the current trend.



Daytona Beach, Volusia County

The alternative growth model is based on seven principles: protect Florida's essential lands; invest in balanced transportation systems; plan for climate change; do not waste land; design with nature; encourage compact development; and rebuild to create great places. Among its many findings, the study recommends that future urban planning and design should focus on infill development and redevelopment, linking building

Figure 6.1
Florida's Population



in rural areas to conservation and investing in the necessary public facilities - particularly public transit - to create healthy, high quality communities. The study concludes that Florida can achieve a better future, which saves the essential character of the landscape and creates more compact and livable communities, at less cost than simply allowing current trends to take their course.

The future of outdoor recreation in Florida is linked inseparably with the state's policies for managing growth and accommodating the population increases that are sure to come. The decisions that are made by state and local governments in the coming years will determine whether future generations of residents and visitors will enjoy the same level of outdoor recreation opportunities and the quality of life that exist today. These two thought-provoking studies provide a vision of a more sustainable Florida in which public parks and conservation lands play a central role.

Energy Costs

The long-term outcome of today's rising energy costs is not certain, but its short-term effects on outdoor recreation in Florida are clear. Spiraling costs for the basic necessities to operate parks - water and electrical service, maintenance and upkeep, waste management - have further depleted already limited budgets for managing parks and recreation areas throughout the state. Living costs have increased to the point that in some parts of Florida, park agencies have lost personnel who could no longer afford the high price of local housing or the added cost of their long commutes to work. Like energy consumers all across the state, recreation providers are rethinking their current operations and future plans to adjust to the rapidly rising costs by implementing energy conservation measures in their operations.

Few states' economies are as dependent on tourism as Florida's. Rising energy costs

have profound implications for the state's most important industry. According to VISIT FLORIDA, fewer tourists traveled to Florida in 2007 than in 2006, the first annual decline since 2001. Florida attracted 82.4 million visitors in 2007, down 1.5 million or 1.8 percent from 2006. Many tourists shifted from driving to flying and the number of tourists arriving by car decreased 5.5 percent, while the percentage flying rose by two percent. Increases in airline ticket prices brought on by higher fuel prices make it unclear whether that trend will continue.

One response to higher fuel prices has been that more residents are planning to be tourists in their own state by staying closer to home and taking fewer and shorter trips, often to public parks and recreation areas. Outdoor recreation providers in Florida are increasing their marketing and outreach efforts to attract state residents and international travelers. To encourage more Florida residents to visit state parks, DRP has promoted "One Tank Adventures" that feature affordable family trips located within a 100-mile radius of anywhere in the state. Along similar lines, VISIT FLORIDA's "Been There, Haven't Done That" promotion features 105 in-state destinations that emphasize nature-based and heritage-based tourism.

Recreational Access to Florida's Waters

Florida ranked first in the nation for recreational boat registrations in 2005, according to the National Marine Manufacturers Association, with 973,859 boats registered across the state. This represented a 2.9 percent increase in registrations from the previous year. Also in 2005, the Marine Industries Association of Florida reported that the state's marine industry generated a total



Old Fort Boat Ramp, Wakulla County

economic output of \$18.4 billion and provided more than 220,700 jobs. Maintaining an economically viable and diverse waterfront environment and providing adequate public boating access to Florida's waters are vitally important to the state's economy and the quality of life of its residents and visitors.

Despite the popularity and economic importance of recreational boating, public access to the state's coastline and waterways has been steadily declining. Every part of Florida has seen traditional waterfront land uses and public water access replaced by coastal land development. The "mom-and-pop" marinas and fishing camps of Florida's past have all but disappeared from the scene, often being replaced by residential developments that provide water access only for their members and guests. One of the most voiced concerns at the public workshops was that all of Florida's recreation suppliers should give a much higher priority to providing additional public recreational boating access facilities.

In 2005, two items of legislation were enacted to help improve recreational boating

access in Florida. House Bill 989 amended Section 373.118, Florida Statutes, to establish a general regulatory permit for authorizing the construction and operation of public marinas, mooring fields and boat ramps by local governments. House Bill 955 addressed the supply side of water access by requiring DRP to evaluate the use of state parks for recreational boating and identify opportunities to increase boating access in state parks. The report, which was prepared in coordination with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC), found substantial opportunities for increasing recreational boating access in the state park system. A total of 73 parks were determined to have potential for providing new or expanded boating access facilities. These improvements have a total estimated construction cost of more than \$20 million.

In 2008, the Florida Legislature significantly enhanced the Working Waterfronts Program by including funding for this purpose in the reauthorized *Florida Forever* program. The newly-named Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts Program will receive an allocation of \$7.5 million annually from *Florida Forever* funds to provide grants for acquiring land and constructing capital projects that contribute toward preserving working waterfronts. The grants will be administered through the Florida Communities Trust (FCT).

Tourism

The rise in nature-based and cultural heritage tourism is of particular importance to outdoor recreation planning. Florida's rich history and outstanding natural resources have always been among the factors that make it a prime destination for domestic and international travelers. Rural regions and communities with attractive cultural and historic resources are benefiting from the devel-

opment and expansion of cultural heritage tourism markets. Smaller towns and communities are among the fastest growing tourist destinations in the state. This type of tourism is an attractive economic development option for many rural communities because it preserves their character, promotes community investment and generates local employment opportunities. Many communities in Florida have based their tourism marketing plans on these activities and are actively promoting their historic assets to attract the heritage tourist seeking historical and cultural learning experiences.

Nature-based tourism in Florida is another rapidly growing activity. Fishing, hunting, paddling, boating and nature viewing are but a few of the common examples of the activities that are promoted through this type of tourism. In 2006, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimated that 4.9 million Florida residents and visitors participated in wildlife watching alone, a 20 percent increase since 2001. According to FWCC these participants, together with fishermen, hunters and boaters, spent nearly \$6.8 billion on retail purchases, producing a total economic impact of \$3.2 billion and generating more than 34,000 jobs.

Florida's state park system plays an important role in encouraging nature-based tourism. According to the *2006 Florida State Park Visitor Survey*, an average of 74 percent of state park visitors traveled more than 50 miles to reach their park destination. These non-local park visitors had a direct economic impact of more than \$936 million on local economies throughout the state. Over \$65 million were contributed to state general revenues in the form of state sales taxes. In addition, more than 18,700 jobs were created as a result of the parks' attendance and operations.



Suwannee River Wilderness Trail

There are many examples in Florida of successful efforts to promote nature-based and heritage tourism. One example of a program that combines both types is the Suwannee River Wilderness Trail, a partnership between the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD), and the communities, businesses and citizens of the Suwannee River region. The 170-mile trail extends from White Springs to the town of Suwannee on the Gulf of Mexico, creating connections between public conservation lands, riverfront communities and the many private businesses that support and enhance recreation on the river. It also connects visitors to the unique history and cul-

ture of the region and the many small towns throughout the entire basin. The program is an excellent example of how public agencies and private businesses can work together to encourage outdoor recreation, foster stewardship of the region's outstanding natural and cultural resources, provide economic development opportunities and promote heritage and nature-based tourism.

Reconnecting Children and Youth to the Outdoors

It is generally accepted today that sedentary lifestyles among all age groups can create a host of health-related problems, but especially among children. Several social and environmental factors are often blamed for the lack of physical activity among children, among them playing video games and using home computers, watching television, deemphasizing physical education and outdoor activities in the public schools, and parental fears about safety and crime. There appears to be a general lack of awareness in many communities about the importance of outdoor exercise and physical activity on the mental and physical well-being and social integration of growing children and adolescents. Re-energizing school-based physical education programs and expanding free-play recess as part of the school day are being considered in many of Florida's public school systems.

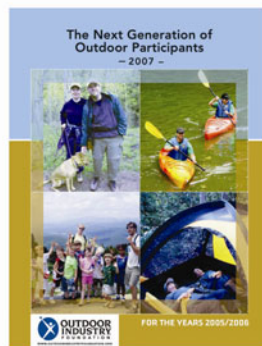
Since the publication of the book by Richard Louv, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder* in 2005, the connection between children and the outdoors has received national attention. Louv decries the lack of opportunities for children to be free to play outdoors in natural settings because it is how children develop a connection with nature and the environment



Lake Eaton, Marion County

enabling them to learn about the natural world. He also notes that although there has been a marked increase in the number of youth involved in organized sports, opportunities to participate in sports leagues are often limited to superior young athletes or to children whose families can afford to play in sports leagues.

Public outdoor recreation providers, sports enthusiasts and the outdoor equipment industry should mobilize to provide structured and unstructured outdoor experiences, identify barriers to participation and develop adult mentoring programs, all with a view to “get kids outdoors” or “leave no child inside.” In a report produced by the Outdoor Industry Foundation in 2007, *The Next Generation of Outdoor Participants*, encouraging youth participation in “gateway” outdoor activities such as camping, bicycling, fishing, hiking and running, introduces them to an active lifestyle that can lead to participation in other outdoor activities. In addition, the report notes that participants



in “urban associated” outdoor activities such as skateboarding and jogging are more likely to take part in “traditional” outdoor activities. The report suggests that encouraging any outdoor recreation activity can lead to future growth across all activities.

Technology and Outdoor Recreation

As in every facet of modern life, technology is changing the way Floridians recreate. It is the norm today for park visitors to carry their electronic devices with them, even when “roughing it” in the most remote wilderness areas. The Internet Web sites maintained by virtually every outdoor recreation supplier can provide all the information needed to plan a day’s outing to a local park or a two-week trek through the Everglades wilderness. Technology has even given rise to completely new recreation activities that had not existed before the new technology was introduced. All outdoor recreation providers in Florida will face the challenge of responding to constantly evolving technologies and the changes they create in the public’s recreation desires and expectations.

As noted, many outdoor recreation providers are seeking ways to increase youth participation in recreation activities and bring them back to the outdoors. This often requires that the activities they offer be challenging, fun and incorporate technology. Geocaching is one example of a new, emerging activity that combines technology and outdoor experiences in a way that is appealing to many users, especially to youth. It is a combination of orienteering and scavenger hunting using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit. It involves hiding items, usually containers holding various “treasures,” and posting the geographic coordinates for each

cache on a designated Web site. Cache hunters choose which cache they want to locate and once it is found (or not found) they relate their experiences to others on the site. FWCC and DRP have developed guidelines for geocaching on the public conservation lands they manage. In this manner, recreation suppliers can work with the public to encourage new recreation activities that can be provided without user conflicts, damage to resources or endangering the safety of participants.



GPS Device and Cache

Another example of how technology is influencing the outdoor recreation behavior of Floridians is the ability to reserve overnight lodging through Internet-based reservation systems. Several private corporations now provide online campsite reservation processing for many private, state and federal campgrounds in Florida. Online reservation systems can improve the quality of visitor services by providing a single point of contact and a convenient way for campers to make a guaranteed reservation for a specific campsite. They also relieve the campground provider of staffing costs and provide

a consistent structure for managing reservations, which is an important consideration when the provider operates many campgrounds. Campground providers have also benefited from an increase in campsite occupancy, particularly at lesser known campgrounds. Continual innovation and adaptation of these technologies can improve the outdoor recreation services that are offered to the public and the quality of their recreation experiences.

The technology of virtual tours is being used by many commercial providers to encourage public interest and provide information about their sites. Virtual tours are a simulation of actual locations, usually composed of panoramic images embedded with other media elements such as music, narration and text. Video-based virtual tours utilize a video camera that pans and “walks through” the property to give a first-person point-of-view perspective of the area. Today, virtual tours can be found for golf courses, marinas and skate parks, among other types of areas. Public land managers and conservation organizations are also taking advantage of this technology to educate and inform the public. For example, South Florida Information Access (part of the U.S. Geological Survey) provides virtual tours of Big Cypress National Preserve, Everglades National Park, Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, Jonathan Dickinson State Park and other public conservation lands. In the future, more outdoor recreation suppliers will explore the options available for providing virtual tours to spark public interest and encourage participation in the recreation opportunities they provide.

Special Planning Considerations

In addition to the foregoing issues and trends, a number of other topics were dis-



Withlacoochee State Forest, Citrus County

cussed during the public workshops. While these topics could not be incorporated within the other categories discussed in this chapter, they are nonetheless significant to statewide outdoor recreation planning. A separate discussion for off-highway vehicles trails, equestrian trails and hunting follows.

Off-Highway Vehicle Trails

Driving off-highway vehicles (OHVs) has become recognized as a legitimate outdoor recreation activity and participation is growing, particularly among family groups. According to figures reported by the Motorcycle Industry Council, Florida ranked second in the nation in new off-highway motorcycle sales in 2006, with nearly 14,000 units being sold (an increase of 54 percent since 2001).

Florida ranked third in all-terrain vehicle sales for the same year, with just less than 46,500 units sold. This was an increase of 49 percent since 2001.

There was a perception among many workshop participants that not enough is being done to provide suitable areas for riding OHVs in Florida. OHV riders have few facilities designated specifically for their activity. This is unfortunate because it forces them to use areas where they inevitably come into conflict with other outdoor recreation activities or where their use results in damage to the natural environment.

Some progress has been made in acquiring and developing areas for motorized trails since the enactment of the T. Mark Schmidt

Off-Highway Vehicle Safety and Recreation Act (Section 261.20, Florida Statutes) in 2002. The Act declared that managed areas and facilities for OHV riding on state lands are compatible with the state's overall recreation plan and goals for multiple-use management. Funding from the Off-Highway Vehicle Titling Program, combined with federal funds from the motorized trail portion of the Recreational Trail Program and funds from DOF, have been used to acquire lands for trails and to assist federal and state agencies in designing and building off-highway vehicle facilities.

DOF, working with other land managers, the OHV industry and OHV riding groups, has worked to identify appropriate locations for off-highway vehicle riding on state land. Two newly designated areas include Tate's Hell State Forest in Franklin County with 154 miles of road access for OHV use and Mallory Swamp, managed by SRWMD in Lafayette County, has opened more than 38 miles of designated OHV trails. A new OHV site is under development in Baker County on the 1,600-acre St. Mary's Shoal Park acquired through a grant from FCT. DOF is working with several other communities to further expand the availability of areas for OHV riding.

While progress has been made, much is needed to provide adequate OHV trail opportunities across the state. More lands need to be designated for OHV riding and additional facilities provided to adequately meet public demand.

Equestrian Trails

Florida is a major horse-owning state, ranking third in the nation behind Texas and California according to a study conducted by

Clemson University in 2007. The equestrian industry is highly diverse and supports a wide variety of activities. It combines the largely rural activities of breeding, raising and training horses with the more urban activities of horse shows, polo, rodeos and other equine events. According to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the industry's economic impact on the gross state product is \$6.5 billion.

As noted at the public workshop sessions, equestrian groups are strong advocates for increasing access and facilities for equestrian activities on public lands. These facilities include designated horse trails, camping facilities and carriage trails. In many areas of the state, lands which have been available in the past for horseback riding are dwindling as commercial timberlands and other large ownerships are being converted to development. This makes it difficult for equestrian riders to pursue their interests and increases the demand for additional equestrian facilities on public conservation lands all across Florida.

Equestrians point to horse tourism as an example of a niche outdoor recreation activity that could generate significant economic benefits, especially for rural communities where a majority of the public lands with horse trails are located. Many workshop participants recounted their experiences of having to leave Florida to find places to ride in other states where fully developed and equipped equestrian facilities are in greater supply. Horse camping is another popular activity and is done by both individuals and groups of riders. There are specialized facility requirements for horse camping and well-designed areas are popular where riders have access to designated trails.



R.O. Ranch, Lafayette County

The recreation participation surveys conducted by the University of Florida for this plan found that tourist participation in horseback riding remained unchanged from previous surveys (0.4 percent of tourists), but that resident participation increased from 2.9 percent to 9.1 percent. In response to increased demand, efforts to expand equestrian facilities are underway in several areas. One of the state's newest equestrian facilities is R.O. Ranch, managed by the SRWMD in Lafayette County. Another new area, Colt Creek State Park in Polk County, includes plans for a full service equestrian camping facility and riding trails as part of the recreation opportunities to be provided at this 5,000-acre property. Nine other state

parks have been identified for new or expanded equestrian facilities, representing an estimated cost of \$3.3 million.

Equestrian participants at the workshops also suggested that a statewide assessment be conducted to determine the environmental effects of horseback riding on public lands, addressing factors such as water quality degradation, spread of exotic plants, erosion and other potential impacts. They also recommended that research be conducted to learn more about out-of-state visitors who travel to Florida for equestrian recreation.



Bayard Wildlife Management Area, Clay County

Hunting

Hunting has always been a vital part of outdoor recreation in Florida. Hunting carries with it an ethic of valuing wildlife for the sustenance of life and preserving lifestyles and traditions that are inseparable from Florida's history and culture. As such, hunting must be given full consideration in the state's outdoor recreation program.

Hunters in Florida have access to 5.6 million acres of land managed for wildlife on some 151 wildlife management areas. However, the future of hunting in Florida, and in the nation as well, faces challenges on many fronts. Lands that are suitable for fostering

healthy wildlife populations are being developed for other purposes at a rapid rate. Private lands that have traditionally been available to the public for hunting continue to be withdrawn from public use and converted to private leases or similar arrangements. Hunter participation rates are static or declining as seen in the number of hunting licenses sold each year and in national sales data for hunting equipment.

At the state level, the Florida Legislature took steps in 2006 to preserve hunting lands and ensure that hunting opportunities are available in the future by enacting a "no net loss" statute (Section 372.3001, Florida Statutes). Under the statute's provisions, land

land management decisions made by FWCC, including decisions that are made by private landowners to close hunting land that is managed by FWCC, must not result in any net loss of acreage that is available for hunting on FWCC-managed lands. Where hunting closures occur, FWCC must find replacement land for hunting to compensate for the closures. All state land managing agencies are directed to cooperate with FWCC to allow hunting on their lands if FWCC determines them to be suitable for hunting. Lands in the state park system may not be considered for replacement hunting land.

Building a secure future for hunting has become a national priority for sportsmen's organizations, public land managers and the outdoor equipment industry. In Florida, FWCC has developed a diverse range of programs aimed at providing safety training, hunter education and skills-building for gun hunters, bow hunters, youth and women. Some of FWCC's programs, such as the Archery in the Schools Program, incorporate formal curricula that have been developed in conjunction with the Florida Department of Education. Other programs are aimed at developing formal mentoring and organized volunteer programs. Activities like these will be vital for ensuring that the tradition of hunting in Florida continues into the future.

Chapter 7 - Implementing the Florida Outdoor Recreation Plan

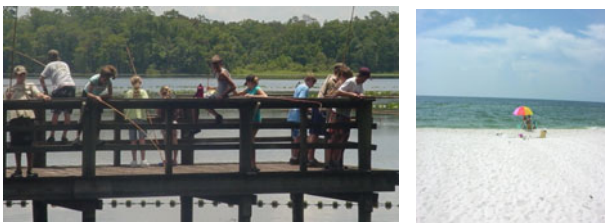
The preceding chapters of the plan have identified the current supply of outdoor recreation resources and facilities, assessed statewide and regional demand and needs for recreation opportunities, and discussed the issues and trends that will affect outdoor recreation in Florida. This chapter outlines the plan's recommendations for implementing the state's outdoor recreation program.

A System of Lands

Florida's diverse public and private outdoor recreation lands, facilities, programs and managing agencies are bound together by one universally common trait - their ability to provide public recreational opportunities of one type or another. These various areas and the users they serve can be viewed to-

gether as an interconnected system. While tremendous progress has been made in acquiring the needed lands and providing the facilities and programs to support public use of the lands, relatively little has been done to integrate the efforts of the providers. The following statement is intended to describe an ideal, but as yet unrealized, recreation system for the state.

Florida's ideal outdoor recreation system will be a diverse, connected and balanced system of outdoor recreation resources, facilities and programs that provides the state's residents and visitors with a full range of outdoor recreation opportunities, regardless of their age, gender, ethnic background, economic status, physical or mental ability, or location within the state. The system will be coordinated at the state level with all agencies and suppliers working in tandem, and with ample opportunity for the public to participate in decision making. It will further the public's understanding and appreciation of Florida's environment and outdoor recreation resources.



Goals

Several broad, overarching goals have been developed for Florida's outdoor recreation system based on the information gathered in developing this plan. Since achieving these goals will require the full participation and support of many other agencies and organizations, both public and private, the goals are expressed in a manner that should allow their adoption by existing and potential partners. The goals are as follows:

1. Improve communication, coordination and cooperation among Florida's many public land management agencies and outdoor recreation providers.
2. Improve communication, coordination and cooperation between outdoor recreation providers and the public - user groups, non-profit organizations and other private interests.
3. Support the continuation and expansion of land acquisition programs for conservation and outdoor recreation throughout the state.
4. Provide additional opportunities for resource-based and user-oriented recreation in both urban and rural areas, with a wide range of facility development from the primitive to the fully developed.
5. Support programs to broaden the public's participation in outdoor recreation activities.
6. Improve access to recreational opportunities for persons of all ages and abilities.
7. Promote a stewardship ethic, encourage volunteerism, and increase the public's understanding of the value and importance of Florida's public lands and their natural and cultural resources.
8. Increase funding and revenue generating capabilities for outdoor recreation.

Recommendations

The following recommendations stem from the suggestions received at the public workshops and from other information gathered during the plan's development. They are presented as specific actions that can be taken by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and other agencies and organizations in the state to achieve the broad goals of the plan.

Planning

Many suggestions were aimed at improving planning coordination among recreation providers. To some degree, this is already being done on the state level. Statewide land acquisition planning to support outdoor recreation is coordinated through DEP's Division of State Lands and the Acquisition and Restoration Council. Land management plans for state owned lands are developed with public input from the local level and multi-agency review through the Acquisition and Restoration Council. Statewide greenways and trails planning is coordinated by DEP's Office of Greenways and Trails through the Florida Greenways and Trails Council. Planning for the provision of off-highway vehicles on public lands is coordinated by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service's Division of Forestry (DOF) through the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Advisory Committee.

As part of the re-authorization of *Florida Forever*, new requirements were created to improve coordination in land management planning and ensure more uniform reporting of land management data and accomplishments. New land management plans will include detailed information on outcomes, goals and objectives for a wide range of management areas, including public access and recreation infrastructure. The quantitative data collected for these plans will be standardized to allow for uniform reporting.

In addition to these improvements, the following recommendations are intended to further the existing planning and coordination processes.



1. DEP should improve the usefulness of the statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan as a planning tool for public and private recreation planners. The plan should place greater focus on coordinating the outdoor recreation efforts of the state's land management agencies. A new assessment of statewide outdoor recreation demand and need should be completed prior to developing future plans. The outdoor recreation inventory should be improved by establishing criteria for defining certain facilities, by converting the inventory to Geographic Information System technology, and by incorporating methods to field-verify the data. Cooperation by local, state and federal agencies will be essential to these efforts.
2. DEP should continue using its Web site as a primary means for making the statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan available to the public. It should promote the plan as the framework for a systems approach to recreation provision and management, and should encourage other public, private and non-profit recreation providers and user groups to play a larger role in the plan's development and implementation. The Web site should continue to provide a forum for feedback from the public and outdoor recreation providers.
3. State land managing agencies should work together to determine the most effi-

cient means for implementing the new land management planning requirements created by the re-authorization of *Florida Forever*. They should also work together to determine a method for assessing the recreation values of proposed *Florida Forever* land acquisition projects as part of the evaluation system maintained by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory.

4. Local governments that have not already done so should evaluate current and future local recreation needs and address those needs in their local comprehensive plans. Local recreation plans should be developed in a regional context in cooperation with other recreation providers in the region.
5. DEP should continue to work through existing advisory and coordination bodies to promote outdoor recreation and assist those bodies in planning to meet future outdoor recreation needs at the local, regional and statewide levels.

Interagency Coordination, Cooperation and Partnerships

There is a common perception that land managing agencies must do more to improve communication and cooperation with each other and with the public they serve. Responsibilities for providing recreation opportunities are widely dispersed among a number of public agencies and private suppliers, each functioning independently of the others with little coordination between them. The overlap of responsibilities among providers can result in a surplus of resources and facilities in some areas and deficits in others. Improved coordination, cooperation and partnerships among agencies would benefit the overall effort to provide recreation opportunities and could generate solutions to many of the issues facing outdoor recrea-

tion in Florida. The following recommendations are intended to further this goal.

1. DEP should initiate efforts to conduct a statewide forum on outdoor recreation to stimulate the coordination of efforts among public and private suppliers.
2. DEP should develop a mechanism for coordinating the outdoor recreation efforts of state land managing agencies.
3. DEP should develop a Web site for the public to obtain comprehensive information about outdoor recreation opportunities in Florida. The Web site would offer information about outdoor recreation areas and link to Web sites maintained by other providers.
4. Recreation agencies should coordinate sharing information for the outdoor recreation inventory to minimize unnecessary duplication of efforts and ensure a single data source that is kept accurate and up-to-date.

Acquiring and Managing Conservation Lands

The most essential element in Florida's outdoor recreation system is land upon which to recreate. Florida is fortunate to have a legacy of successful and well-supported land acquisition programs through which it has assembled an "estate" of public conservation lands exceeding 6.6 million acres. Local governments and federal agencies have contributed tremendously to this effort, bringing an additional 6.2 million acres of conservation lands into public ownership and management. As large as these acreages may seem, they will not be enough to meet the needs of Florida's projected population of nearly 22.5 million in 2020. Through efforts

such as the re-authorization of *Florida Forever*, Florida can help ensure that its residents and visitors have an adequate supply of land available for public outdoor recreation in perpetuity.

Florida's public land "estate" may be significant, but public access to many areas is inadequate. A perception exists that public conservation lands are "locked up" after they are purchased, and that the public often loses the access that existed before the lands were acquired. While most public land is available for some type of public access, not enough priority has been given to opening land for appropriate recreational use. Often, this requires that basic facilities like parking and restrooms be provided to support public use and prevent damage to resources. Improving public access to public lands is a necessary part of building needed public support for the acquisition of public conservation lands. The following recommendations are intended to further that effort.



*Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park,
Wakulla County*

1. Public land managing agencies should ensure that all lands under their management are open for appropriate public access as soon as possible after acquisition. This should be done in a way that does not compromise the resources of the lands or the missions of the managing agencies.
2. Public land management agencies should review their public access and recreation plans and their existing access facilities to determine where additional public access can be provided without compromising resources or their management missions.
3. Resource management and restoration activities on public lands should be greatly expanded. Most lands in public ownership were degraded to some extent prior to acquisition, some extremely so. Lands that are in a high quality condition often require substantial resource management effort to maintain them in that condition. Activities such as prescribed burning, exotic species removal and hydrological restoration are vital to providing and maintaining the high-quality natural and cultural resources that support resource-based recreation.
4. Wherever possible, local governments should continue acquiring and managing environmentally significant and other conservation lands that do not meet criteria for state purchase. These lands play an indispensable role in the state's overall conservation and recreation land acquisition program, and are vital to meeting many needs for resource-based recreation.

Funding

There is no escaping the fact that meeting the needs of Florida's growing population inevitably requires adequate funding for ac-

quiring park lands and constructing, maintaining and operating park facilities. Many park and recreation agencies are faced with limited or unstable sources of funding to support their various programs. At the federal level, funding sources such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund program have been reduced to near-subsistence levels or discontinued altogether. At the state level, historically stable funding sources such as the Land Acquisition Trust Fund have been capped at previous years' levels, limiting their ability to provide the funds needed to meet the increasing demands of a growing population. Local governments face the challenge of declining real property values and limitations on their ad valorem tax revenues. Weathering the current economic conditions will require creative financing and sound management by all park and recreation agencies. Ultimately, additional funding will be required to maintain current levels of recreational services and meet future needs. The following recommendations should be implemented to improve funding for outdoor recreation.

1. The National Park Service should encourage federal legislation to create a funding mechanism adequate to support a long-term and stable financial assistance program to help serve state and local recreation needs.
2. DEP and the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) should continue to provide financial assistance grants to local governments and non-profit organizations to meet the highest needs for acquiring and developing parks, recreation areas, greenways and trails.
3. State and local recreation providers should increase and coordinate efforts to identify sources of public and private grant

funding to meet outdoor recreation programming and park development needs.

4. State and local recreation providers should seek greater use of joint, public-private partnerships to help provide financial support for outdoor recreation programs and activities.
5. All park and recreation agencies should maximize the use of volunteers and citizen-based support organizations to supplement their existing resources and personnel.
6. The Florida Recreation and Park Association, the Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy and other organizations should continue to provide technical assistance to local governments and citizen groups for identifying alternative sources of revenue and enacting local land acquisition programs.

for better long-term decision-making about natural and cultural resources and the environment. The following recommendations for state and local agencies are proposed to help ensure success in Florida's efforts to inform and educate the public on environmental concerns.



Ocala National Forest, Marion County

Environmental Education

The magnitude of environmental issues facing Florida today is such that they cannot be resolved without broad-based public understanding and support. These issues and problems present unique opportunities if used as a focus for a sound, well-coordinated environmental education program. Broader and more intensive educational efforts are needed and should be directed toward achieving two basic objectives. First, the public must be impressed with the relationships between the natural and built environments, the impacts of human activities on the environment, and the environmental values of parks and open spaces. A second essential objective is to help the public take greater advantage of the outdoor recreational opportunities available to them and to get more enjoyment from their recreational experiences. In achieving these objectives, prospects can be improved

1. DEP should continue its public awareness and education activities, and its partnership efforts with local schools to inform and educate the public about Florida's environment through the Learning in Florida's Environment (LIFE) program and through interpretive programs provided at managed areas.
2. Public schools in Florida, in partnerships with the Department of Education and public park and recreation agencies, should continue to integrate environmental education for children and adults throughout their curricula to increase awareness of the threats to and benefits of Florida's natural systems.
3. DOF should continue to educate the public on protection of forest resources through its Florida Forest Discovery Center, Future Farmers of America Forestry Contest and Summer Camp, Florida



Anastasia State Park, St. Johns County

Teachers Forestry Tour and related programs.

4. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission should continue to inform and educate the public on Florida's wildlife resources through educational camp programs, educational training for educators of K-12 grade students, outdoor skills and safety programs, and Florida's Wildlife Legacy Initiative.

Active and Healthy Living

The connection between good health and physical activity is widely recognized, and one of the best avenues to physical activity is through participating in outdoor recreation activities. Florida's public lands and waters provide opportunities for relaxation and solitude, exercise and activity, and challenge and risk. Public park and recreation agen-

cies can help support healthy lifestyles by ensuring access to public lands and waters for people of all ages and abilities through a high quality system of parks, greenways and other natural areas. Recreational resources are vital not only to improving people's lives and promoting active, healthy living, but also to fostering a deeper appreciation for Florida's natural and cultural heritage. The following recommendations should be implemented to promote outdoor recreation as a means to facilitate active and healthy living by the state's citizens.

1. State land managing agencies should coordinate with the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness to increase public awareness of the need for and benefits of healthy and active lifestyles.
2. Public park and recreation agencies should continue efforts to create and promote outdoor recreation activities through-

out the state in cooperation with private interest groups, non-profit organizations and volunteers.

3. Public park and recreation agencies should continue to work with local planning, growth management and greenway and trail programs to improve the ability of Floridians to walk and bicycle to work, school and other daily activities, and to provide public outdoor recreation opportunities.
4. Public recreation providers, schools, universities and community colleges should continue and improve efforts to open their recreation and exercise facilities to members of the public at reasonable times and during reasonable hours.

Tourism

Tourism is vital to Florida and helps fuel the growth of a healthy and competitive state economy. Planning for the state's overall outdoor recreation system must take into account the substantial demand that tourists and seasonal residents place on public outdoor recreation resources and facilities. All public recreation providers and land management agencies should be mindful of the important role they play in Florida's efforts to promote, market and advertise its outdoor recreation opportunities to domestic and international travelers and state residents. The recommendations that follow are intended to support Florida's tourism marketing programs and strengthen their relationships with the state's outdoor recreation system.

1. State land managing agencies should continue and expand their cooperative marketing relationships with VISIT FLORIDA to emphasize nature-based and cultural heritage tourism and to promote visi-

tion to the state's public conservation and recreation lands.

2. All public park and recreation providers and land management agencies should incorporate multilingual, multicultural and diversity considerations in their marketing activities, agency Web sites, on-line brochures and printed interpretive materials.
3. Land management agencies should pursue partnerships with tourism marketing programs in rural communities that are located near under-visited management areas to promote greater exposure of their sites.
4. Public park and recreation providers and land managing agencies should ensure that accurate, up-to-date information on their areas is available at VISIT FLORIDA welcome centers located at the state's major highway borders. These centers are key distribution points for maps and guides for automobile travelers.

Outdoor Recreation Opportunities for All People

Florida's public lands exist for the benefit and enjoyment of all the people. The Americans with Disabilities Act became law in 1990 but there is still much concern today over equality of access to public lands and the recreational opportunities they provide. Compliance with the Act involves much more than simply removing physical barriers to people with disabilities. Among its many other provisions, the Act also requires that all reasonable efforts be made to ensure that facilities, programs and services are accessible. Although architectural design standards have been established and are commonly used to meet the Act's requirements for facility accessibility, far less progress has been made toward eliminating barriers to full participation in recreation programs and ser-



Dr. Julian G. Bruce St. George Island State Park, Franklin County

vices. Many park and recreation agencies are embracing “universal design” concepts to ensure that their facilities, programs and services are accessible to all people, including those with disabilities, without the need for adaptation or specialized design. For example, instead of designing a building entrance to include an accessibility ramp next to a set of stairs (a common accessibility design), universal design uses a gently sloped entry with no stairs. The following recommendations are made to improve accessibility by people of all ages and abilities to the recreation opportunities provided at Florida’s parks and recreation areas.

1. Outdoor recreation providers should develop and implement schedules for identifying and eliminating architectural barriers in existing facilities under their management.
2. Outdoor recreation providers should take measures to ensure that all people, including those with disabilities, receive the

same opportunities to participate in and enjoy the benefits of recreation programs and activities.

3. Outdoor recreation providers should consider adopting principles of universal design in all programs for constructing facilities, providing visitor programs and other activities.
4. Outdoor recreation providers should develop and strengthen partnerships with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities and organizations such as the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association to educate themselves and the public, and to provide recreational activities and programs for people of all abilities and ages.

Florida's Waters

One of the clearest messages received at the public workshops is that Florida must do more to preserve opportunities for public recreational access to the state's waters. This begins with protecting Florida's water resources themselves. Maintaining freshwater and saltwater resources in a fishable, swimmable condition involves a complex and science-based system of federal, state and local regulatory and enforcement programs. Each component of this system must ensure that its efforts are maximized toward protecting and improving the quality of Florida's water resources. A particular concern that needs to be addressed is Florida's springs, a unique and highly popular recreational resource. Nutrient pollution from a variety of sources, such as excess fertilizer use, septic systems and stormwater runoff is causing harmful changes in water chemistry that must be addressed immediately if Florida's springs are to remain available for public use and enjoyment.

Most Floridians get their drinking water from groundwater. In some of Florida's most developed areas, groundwater withdrawals combined with persistent drought conditions have resulted in the loss of thousands of acres of wetlands, significant reduction in the surface areas of lakes, and reductions in spring flows. It is essential that Florida conserve water while devising solutions that will meet the needs for drinking water, agriculture, and industrial use, without harming the water-dependent natural systems that support not only outdoor recreation, but the quality of life in general.

As Florida continues to grow, many water bodies that are accessible today will become inaccessible due to development. A combined effort by federal, state and local gov-

ernments is needed to ensure that funding continues to be available to acquire land for public recreational access to waters of the State of Florida while these lands are still available. In many areas, even where water bodies are accessible, they are unusable due to the lack of public facilities. While the regional demand and need estimates in this plan are not capable of identifying local needs, there is an obvious need to fund the development of additional boat ramps, canoe launches, docks, catwalks and piers, as well as support facilities such as parking and restrooms. The following recommendations are made for protecting water resources and improving public access to Florida's public waters.

1. All levels of government, working with the private sector, should identify alternative means of meeting public demand for water through developing alternative water supplies such as seawater, brackish surface and groundwater, storm water and reclaimed wastewater.
2. Clean-up and rehabilitation efforts for specific water bodies, such as Lake Okeechobee, the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Rivers, the Everglades and the waters surrounding the Florida Keys, should be continued and strengthened.
3. DEP should continue to provide funding to support construction of public facilities in springs, monitor spring water quality and oversee other restoration activities to help ensure that springs remain available for public use.
4. DCA should continue to provide planning assistance to local governments in adopting effective land development regulations, such as the Model Land Development Code, for protecting Florida's springs.



Ichetucknee Springs State Park, Columbia County

5. Funding should continue to be made available through the *Florida Forever* program to acquire land for increased water access, preservation of working waterfronts, environmental restoration, and water resource protection and supply.
6. Reduce the amount of nutrient pollution that enters Florida's waters through programs that teach the public about where nutrients come from and what they can do to help.
7. Local governments should maximize the use of local comprehensive planning processes to increase public access to Florida's waters by preserving recreational and commercial working waterfronts and

identifying sites for public and private recreation.

8. Public recreation providers should identify water areas under their jurisdictions where inadequate recreational access exists or where existing water access can be improved, and give priority to making the needed improvements.

Greenways and Trails

Florida has pursued a systematic approach to meeting trail-based recreation needs and creating connections between public lands since 1979. The Florida Greenways and Trails System, composed of 785,000 acres



Big Bend Saltwater Paddling Trail

of public lands and waterways and 1,200 miles of linear trails, is Florida's primary means for designating trails and greenways for appropriate management and public use. Strong partnerships between trail providers and advocacy organizations have been a key element in the success of the system. Trails and greenways have become fundamental components of Florida's outdoor recreation and transportation systems. In the future, they will play an even more important role in determining urban design and quality of life in Florida's communities.

Opportunities to participate in some types of trail activities are being lost as more of the state's private lands are being committed to urban development. Focused attention will be needed to provide adequate land and facilities for such activities and to avoid conflicts with other users. Freshwater and saltwater paddling trails, the first trails to be systematically designated and managed in Florida, would benefit from a more coordinated approach to management. The following

recommendations are made for maintaining and expanding the statewide greenways and trails system for recreation, conservation and alternative transportation in cooperation with land management agencies, local communities and trail support groups.

1. DEP should expand the statewide greenways and trails system by acquiring corridors with regional and statewide significance, utilizing funds allocated from *Florida Forever*.
2. DEP should expand the designation of trails and greenways as components of the Florida Greenways and Trails System, particularly in parts of the state that are currently under-represented in the system.
3. DEP should complete its update of trail opportunity maps to identify potential locations for new trails and greenways and guide the allocation of acquisition funds for trails and greenways.
4. DEP should continue to provide, through the Office of Greenways and Trails, tech-

- nical assistance to local communities with emphasis on identifying opportunities for cross-jurisdictional and regional trail connectivity.
5. DEP should maintain and strengthen its working relationships with trail-related advocacy and support organizations.
 6. DEP, working with DOF, should expand opportunities for motorized off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation in Florida through effective administration of Recreational Trail Program grants and by building strong relationships with the OHV community.
 7. DEP, working with the various land management agencies, should determine methods for increasing coordination in managing freshwater and saltwater paddling trails.
 8. All public land management agencies, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the Florida Trail Association, should work toward completing the Florida National Scenic Trail and providing new hiking opportunities in the state.
 9. The Department of Transportation should continue to provide assistance to local communities and trail user groups in providing bicycle and pedestrian facilities for public recreation and improving transportation access in urban areas.

Relative Need Priorities Index

If implementation capabilities were great enough, all needs could be approached simultaneously and priority would be largely immaterial. Since this is not the case, a priority system is the only logical solution. To aid all providers of public outdoor recreation in determining where their land acquisition and development efforts should be directed, the Division of Recreation and Parks has devised a set of “relative need indices,” which prioritize (from highest to lowest relative need) both the resource-based and user-oriented outdoor recreation activities in this plan. For the purposes of this plan, relative need is defined as the ranked, proportional relationship among all outdoor recrea-



*Withlacoochee Bay Trail,
Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway*

tion needs for each basic type of activity. The relative need indices compare the needs from any one activity in any one region, with the needs for all activities in all regions, and establish the priority ranking among them. Separate indices were computed for 2010, 2015 and 2020 projected needs. For a detailed description of the relative need methodology, refer to Appendix K.

Table 7.1 displays the 2010 relative need priorities for all levels of outdoor recreation supply. Appendix K contains the relative need indices for projected 2015 and 2020 needs. While no single supplier of outdoor recreation can be expected to meet the total public recreation demand, these indices provide each supplier a general guide as to the recreational activity (and its region) requiring the most immediate attention.

The relative need indices can make an important contribution in helping all agencies to efficiently allocate their funding resources. Still, they must be recognized as only one of several basic criteria to consider in committing these resources. While far from providing precise measurements of outdoor recreation need, the relative need indices constitute a general guide which can be readily adjusted whenever there is significant change in either the demand for or supply of outdoor recreation resources or facilities. The biennial update of the supply inventory and the periodic surveys of outdoor recreation participation will provide the necessary data to compute revised indices and to assess progress made toward meeting present and projected outdoor recreation needs. Consequently, priorities for acquisition and development of resource and facilities can be re-established accordingly.

Table 7.1
2010 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
1	Picnicking	6	8270	36	Soccer or Rugby	6	2126
2	RV/Trailer Camping	6	5540	37	Saltwater Beach Activities	4	2098
3	Picnicking	9	5257	38	Horseback Riding	6	2042
4	Picnicking	8	4899	39	Baseball or Softball	1	1988
5	Saltwater Beach Activities	1	4734	40	Saltwater Beach Activities	2	1986
6	RV/Trailer Camping	9	4389	41	Saltwater Beach Activities	8	1960
7	Football	6	4318	42	Picnicking	1	1903
8	RV/Trailer Camping	8	4081	43	Outdoor Tennis	11	1852
9	Baseball or Softball	6	4007	44	Golf	6	1844
10	RV/Trailer Camping	7	3772	45	Football	5	1818
11	Football	10	3523	46	RV/Trailer Camping	5	1789
12	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	11	3470	47	Picnicking	10	1768
13	Picnicking	11	3429	48	Nature Study	2	1759
14	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	6	3150	49	Nature Study	5	1738
15	Baseball or Softball	8	3036	50	Baseball or Softball	5	1701
16	Football	11	3002	51	Outdoor Tennis	10	1687
17	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	4	2942	52	Golf	11	1658
18	Picnicking	7	2892	53	Football	9	1644
19	Saltwater Beach Activities	9	2864	54	Baseball or Softball	7	1642
20	Golf	10	2806	55	Football	1	1640
21	Baseball or Softball	4	2799	56	Nature Study	9	1636
22	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	9	2722	57	Baseball or Softball	9	1632
23	Football	8	2702	58	Saltwater Beach Activities	10	1623
24	Baseball or Softball	10	2651	59	Outdoor Basketball	11	1591
25	Baseball or Softball	11	2613	60	Picnicking	4	1581
26	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	8	2579	61	Golf	8	1581
27	Nature Study	6	2563	62	Outdoor Basketball	10	1553
28	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	6	2560	63	Outdoor Tennis	6	1553
29	Outdoor Basketball	6	2496	64	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	6	1519
30	Picnicking	5	2464	65	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	6	1517
31	Saltwater Beach Activities	11	2438	66	Football	3	1444
32	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	10	2224	67	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	11	1437
33	Saltwater Beach Activities	6	2194	68	Outdoor Basketball	8	1423
34	Football	4	2169	69	RV/Trailer Camping	11	1396
35	Golf	9	2167	70	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	2	1387

Table 7.1 (continued)
2010 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
71	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	4	1353	106	Soccer or Rugby	10	844
72	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	7	1312	107	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	5	842
73	Nature Study	11	1307	108	Freshwater Beach Activities	8	839
74	Outdoor Tennis	8	1293	109	Outdoor Basketball	9	829
75	Soccer or Rugby	11	1291	110	Baseball or Softball	3	828
76	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	6	1280	111	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	5	826
77	Outdoor Basketball	4	1238	112	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	6	816
78	Picnicking	3	1185	113	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	11	813
79	Outdoor Tennis	9	1167	114	Horseback Riding	4	794
80	Nature Study	4	1163	115	Golf	1	790
81	Nature Study	3	1152	116	Outdoor Shuffleboard	6	779
82	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	5	1145	117	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	6	774
83	Nature Study	7	1144	118	Soccer or Rugby	9	772
84	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	1	1133	119	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	11	772
85	Soccer or Rugby	8	1109	120	RV/Trailer Camping	1	768
86	Nature Study	8	1095	121	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	9	767
87	Golf	4	1077	122	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	1	764
88	RV/Trailer Camping	10	1045	123	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	11	763
89	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	7	1043	124	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	4	760
90	Outdoor Basketball	5	1038	125	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	2	757
91	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	1	1033	126	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	8	752
92	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	8	991	127	Tent Camping	6	746
93	Soccer or Rugby	5	972	128	Outdoor Tennis	4	746
94	Soccer or Rugby	4	953	129	Horseback Riding	3	733
95	Baseball or Softball	2	950	130	RV/Trailer Camping	4	732
96	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	9	948	131	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	4	731
97	Horseback Riding	5	947	132	Horseback Riding	8	722
98	Picnicking	2	933	133	Nature Study	10	708
99	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	9	933	134	Outdoor Basketball	3	700
100	Soccer or Rugby	3	924	135	Soccer or Rugby	1	696
101	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	5	913	136	Horseback Riding	7	693
102	Football	7	894	137	Football	2	692
103	Hunting	9	871	138	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	9	688
104	Golf	7	865	139	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	6	684
105	Outdoor Shuffleboard	8	849	140	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	8	677

Table 7.1 (continued)

2010 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
141	Outdoor Basketball	7	673	176	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	2	430
142	Golf	5	664	177	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	3	429
143	RV/Trailer Camping	3	663	178	Hiking	6	422
144	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	9	660	179	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	2	420
145	Hunting	2	650	180	Soccer or Rugby	2	418
146	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	1	641	181	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	10	411
147	Tent Camping	5	636	182	Hunting	1	410
148	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	8	628	183	Outdoor Tennis	7	400
149	Nature Study	1	624	184	Freshwater Beach Activities	6	399
150	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	9	619	185	Hunting	6	390
151	Hunting	5	601	186	Freshwater Beach Activities	10	388
152	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	3	600	187	Hiking	2	373
153	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	7	584	188	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	11	368
154	Horseback Riding	10	580	189	Outdoor Basketball	2	367
155	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	3	573	190	Outdoor Shuffleboard	11	366
156	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	1	534	191	Hiking	4	357
157	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	9	527	192	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	5	357
158	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	3	525	193	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	8	346
159	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	6	517	194	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	8	332
160	Outdoor Tennis	1	516	195	Outdoor Shuffleboard	10	327
161	Outdoor Basketball	1	509	196	Hunting	11	325
162	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	10	509	197	Hiking	3	318
163	Hiking	5	508	198	Hunting	4	312
164	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	11	506	199	Hiking	7	308
165	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	10	488	200	RV/Trailer Camping	2	302
166	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	7	488	201	Outdoor Tennis	5	301
167	Outdoor Shuffleboard	7	485	202	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	4	300
168	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	4	482	203	Hiking	10	293
169	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	10	469	204	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	10	290
170	Outdoor Shuffleboard	9	469	205	Horseback Riding	11	280
171	Horseback Riding	9	465	206	Hunting	10	279
172	Soccer or Rugby	7	453	207	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	4	266
173	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	10	443	208	Hiking	8	260
174	Hiking	9	437	209	Tent Camping	1	260
175	Horseback Riding	2	432	210	Tent Camping	9	251

Table 7.1 (continued)
2010 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
211	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	5	248	246	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	3	124
212	Hiking	11	246	247	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	5	118
213	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	10	237	248	Tent Camping	10	117
214	Horseback Riding	1	237	249	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	7	115
215	Hunting	3	236	250	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	2	110
216	Tent Camping	3	225	251	Freshwater Beach Activities	9	91
217	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	4	225	252	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	5	91
218	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	8	224	253	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	3	91
219	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	1	222	254	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	3	91
220	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	2	219	255	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	1	88
221	Hiking	1	212	256	Freshwater Beach Activities	11	85
222	Tent Camping	4	210	257	Freshwater Beach Activities	1	84
223	Tent Camping	2	208	258	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	2	80
224	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	1	204	259	Outdoor Shuffleboard	4	78
225	Outdoor Tennis	2	204	260	Outdoor Shuffleboard	1	77
226	Outdoor Shuffleboard	5	201	261	Freshwater Beach Activities	5	72
227	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	7	192	262	Freshwater Beach Activities	4	59
228	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	5	188	263	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	1	58
229	Golf	2	185	264	Freshwater Beach Activities	2	48
230	Outdoor Tennis	3	183	265	Freshwater Beach Activities	3	45
231	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	3	179	266	Hunting	7	40
232	Golf	3	168	267	Outdoor Shuffleboard	3	37
233	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	7	164	268	Hunting	8	36
234	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	10	155	269	Saltwater Beach Activities	5	18
235	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	11	150	270	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	3	17
236	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	9	149	271	Outdoor Shuffleboard	2	9
237	Tent Camping	8	135	272	Saltwater Beach Activities	3	8
238	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	2	135				
239	Freshwater Beach Activities	7	134				
240	Tent Camping	7	134				
241	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	11	132				
242	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	4	128				
243	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	8	128				
244	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	2	127				
245	Tent Camping	11	126				

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES - The physical evidence or remains of known historic or prehistoric human life, activity or culture. Significant ruins, artifacts, inscriptions, structural and/or human remains may be considered archaeological resources.

BEACH - The zone of unconsolidated material that extends landward from the mean low water line to the place where there is marked change in material or physiographic form, or to the line of permanent vegetation, usually the effective limit of storm waves. "Beach," as used in the coastal management element requirements is limited to oceanic and estuarine shorelines.

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN WAYS - Any road, path or way which is open to bicycle travel and traffic afoot and from which motor vehicles are excluded.

BUFFER AREA - An area or space separating an outdoor recreation area from influences which would tend to depreciate essential recreational values of the outdoor recreation area. Especially needed in cases such as wilderness areas where the values involved are fragile or volatile or where the outside influences are of a particularly harsh and incompatible nature, as in urban or industrial areas, or along a busy highway.

CARRYING CAPACITY - The amount of outdoor recreation which a given outdoor recreation area, resource or facility can actually accommodate or provide at any given time under existing conditions.

COMMUNITY PARK - A park located near major roadways and designed to serve the needs of more than one neighborhood.

COMPATIBLE OUTDOOR RECREATION ACTIVITIES - Outdoor recreational activities conducted on the same resource base without interfering with each other and which are not harmful to the environment.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - Plan that meets the requirements of s. 163.3177 and 163.3178, F.S., and thus contains the guidelines, principles and standards for the orderly, coordinated and balanced future economic, social, physical, environmental and fiscal development of the area.

CONCURRENCY - The necessary public facilities and services to maintain the adopted level of service standards are available when the impacts of development occur.

CONSERVATION AND RECREATION LANDS (CARL) - Land acquisition program administered by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to acquire property from willing property owners to protect environmentally endangered lands for state parks, forest, wildlife management areas, beaches and recreation areas which are sensitive due to the presence of unique or rare habitats, endangered or threatened species, or unique historical, archaeological or geological features.

CONSERVATION USES - Activities or conditions within land areas designated for the purpose of conserving or protecting natural resources or environmental quality, including areas designated for flood control and floodplain management, and the protection of quality or quantity of ground or surface water, commercial or recreational fish and shellfish habitat, or vegetative communities or wildlife habitats.

CULTURAL RESOURCES - Archaeological and historical sites and properties. The significance of

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these resources is derived not only from individual artifacts but also from the spatial arrangement of the artifacts in both horizontal and vertical planes.

DEMAND - See "OUTDOOR RECREATION DEMAND."

DENSITY - An objective measurement of the number of people or residential units allowed per unit of land, such as residents or employees per acre.

DEVELOPMENT - The act of physically altering an area, site or resource to increase its ability or capacity to serve outdoor recreation purposes; also a representative result of such improvement. Development usually implies improvement by degrees and pertains primarily to the process of opening up, landscaping, erecting structures and facilities, etc. It is a more comprehensive term than "improvement."

ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT - An integrated approach to the management of Florida's green infrastructure of native landscapes and communities recognizing the biological, physical and chemical elements of discrete environments conducted through the use of tools such as planning, land acquisition, environmental education, regulation and pollution prevention designed to maintain, protect and improve the state's natural managed and human communities.

ECOTOURISM - Tourism based principally upon natural and archaeological/historical resources that involves traveling to relatively undisturbed or uncontaminated natural areas with the specific object of admiring, studying and enjoying the scenery and its wild plants and animals, as well as any existing cultural features (both past and present) found in these areas.

EXTENSIVE USE - (As contrasted with "intensive use.") Use of an outdoor recreation area for outdoor recreation activities which require a relatively high "land/man" ratio (large amount of resource per user served, e.g. hunting, wilderness camping, etc.).

FLORIDA GREENWAYS AND TRAILS SYSTEM - Statewide system proposed to link natural areas, open spaces and trails in Florida, consisting of large or medium-sized hubs, smaller sites and extensive to small connective landscape features.

FLORIDA SCENIC HIGHWAY - Any public road on the State Highway System that is designated by the Department of Transportation pursuant to Section 335.093, F.S.

FUNDING ASSISTANCE - The awarding of funds for assistance in financing the acquisition and development of an outdoor recreation project.

COST SHARING - The awarding of funds for financial assistance in the acquisition and development of an outdoor recreation project which is matched in varying amounts by the project's sponsor.

MATCHING BASIS - The awarding of funds for financial assistance in the acquisition and development of an outdoor recreation project which is matched equally by the project's sponsor.

GREENWAY - A linear open space established along either a natural corridor, such as a riverfront, stream valley or ridgeline, or over land along a railroad right-of-way converted to recreational use, a canal, a scenic road or other route; any natural or landscaped course for pedestrian or bicycle passage; an open space connector linking parks, nature reserves, cultural features or historic sites with each other

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and populated areas; or a local strip or linear park designated as a parkway or greenbelt.

HABITAT FRAGMENTATION - Human activity such as agriculture, road building and suburb and city development, resulting in the creation of small isolated areas that are poorly suited to maintaining ecological function and support smaller populations of remaining species. Two components of habitat fragmentation which may result in extinction include the reduction in total habitat area, resulting in reduction in population sizes and redistribution of the remaining area into distinct fragments, affecting dispersal and immigration rates.

HISTORIC RESOURCES - All areas, districts or sites containing properties listed on the Florida Master Site File, the National Register of Historic Places or designated by a local government as historically, architecturally or archaeologically significant.

INFRASTRUCTURE - Man-made structures which serve the common needs of the population, such as sewage disposal systems, potable water systems, potable water wells serving a system, solid waste disposal sites or retention areas, stormwater systems, utilities, piers, docks, wharves, breakwaters, bulkheads, seawalls, bulwarks, revetments, causeways, marinas, navigation channels, bridges or roadways.

INTENSITY - An objective measurement of the extent to which land may be developed or used, including the consumption or use of the space above, on or below ground, the measurement of the use of or demand on natural resources, and the measurement of the use of or demand on facilities and services.

INTENSIVE USE - (As contrasted with "extensive use.") Use of an outdoor recreation area for outdoor recreation activities which requires a relatively low "land/man" ratio or small amount of resource per user served, e.g. swimming, picnicking, sightseeing, etc.

LAND ACQUISITION - Obtaining land and related resources for public outdoor recreation by various means.

LAND PURCHASE - The acquisition of land and related resources in which title to the property is obtained by transaction involving payment to the grantor.

LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY - The study of native landscape structure, function and change at the scale of entire landscapes, as well as the application of the results to the design and management of both natural and human-dominated areas.

LEVEL OF SERVICE - An indicator of the extent or degree of service provided by, or proposed to be provided by, a facility based on and related to the operational characteristics of the facility. Level of service shall indicate the capacity per unit of demand for each public facility.

MANAGEMENT AREA - An area devoted to specialized management for either game (wildlife management area) or sport fish (fish management area) and declared to be such by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

MARINE WETLANDS - Areas with a water regime determined primarily by tides and the dominant vegetation is salt tolerant plant species.

MITIGATION BANKING - Preserving, restoring or enhancing wetland areas for the purpose of setting them aside to compensate for future conversions of wetlands for development activities. A wetland bank

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may be created when a government agency, a corporation or a nonprofit organization undertakes such activities under a formal agreement with a regulatory agency. The value of a bank is determined by quantifying the wetland values restored or created in terms of “credits.”

MULTI-PURPOSE OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITY - (As contrasted to a "single purpose facility.") An outdoor recreation facility which is designed for more than one activity use, e.g. athletic field or racquetball/handball court.

MULTIPLE USE - A land management objective seeking to coordinate several environmental, recreational, economic, historic, cultural and/or social values in the same geographic area in a compatible and sustainable manner.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK - A park which serves the population of a neighborhood and is generally accessible by bicycle or pedestrian walkways.

OPEN SPACE - Undeveloped lands suitable for some types of recreation activities or conservation uses.

OUTDOOR RECREATION - The pursuit of leisure-time activities which occur in an outdoor setting. For clarification on types of outdoor recreation, see “resource-based outdoor recreation” and “user-oriented outdoor recreation.”

OUTDOOR RECREATION ACTIVITY - A specific, individual type of outdoor recreation. Activities are divided into two categories: active activities are those which involve some direct and specialized physical manipulation by the participant such as swimming, hiking, boating, etc.; passive activities are those which are more mental than physical, such as sightseeing, nature study, scenic appreciation, etc.

OUTDOOR RECREATION AREA - Generally, any expanse of real estate, of no particular size, used for outdoor recreation. Used in the plural it is all-inclusive, although in specific usage it would be contrasted with an "outdoor recreation site" by being larger and broader in purpose.

OUTDOOR RECREATION DEMAND - The quantity of outdoor recreation necessary to satisfy all prospective participants during any given time period. Demand is not strictly a matter of desire, but rather of desire tempered by such limiting factors as opportunity, awareness, financial ability, physical ability, and competing uses of available time.

OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES - Those improvements or artificially installed accessories which facilitate the use of an area or a resource for outdoor recreation. Facilities are divided into two categories, primary facilities are those that are essential or extremely desirable for conducting a particular outdoor recreation activity, such as launching ramps for boating, trails for cycling, roads for access to areas, etc. and secondary facilities are those that are desirable as a further enhancement of the recreational experience but are still dispensable, such as outdoor grills for picnicking and camping, docks for boating, etc.

OUTDOOR RECREATION INVENTORY - The sum of all public and private outdoor recreation areas, resources and facilities making up a complete outdoor recreation system. Also, the process of assembling and cataloging information on such a system.

OUTDOOR RECREATION NEED - The amount by which outdoor recreation demand exceeds available outdoor recreation supply in a given area. Used in the plural, "needs" usually refers to the actual

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resources and facilities which comprise "need."

OUTDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITY - The availability of a preferred type of outdoor recreation to a potential user or participant. Used in a collective sense, it refers to the total amount of potential outdoor recreation available at any given time.

OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN - An overall framework for the planning and provision of balanced outdoor recreation opportunities for potential and actual users.

OUTDOOR RECREATION PROGRAM - An ongoing series of related and coordinated efforts designed to further a common outdoor recreation purpose.

OUTDOOR RECREATION RESOURCE AND FACILITY REQUIREMENTS - The total amount of actual outdoor recreation resources and facilities necessary to supply a specified amount of outdoor recreation demand at a given time.

OUTDOOR RECREATION RESOURCE AND FACILITY GUIDELINE - Hypothetical measures of outdoor recreation opportunities expressed as park, resource or facility units which are intended to represent conditions of use and optimum levels of supply for the individual user, a given population of residents or a specific service area within a city or county.

USE GUIDELINE (OR USE STANDARD) - A hypothetical measure of use conditions for outdoor recreation resources and facilities, e.g. the number of hikers per unit of trail, the number of bathers per unit of beach, etc. Use guidelines are used to translate outdoor recreation supply (expressed in physical units of measure) into outdoor recreation demand (expressed in user-occasions).

POPULATION GUIDELINE - An optimum ratio of a given quantity of resources and facilities to a hypothetical number of people, e.g. one tennis court per 2,000 population. Population guidelines are provided for both resource-based and user-oriented activities and are used primarily by local government and private development agencies.

SITE GUIDELINE - An estimate of local park and recreation area acreage proposed for serving various specific service areas or particular populations residing within a given radius, e.g. two acres of neighborhood park per 1,000 population, serving not more than 5,000 people and a population residing within 1/4 to 1/2 mile of the park.

OUTDOOR RECREATION RESOURCES - Those natural resources used for the support of outdoor recreation, such as land, water, wildlife, natural scenery, etc. A special case is made where historical and archaeological remains are concerned. Although not natural resources, they are included because of their limited, non-renewable character.

OUTDOOR RECREATION SITE - An outdoor recreation area of relatively small size.

OUTDOOR RECREATION SUPPLIER - An agency, organization, group or individual, either public or private, with a broad area of responsibility for providing public outdoor recreation, distinguished on the basis of both the nature of the supplier and the nature of the outdoor recreation supplied. Six categories of outdoor recreation suppliers have been defined: federal and state government, county and municipal government, private commercial enterprise, private non-profit, private club and private un-inventoried.

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OUTDOOR RECREATION SUPPLY - The total amount of potential outdoor recreation afforded at any given time by an outdoor recreation system.

OUTDOOR RECREATION SUPPLY CAPACITY - The amount of outdoor recreation which a given outdoor recreation area, resource, facility or site can accommodate or provide at any given time under a specified measure of use conditions.

OUTDOOR RECREATION SUPPLY POTENTIAL - The amount of potential outdoor recreation afforded in the future by any outdoor recreation system.

OUTDOOR RECREATION SYSTEM - A purposeful assemblage of physical units or elements made up of recreation areas, resources and facilities designed to meet the demands of a given segment of the public.

OUTDOOR RECREATION USE - The involvement of outdoor recreation areas, resources or facilities in the purpose for which they were intended.

OUTDOOR RECREATION USER - One who uses outdoor recreation areas, resources or facilities.

PARTICIPANT ACTIVITIES - Those outdoor recreation activities which involve direct participation, either active (as in the case of swimming) or passive (as in the case of nature study), by the individual. See "spectator activities."

PARTICIPANTS-PER-FACILITY RATIO - A need methodology that compares the number of one time activity users per unit of supply.

PER CAPITA PARTICIPATION RATE - The rate at which a person participates in a particular outdoor recreation activity, expressed in number of times per year.

PLAYGROUND - A recreation area with play apparatus.

PRIORITY - The ranking or order of precedence assigned to each project or need to establish its place with respect to all others under consideration at any given time.

PRIVATE RECREATION SITES - Sites owned by private, commercial or non-profit entities available to the public for purposes of recreational use.

PROJECTION - An extrapolation or extension of known data to derive comparable working data for selected target dates.

PUBLIC ACCESS - The ability of the public to physically reach, enter or use recreation sites including beaches and shores.

PUBLIC LANDS - Any lands in the state which are owned by, leased by or otherwise assigned to the state or any of its agencies and which are used by the general public for recreational purposes.

PUBLIC RECREATION SITES - Sites owned or leased on a long-term basis by a federal, state, regional or local government agency for purposes of recreational use.

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gional or local government agency for purposes of recreational use.

RECREATION - The infinite variety of activities which people elect to occupy their leisure time and satisfy their need for diversion.

REGIONAL PARK - A park which is designed to serve two or more communities.

RESOURCE-BASED OUTDOOR RECREATION - Types of outdoor recreation activities dependent on natural and cultural resources, contrasted with "user-oriented" outdoor recreation. For this plan, activities include saltwater beach activities, bicycle riding, boating, camping, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, nature study, off-highway vehicle riding, picnicking, freshwater swimming and visiting archaeological and historical sites.

RESOURCE/FACILITY REQUIREMENTS - The total amount of outdoor recreation resources/facilities necessary to accommodate the total outdoor recreation demand at any given time.

RESOURCE TYPE - A class of outdoor recreation resource which can be specifically identified, such as a freshwater lake, an ocean beach, a hardwood forest, etc.

RURAL AREAS - Low density areas characterized by social, economic and institutional activities which may be largely based on agricultural uses or the extraction of natural resources in unprocessed form, or areas containing large proportions of undeveloped, unimproved or low density property.

SERVICE AREA - The surrounding land area from which an outdoor recreation resource, area, site or facility draws its participants.

SHORELINE OR SHORE - The interface of land and water, as used in the coastal management element requirements, and is limited to oceanic and estuarine interfaces.

SINGLE-PURPOSE FACILITY - (As contrasted to "multi-purpose.") A specialized type of outdoor recreation facility which is designed for one recreational activity, e.g. tennis court.

SPECTATOR ACTIVITIES - Those outdoor recreation activities which are carried on primarily for the visual benefit of others rather than for the direct enjoyment of the active participants, such as stadium sports, horse races, etc.

STAKEHOLDER - Group or individual who can affect, or is affected by, the achievement of the organization or program's mission. Examples include managers, employees, policy makers, suppliers, vendors, citizens and community groups.

STEWARDSHIP - Sense of responsibility for, desire to participate in, or taking charge of the protection and management of land and water resources.

SUITABILITY - The degree to which the existing characteristics and limitations of land and water are compatible with a proposed use or development.

SYSTEMS PLANNING - The process of assessing the park, recreation, open space and greenway facility needs of a community and translating that information into a framework for meeting the physical, spatial and facility requirements to satisfy those needs.

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TRAIL - Linear corridor and any adjacent support parcels on land or water providing public access for recreation or authorized alternative modes of transportation.

Trail Types:

Hiking - Path used solely for backpacking or long distance hiking.

Bicycle - Designated trail or system of trails used primarily for bicycling.

Interpretative/Nature - Trail designed or marked for nature interpretation and study.

Horseback - Improved or unimproved trail designated and used primarily for horseback riding.

Canoe and Kayak- Distance along most commonly used route on a designated or undesignated waterway used for canoeing.

Exercise/Parcourse - Course designed generally for jogging, but which may or may not have exercise stations.

Multipurpose, Multi-use or Shared - Trail used for more than one of the above activities.

URBAN AREA - An area of, or for development, characterized by social, economic and institutional activities which are predominantly based on the manufacture, production, distribution or provision of goods and services in a setting which typically includes residential and nonresidential development uses other than those which are characteristic of rural areas.

URBAN SPRAWL - Urban development or uses which are located in predominantly rural areas, or rural areas interspersed with generally low-intensity or low-density urban uses, and which are characterized by one or more of the following conditions: (a) The premature or poorly planned conversion of rural land to other uses; (b) The creation of areas of urban development or uses which are not functionally related to land uses which predominate the adjacent area; or (c) The creation of areas of urban development or uses which fail to maximize the use of existing public facilities or the use of areas within which public services are currently provided. Urban sprawl is typically manifested in one or more of the following land use or development patterns: Leapfrog or scattered development; ribbon or strip commercial or other development; or large expanses of predominantly low-intensity, low-density, or single-use development.

USER-ORIENTED OUTDOOR RECREATION - Types of outdoor recreation that can be placed at the convenience of the user to take advantage of proximity to population centers. For this plan, these activities include golf, tennis, baseball/softball, football/soccer, handball/racquetball, shuffleboard, basketball, volleyball and outdoor pool swimming. Land areas for space is usually the only consideration dealing with the natural resource base. Some types of outdoor recreation may be either "user-oriented" or "resource-based" depending on the setting they utilize and the conjunctive values involved, as with the case of swimming, bicycling, picnicking, camping, etc.

USER-PREFERENCE - The exercise of choice of outdoor recreation activities by a potential participant. The total impact of user-preference is the determination of activity distribution in outdoor recreation demand.

USER-SATISFACTION - The measure of the extent to which an outdoor recreation experience satisfies the desires of the participant. Also sometimes referred to as user-enjoyment.

WETLANDS - Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency and a duration sufficient to support, and [that] under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soils. Soils present in wetlands generally are classified as hydric or alluvial, or possess characteristics that are associated with reducing soil conditions. The prevalent vegetation in wetlands generally consists of facultative or obligate hydrophytic macrophytes

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that are typically adapted to areas having soil conditions described above. Florida wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bayheads, bogs, cypress domes and strands, sloughs, wet prairies, riverine swamps and marshes, hydric seepage slopes, tidal marshes, mangrove swamps and other similar areas.

WILDERNESS - An undeveloped area of land which has essentially retained its primeval character and influence without permanent alteration.

WILDLIFE - Animals such as birds, fish, insects, mammals, amphibians and reptiles that are living in natural or wild environments. Wildlife does not include animals living in aquariums, zoos and other artificial surroundings, or domestic animals such as pets and livestock.

Appendix B
Unit Classification System

Public Land Classifications

Each land managing agency has a classification system for management of public lands. Classifying sites in this way is a management technique designed to make the sites serve the public recreation purposes which are in greatest demand and for which the properties themselves are best suited. In striving for such an objective, some compromise is inevitable. Simultaneous use and protection of the resources of any given site are not fully compatible. Any use of the site diminishes the quality of the resources to some extent, while any resource protective measure will similarly reduce the amount of use possible. The intent is to seek a proper balance between the types and amount of use the site may receive and the degree of protective management required to insure the long-term maintenance of the resources which support that use. Classifying each site appropriately is the first major step toward achieving that desired use protection balance.

Following are descriptions of management classifications implemented by the National Park Service, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, United States Forest Service, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

National Park Service

National Park Service (NPS) includes numerous designations and sites and the authorizing Congressional legislation or the president creates all designations and names. The president has the authority to proclaim "national monuments" under the Antiquities Act of 1906. Many names are descriptive, such as lakeshores, seashores and battlefields, but others cannot be neatly categorized because of the diversity of resources within them. In 1970, Congress elaborated on the 1916 National Park Service Organic Act declaring that all units of the system have equal legal standing in a national system.

National Park

These are generally large natural places with a wide variety of attributes and at times including significant historical assets. Hunting, mining and consumptive activities are not authorized.

National Monument

The Antiquities Act of 1906, authorized the president to declare by public proclamation landmarks, structures and other objects of historic or scientific interest situated on lands owned or controlled by the government to become national monuments.

National Preserve

National preserves are areas having characteristics associated with national parks, but in which Congress has permitted continued public hunting, trapping, oil/gas exploration and extraction. Many existing national preserves, without sport hunting, would qualify for national park designation.

National Historic Site

Usually a national historic site contains a single historical feature that was directly associated with its subject. Derived from the Historic Sites Act of 1935, a number of historic sites were established by Secretaries of the Interior, but most have been authorized by acts of Congress.

National Historic Park

This designation generally applies to historic parks that extend beyond single properties or buildings.

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National Memorial

A national memorial is commemorative of a historic person or episode; it need not occupy a site historically connected with its subject.

National Battlefield

This general title includes national battlefield, national battlefield park, national battlefield site and national military park. In 1958, an NPS committee recommended national battlefield as the single title for all such park lands.

National Cemetery

There are presently 14 national cemeteries in the National Park System, all of which are administered in conjunction with an associated unit and are not accounted for separately.

National Recreation Trail

Twenty five national recreation trails have been certified throughout Florida offering paddling, bicycling, hiking and walking.

National Seashore

Ten national seashores have been established on the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific coasts; some are developed and some are relatively primitive. Hunting is allowed at many of these sites.

National Lakeshore

National lakeshores, all on the Great Lakes, closely parallel the seashores in character and use.

National River

There are several variations to this category: National River and Recreation Area, National Scenic River, National Wild River, etc. The first was authorized in 1964 and others were established following passage of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968.

National Parkway

The title parkway refers to a roadway and the parkland paralleling the roadway. All were intended for scenic motoring along a protected corridor and often connect cultural sites.

National Scenic Trail

National Scenic Trails and National Historic Trails are the titles given to these linear parklands (over 3,600 miles) authorized under the National Trails System Act of 1968.

Affiliated Areas

On August 18, 1970, the National Park System was defined in law as, "any area of land and water now or hereafter administered by the Secretary of the Interior through NPS for park, monument, historic, parkway, recreational or other purposes." The Affiliated Areas comprise a variety of locations in the United States and Canada that preserve significant properties outside the National Park System. Some of these have been recognized by Acts of Congress and others have been designated national historic sites by the Secretary of the Interior under authority of the Historic Sites Act of 1935. All draw on technical or financial aid from the National Park Service.

Other Designations

Some units of the National Park System bear unique titles or combinations of titles, like the White House and Prince William Forest Park.

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Unit Classification System

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Marine Sanctuary

Under Title III of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended, the United States Congress authorizes the designation of discrete areas of the marine environment as National Marine Sanctuaries to protect distinctive natural and cultural resources whose protection and beneficial use requires comprehensive planning and management. The mission of the National Marine Sanctuary program is to identify, designate and manage areas of the marine environment of special national significance due to their conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, research, educational or aesthetic qualities. The goals of the National Marine Sanctuary program are to provide enhanced resource protection through conservation and management of the sanctuaries that complements existing regulatory authorities; to support, promote and coordinate scientific research on, and monitoring of, the site-specific marine resources of the Sanctuaries; to enhance public awareness, understanding, appreciation and wise use of the marine environment; and to facilitate, to the extent compatible with the primary objective of resource protection, multiple uses of the National Marine Sanctuaries.

National Estuarine Research Reserve

National Estuarine Research Reserves (NERR) are a protected areas network of federal, state and local partnerships. The estuary reserves represent the wide range of coastal and estuarine habitats found in the United States and its territories. Through linked programs of stewardship, education and research, NERR enhance informed management and scientific understanding of the Nation's estuarine and coastal habitats. The reserves serve as classrooms where the effects of both natural and human activities can be monitored and studied.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

National Wildlife Refuge

The purpose of a National Wildlife Refuge is to "preserve a national network of lands and waters for the conservation and management of the fish, wildlife and plants of the United States for the benefit of present and future generations." As long as the goal of wildlife conservation is not compromised, other uses may be a part of the refuge formula. Nature study, hunting, fishing, canoeing, hiking and other nature-based activities are permitted in wildlife refuges when compatible with the natural resources.

United States Forest Service

National Forest

National forests are large areas of protected open space that are managed for multiple use. The uses permitted in a national forest include consumptive agriculture and hunting recreation, as well as non-consumptive outdoor recreation activities. Some of the non-consumptive activities available in a national forest include backpacking in remote wilderness areas, using an all-terrain vehicle on a designated trail, enjoying the views along a scenic byway, or fishing in a trout stream.

Florida State Park System

Florida's state park system is made up of many diverse areas held together by only one universally common trait - the ability to provide public recreational opportunity of one type or another. Traditionally, these various areas have been grouped loosely into only two categories, parks and historic memorials.

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Unit Classification System

Any area without a distinct historical association was by default called a state park. Often this broader term was applied indiscriminately to all properties under the jurisdiction of the state parks agency. Since 1963, the Division of Recreation and Parks has considerably broadened the scope of its responsibilities in the recreation field. Instead of providing only state parks in the classic sense, the State now fully recognizes the need to afford other types of legitimate public recreational opportunities and is actively seeking additional lands for this purpose. Along with the change in program philosophy and scope it has become necessary to refine and modernize the public recreational lands classification system.

State Park

State parks are relatively spacious areas established primarily to preserve and maintain a natural setting of exceptional quality, while at the same time permitting a full program of compatible recreational activities, both active and passive. To qualify as a state park, an area must have exceptional natural attributes of statewide or at least broad regional significance. It must have some special quality that will attract visitors from long distances, in spite of closer and more conveniently located recreation areas.

State Recreation Area

State recreation areas are sites which are provided to meet the more active recreation needs for the public in a multi service area. A recreation area needs be of no particular size or have any set combination of physical attributes. It is preferably located convenient to a highly populated area and is selected to insure the availability of the types of recreational resources most needed in its locality. Normally, much more intensive use is permitted in a state recreation area than in a state park, although certain included areas of exceptional natural value may be set aside for special protective management.

State Special Feature Site

A "special feature," for the present purpose, is a discrete and well-defined object or condition which attracts public interest and provides recreational enjoyment through visitation, observation and study. A state special feature site contains such a feature and is set aside for controlled public enjoyment. Special feature sites are generally either historical or archaeological by type, but may also have a geological, botanical, zoological or other basis. As the features themselves are usually small in size, so are the sites which contain them, but they may be as large as necessary to accomplish the purpose. State special feature sites must be of unusual or exceptional character or have a statewide or broad regional significance.

State Preserve

A preserve is an area set aside essentially to maintain objects or conditions existing thereon. A state preserve in the recreation and parks system is an area designed to perpetuate certain exceptional objects or conditions which provide a type of recreational experience which would not be possible otherwise. Usually, a state preserve is rather large and expansive and may in some cases contrast with special feature sites purely on the basis of size. Generally, a preserve is designed to save representative samples, varying in size, of natural characteristic of Florida.

State Ornamental Garden

Ornamental gardens are sites which have been intensively landscaped, usually in a formal manner, to provide aesthetic enjoyment. Such gardens differ from state parks, special feature sites and preserves in that their primary recreational attributes are artificially created. Size is immaterial, but the quality of the gardens must be such that they attract visitors from a broad area. The development of ornamental gardens as a primary entity is not considered a responsibility of the recreation and parks system, although several such areas have been accepted through donations and are maintained generally in accordance with their original concepts.

Appendix B

Unit Classification System

State Museums

State museums, as a separate class, are interpretive facilities which relate to natural, historical, cultural or other such interests important to the general locality, but not specifically to the exact sites on which the museums are located. In this major respect they differ from museums which interpret the intrinsic values of specific sites and which are usually provided as adjuncts of special feature sites. In other words, for a "state museum" it is the museum itself and not the site where it is located which is significant. Because it bears no essential relationship to its site, the state museum may be located on any convenient and suitable site within the general area of interest. Such areas of interest may vary from a neighborhood or small community to the state as a whole. The site physically supporting the state museum may be of any reasonable size, but should be appropriately adapted to the need and purpose.

Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas

Aquatic Preserve

Aquatic preserves were established to protect the area's resources so that their aesthetic, biological and scientific values may endure for the enjoyment of future generations. Chapter 18-20 of the Florida Administrative Code identifies eight goals for the administration and management of aquatic preserves to balance the traditional recreational uses, such as boating, fishing and swimming with the protection and preservation of the indigenous life forms and habitats.

Buffer Preserve

Buffer preserves are publicly owned upland sites adjacent to aquatic preserves that help protect the submerged resources. State buffer preserves are managed primarily to buffer the impacts from stormwater runoff and coastal development to aquatic preserves, although the management of endangered species and habitat diversity in both the upland and aquatic sites is equally important. Buffer preserves are managed to provide public access and education, to protect archaeological and historical resources, to protect and preserve natural species and communities, and to restore natural communities.

Florida State Forest System

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has operated state forests under the guidance of the Division of Forestry (DOF) for more than 70 years.

State Forest

DOF manages state forests to protect and maintain the biological diversity of the many ecosystems found in and around the state forests while integrating public use of the resources. Through sound forest management practices, DOF maintains the integrity of the forest environment while providing for the state's future natural resource needs. In addition, state forests offer recreational activities such as camping, swimming, hiking, picnicking, horseback riding, fishing and nature study. The division permits hunting on most of the larger state forests and is regulated jointly with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) as part of the state's wildlife management area programs.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

FWCC manages four types of units that provide various levels of outdoor recreation access.

Appendix B

Unit Classification System

Wildlife Management Area

An area of private or public ownership established for the management of wildlife or freshwater fish on which hunting, fishing or other outdoor recreation may be permitted only at such times and under such regulations as are specifically provided for each individual area.

Wildlife and Environmental Area

Endangered or environmentally unique habitats which shall have as their primary management objective the protection and conservation of their endangered or unique resources. Outdoor recreation will be specifically provided for in regulations established for each area when such use does not conflict with the primary management objectives.

Fish Management Area

A fish management area is a pond, lake or other body of water established for the management of freshwater fish. The commission cooperatively manages these areas with the local county governments. Public fishing and other outdoor recreation activities may be permitted. In many areas, the commission or local government stocks these lakes with channel catfish, largemouth bass and sunshine bass.

Mitigation Park

In response to some of the problems associated with "on-site" mitigation, the commission authorized the development and implementation of the Mitigation Park Program as an alternative wildlife mitigation strategy. The goal of this program is to provide development interests with a biologically defensible off-site alternative for resolving certain wildlife resource conflicts. In practice, this program consolidates mitigation throughout a geographical region and directs these efforts towards the acquisition of a large and manageable mitigation park. Each park is publicly owned and ranges in size between 350 and 2,000 acres. Management activities are tailored to emphasize the protection and enhancement of habitat important to upland listed wildlife.

In general, the program is able to increase the biological effectiveness of mitigation while minimizing economic costs to the development community. More specifically it (1) provides an opportunity to direct wildlife habitat protection and acquisition efforts to the most biologically important sites in a region; (2) can consolidate many otherwise small and isolated protection efforts into larger units which maximizes resource protection efforts; (3) allows public access and use to mitigation lands that are managed by the state for the long term protection of wildlife resources; and (4) from an economic perspective, mitigation parks are a cheaper form of mitigation than preserving acreage within a development with developers retaining greater use of a project site for development.

Appendix C
Outdoor Recreation Agencies and Organizations

Federal Agencies

U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3100
<http://www.doi.gov>

National Park Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6843
<http://www.nps.gov>

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville District
400 West Bay Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
(904) 232-2244 or 1-800-291-9405
<http://www.saj.usace.army.mil>

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Mobile District
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, AL 36628-0001
www.sam.usace.army.mil

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C Street NW, Room 3242
Washington, DC 20240-0001
(202) 208-3736
<http://www.fws.gov>

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
325 John Knox Road
Suite F-100
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
(850) 942-9300
<http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation>

State Agencies

Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services
Division of Forestry
3125 Conner Boulevard, C-25
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1650
(850) 488-3022
<http://www.fl-dof.com>

Florida Department of Community Affairs
Florida Communities Trust
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Suite 310
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100
(850) 488-8466
<http://www.dca.state.fl.us>

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 235
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 245-2094
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/coastal>

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Florida State Parks
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 500
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000
(850) 245-2157
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/parks>

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Beaches and Coastal Systems
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 300
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 488-7708
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/beaches>

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Law Enforcement
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 600
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 488-2929
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/law>

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Florida Recreation and Development Assistance Program
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 500
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000
(850) 245-2501
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/parks/OIRS/default.htm>

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of State Lands
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 140
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 245-2555
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/lands>

Appendix C
Outdoor Recreation Agencies and Organizations

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Office of Greenways and Trails
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 795
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 245-2052
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt>

Florida Department of State
Division of Historical Resources
5000 S. Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250
(850) 245-6300
<http://www.flheritage.com>

Florida Department of Transportation
State Bicycle and Pedestrian Program
602 Suwannee Street, MS 53
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 245-1500
http://www.dot.state.fl.us/Safety/ped_bike/ped_bike.htm

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
620 South Meridian Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600
(850) 488-4676
<http://www.myfwc.com>

Northwest Florida Water Management District
81 Water Management Drive
Havana, Florida 32333-4712
(850) 539-5999
<http://www.nwfwmd.state.fl.us>

St. Johns River Water Management District
Land Management
32177 Highway 100
P.O. Box 1429
Palatka, Florida 32178-1429
(386) 329-4500
<http://sjr.state.fl.us>

South Florida Water Management District
Land Stewardship
3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, Florida 33416-4680
(561) 686-8800
<http://www.sfwmd.gov>

Southwest Florida Water Management District
US 41 South
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34609-6899
(352) 796-7211 or (800) 423-1476 (FL only)
<http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us>

Suwannee River Water Management District
Land Acquisition and Management
9225 CR 49
Live Oak, Florida 32060
(386) 362-1001 or 1-800-226-1066 (inside Florida)
<http://www.srwmd.state.fl.us>

Florida Inland Navigation District
1314 Marcinski Road
Jupiter, Florida 33477-9498
(561) 627-3386
<http://www.aicw.org>

West Coast Inland Navigation District
P.O. Box 1845
Venice, FL 34284
(941) 485-9402
<http://www.wcind.net>

Non-Government Organizations

1000 Friends of Florida
P.O. Box 5948
Tallahassee, Florida 32314
(850) 222-6277
<http://www.1000friendsofflorida.org>

American Planning Association
Florida Chapter APA
2040 Delta Way
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
(850) 201-3272
<http://www.floridaplanning.org>
Audubon Society- Florida State Office
444 Brickell Ave., Suite 850
Miami, Florida 33131
(305) 371-6399
<http://www.audubon.org/chapter/fl>

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Outdoor Recreation Agencies and Organizations

Enterprise Florida
325 John Knox Road, Suite 201
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
(850) 298-6620
<http://www.eflorida.com>

Florida Association of Counties
P.O. Box 549
100 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850) 922-4300
<http://www.fl-counties.com>

Florida League of Cities
P.O. Box 1757
Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1757
(850) 222-9684
<http://www.flcities.com>

Florida Bicycle Association
P.O. Box 718
Waldo, FL 32694
(407) 898-4137
<http://www.floridabicycle.org>

Wildlife Foundation of Florida
P.O. Box 11010
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850) 922-1066
<http://wildlifefoundationofflorida.com>

Florida Defenders of the Environment
4424 NW 13th St. Suite C-8
Gainesville, FL 32609
(352) 378-8465
<http://www.fladefenders.org>

Florida Disabled Outdoor Association
2475 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 205
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 201-2944
<http://www.fdoa.org>

Florida Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 278
Melbourne, Florida 32902
(321) 272-6702
<http://www.fnps.org>

Florida Natural Areas Inventory
1018 Thomasville Road, Suite 200-C
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
(850) 224-8207
<http://www.fnai.org>

Florida Professional Paddle Sports Association
P.O. Box 1764
Arcadia, Florida 33821
<http://www.paddleflausa.com/>

Florida Recreation and Parks Association
411 Office Plaza Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32301-2756
(850) 878-3221
<http://www.frpa.org>

Florida Sierra Club
111 Second Ave NE, Suite 1001
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
(727) 824-8813
<http://florida.sierraclub.org>

Florida Sports Foundation
2930 Kerry Forest Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32309
(850) 488-8347
<http://www.flasports.com>

Florida Trail Association
5415 SW 13 Street
Gainesville, Florida 32608
(800) 343-1882
<http://www.floridatrail.org>

Florida Trail Riders
PO Box 531071
DeBary, Florida 32753
(386) 668-9700
<http://floridatrailriders.org>

Florida Wildlife Federation
P.O. Box 6870
Tallahassee, Florida 32314-6870
(850) 656-7113
<http://www.fwfonline.org>

Appendix C
Outdoor Recreation Agencies and Organizations

Leave No Trace, Inc.
P.O. Box 997
Boulder, Colorado 80306
<http://www.lnt.org>

National Association of Recreation
Resource Professionals
P.O. Box 221
Marienville, Pennsylvania 16239
(814) 927-8212
<http://www.narrp.org>

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
1133 Fifteenth Street, N.W. Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 857-0166
<http://www.nfwf.org>

National Recreation and Park Association
22377 Belmont Ridge Rd.
Ashburn, Virginia 20148
(703) 858-0784
<http://www.nrpa.org>

The Nature Conservancy, Florida Regional Office
222 S. Westmonte Drive, Suite 300
Altamonte Springs, Florida 32714
(407) 682-3664
[http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/
states/florida/](http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/florida/)

Rails to Trails Conservancy, Florida Chapter
P.O. Box 15227
Tallahassee, Florida 32317
(850) 942-2379
<http://www.railtrails.org>

Sunshine State Horse Council
P.O. Box 6663
Brandon, Florida 33508
(813) 651-5953
<http://www.sshc.org>

Trust for Public Land
Southeast Regional Office
306 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 222-7911
<http://www.tpl.org>

VISIT FLORIDA Inc.
2450 W. Executive Center Circle, Suite 200
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 488-5607
<http://www.visitflorida.com>

Use Guidelines

The primary purpose for collecting information on the supply of and demand for outdoor recreation resources and facilities is to estimate present and future recreation needs. Because supply and demand data are generally expressed in different units, the application of guidelines is required to facilitate meaningful planning comparisons. This chapter will explain the nature of outdoor recreation guidelines and how they are developed and used in estimating resource and facility needs.

Three types of guidelines are commonly used in outdoor recreation planning. The first type, use guidelines, are employed as a means of stating the amount of use a resource or facility can accommodate under certain conditions. The second type, population guidelines, are used in determining the amount of resources and facilities that are required to serve a given population. The third type, site guidelines, are used primarily for estimating acreage needs for local parks and recreation areas. Because of the numerous variations in outdoor recreation environments in Florida and the diversity of planning purposes that exist, no single type of resource and facility guidelines can adequately meet all outdoor recreation planning needs. Each outdoor recreation supplier should, therefore, select the guidelines that best serve their specific planning needs.

In an effort to develop current and definitive resource-based and user-oriented facility use guidelines, the Division of Recreation and Parks and the Florida State University System, Institute for Government, in coordination with the Florida Recreation and Park Association and the Florida League of Cities, sponsored research conducted by the University of Florida, Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism, to collect and examine existing levels of use in both resource-based and user-oriented outdoor recreation activities. The 1989 study *Recreation Standards for Comprehensive Planning in Florida* gathered information from a cross-section of Florida cities and counties on the levels of facility use permitted on outdoor recreation facilities operated by local governments. The results of the study form the basis for the use guidelines contained in this chapter.

The guidelines presented in this plan are intended for broad, statewide application, and make no allowances for localized differences in communities or in specific outdoor recreation environments. As a result, these guidelines may not be wholly applicable in any given instance and should not generally be applied without some modification. Local jurisdictions, particularly are encouraged to develop their own guidelines to more adequately reflect local conditions in determining recreation needs. The 1989 study cited above is recommended for use by local agencies in developing guidelines applicable for use at a local level. A copy of the study report may be obtained from the Division of Recreation and Parks.

Outdoor Recreation Facility Use Guidelines

The use guidelines in this plan are based on assumptions about the nature and condition of the resource or facility being used, and the expectations of the user. They express the amount of outdoor recreation demand that can be met by a particular unit of supply under stated conditions of use. They are used in this plan as conversion factors to translate units of supply (miles of beach, hunting acreage, etc.) into units of demand (user occasions), thus allowing comparisons between the two. Use guidelines have been established for 12 resource-based and nine user-oriented activities.

Appendix D *Use Guidelines*

Use Guidelines for Resource-Based Facilities

Since local governments do not extensively provide resource-based outdoor recreation opportunities, the results of the guidelines study did not produce sufficient data to develop use guidelines for those activities. Therefore, the guidelines for resource-based activities, except where noted, are based on maximum levels of carrying capacity developed by the Division of Recreation and Parks for use and protection of state park resources. This was done so that the resultant statistical needs for additional resources and facilities would be as close as possible to the practical ability of state government to provide them. A discussion of resource-based guidelines for each activity follows. A summary of the guidelines is presented in Table D-1 on page D-8.

Freshwater and Saltwater Beach

Use guidelines for freshwater and saltwater beach are expressed in both linear and areal units of measurement. The average area needed to obtain a worthwhile recreational experience was assumed to be 200 square feet per person. It was assumed that this same area of beach would be used twice during the same day. Therefore, the use guideline was established as 100 square feet of beach per person per day. The linear use guideline was set at 2.5 linear feet of beach per person per day, based on an average use of five linear feet per person and a daily turnover rate of two.

Freshwater and Saltwater Piers or Catwalks

The use guideline for freshwater or saltwater fishing from piers, boardwalks, catwalks, jetties or other shoreline facilities was based on the estimate that 10 linear feet of pier or catwalk are required for each person at any given time. It was assumed that this space would be used an average of twice per day. Therefore, the use guideline was established at five linear feet per person per day.

Boat Ramps - Freshwater and Saltwater

The average number of people in a group using a freshwater or saltwater boat ramp is three, based on information obtained from the National Marine Manufacturers Association. It was assumed that each boating party will use the boat ramp facility for 20 minutes per day. Thus, during a 12-hour day, an average of 36 boats could use a single-lane ramp. By multiplying the average number of people per boat (three) by the average number of boats using a boat ramp per day (36), a use guideline of 108 people per ramp per day was calculated.

Camping Facilities (RV/Trailer and Tent)

The use guideline for recreational vehicle and tent camping was based on an average state park carrying capacity of four persons per campsite. A turnover rate of one camping group per site per day was used to establish the campsite guideline at four persons per campsite per day.

Picnic Tables

The guideline for picnic tables was based on an average picnic group size of four people. Since the average picnic table can seat four people comfortably, it was assumed that the average party would require one table. A further assumption was made that each table could be used twice per day. Thus, the use guideline for picnicking is eight persons per table per day.

Recreational Trails

The use guidelines for designated bicycle, horseback riding, hiking and nature study trails were based on carrying capacity guidelines adopted for the state park system. Since the guidelines for these uses are a range rather than a fixed number, the average of the range was used in calculating demand. The use

Appendix D

Use Guidelines

guideline for horseback riding trails, eight to 32 users per mile per day, assumes two to eight groups of four riders per mile per day. The bicycle trail use guideline of 40 to 80 users per mile per day assumes 10 to 20 riders per mile per day with a daily turnover rate of four. Similarly, the use guideline for hiking trails, four to 20 hikers per mile per day, assumes one to five groups of two hikers per mile per day with a daily turnover rate of two. The use guideline for nature trails, 40 to 160 persons per mile per day, assumes five to 20 groups of two hikers per mile per day with a daily turnover rate of four.

Archaeological and Historical Sites

Based on visitation patterns at a representative sampling of different types of archaeological and historical sites in the state park system, the average number of persons visiting a site at a given moment during weekends or weekday holidays was estimated at 20 persons. The average length of time spent at a site was estimated to be 40 minutes. The average length of time sites are open to the public was 7.5 hours. This established a turnover rate of approximately 11 groups per day (7.5 hours divided by 40 minutes/group = 11.25). By multiplying the number of visitors in an average group by the daily turnover rate, a use guideline of 220 visitors per site per day was established.

Hunting Land

The use guideline for hunting lands was developed from information supplied by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The Commission has established a Quota Hunt System for most of the state wildlife management areas under its jurisdiction. This system is designed to regulate hunting pressure at wildlife management areas during the beginning of the general hunt and selected special hunt seasons. Careful consideration is given each year to the condition of the game population and habitat at each management area when hunter quota levels are established. The Commission's guideline of 90 acres per hunter was selected as the basis for a use guideline representing all types of hunting including deer, turkey and squirrel. It was assumed that these same 90 acres could be used twice in the same day. Therefore, a use guideline was established at 45 acres per person per day.

Use Guidelines for User-Oriented Facilities

The use guidelines for user-oriented outdoor recreation activities presented in this section were derived from *Recreation Standards for Comprehensive Planning in Florida*, previously referenced. The purpose of the study was to collect information on outdoor recreation facility use from a cross section of suppliers of user-oriented facilities and to develop a definitive set of facility use guidelines that could be used by state and local planners. The study also sought to determine if there was a consensus among city and county suppliers, the primary providers of user-oriented facilities, on the amount of use that facilities could support on the average each day. The study examined what was considered the minimum, moderate and maximum levels of use that facilities could sustain under various conditions, according to local government recreation providers. Approximately, 100 cities and counties were selected and surveyed, based on their geographic location and population size.

As a source of information for the study, a survey was conducted to document what the recreation suppliers thought was the amount of use per day that facilities could support under existing conditions of operation and management. In a similar manner, the survey also documented the maximum level of use respondents thought facilities could support under optimum conditions of operation and management. And, the survey sought to determine the maximum level of use on facilities under conditions where no operation or management limitations existed. The optimum daily use level, representing the level of use that survey participants perceived as the most desirable, was selected for application in establishing the use guidelines for this plan. Table D-2 identifies the median value of the survey results for each of the

Appendix D

Use Guidelines

nine user-oriented facilities for which information was collected.

The user-oriented and resource-based guidelines in this plan are intended to apply at the statewide level and are not intended to be prescriptive or applicable for any specific city or county. It is recommended that local governments further consider any number of specific factors that may affect the sustainable or preferred use level for facilities. All guideline values developed for this plan are based on the assumption that the facilities are available for use on an average of 12 hours per day. Adjustments should be made for lighted facilities to reflect longer hours of availability. For the purposes of this plan, these guidelines were used only to convert units of supply into units of demand in order to compare supply of outdoor recreation facilities against demand to estimate resource and facility needs.

Outdoor Recreation Population Guidelines

Population guidelines are hypothetical estimates of the amounts of outdoor recreation resources and facilities that are required to support a given population. Generally, population guidelines make no distinction between the varying requirements of different segments of the population, but they can be tailored to suit most planning purposes. Such guidelines are widely used to assess community recreational needs by determining the minimum number of resources and facilities required to serve the local population. When used in concert with facility use guidelines and park/open space site guidelines (discussed later in this chapter), population guidelines can prove a useful tool for community-level outdoor recreation planning.

Florida's resource and facility population guidelines, shown in Tables D-3 and D-4, were formulated after extensive analysis of the various guidelines established by community recreation and parks departments, the National Recreation and Park Association, the Florida Recreation and Park Association, and various recreation publications. This analysis revealed a large diversity of guidelines upon which local government outdoor recreation planning is based. In order to establish general resource and facility population guidelines for this plan, it was necessary to synthesize from the several existing guidelines. Minimum and maximum ranges were identified for each activity, and median values calculated.

Outdoor Recreation Site Guidelines

Site guidelines are a set of general criteria for determining the specific types and amounts of park lands necessary to accommodate the recreational needs of local communities. The criteria define the acreage, facility type and service area requirements for various types of community recreation sites and areas. They are most commonly used as a means of expressing outdoor recreation needs, based on population guidelines, in terms of spatial and facility requirements.

The outdoor recreation site guidelines shown in Table D-5 were formulated primarily to provide guidance to local governments for acquisition and development of recreation resources and facilities. They are intended to be used only as a general guide and should be adjusted to meet the specific recreation needs of individual communities.

The site guidelines presented in this plan were obtained through synthesis of the guidelines established by local government recreation and park departments, the Florida Recreation and Park Association, various recreation publications, and the National Recreation and Park Association. Community resources and facilities are divided into two classifications: (1) special-use areas and facilities, and (2) parkland areas. Both types have special functions, but they can be combined at recreation areas to provide a wider variety of outdoor recreation experiences.

Appendix D Use Guidelines

Special-use areas and facilities meet a large part of the demand for user-oriented recreational activities. All segments of the population participate in a wide range of these pursuits, for which opportunities are generally provided at special-use areas and facilities close to their residences. Typical areas and facilities might include golf courses, tennis courts, ball fields and swimming pools. These may be located in park areas or they may be situated individually.

Parkland areas serve two purposes: they conserve open space and natural resources, and they provide outdoor recreation opportunities. Florida is still abound with open space resources such as forestlands, grasslands, wetlands, lakes and beaches, although the availability of these resources is steadily dwindling. Conservation of open space through the acquisition of recreation areas is one of the best means for maintaining examples of Florida's original domain. Demand for outdoor recreation opportunities can be met by providing large parks for such passive, resource-based pursuits as picnicking and nature study, and neighborhood or community parks for active user-oriented pursuits such as tennis, baseball and shuffleboard.

Park lands that conserve open space and provide outdoor recreation opportunities can be classified into six types, dependent primarily on the size of their service area: equipped play areas and tot lots, neighborhood parks, community parks, urban open space, urban-district parks and regional parks. Beach access and parking facilities technically do not by themselves satisfy outdoor recreation needs, and are not usually classified as special-use or parkland areas. Yet, their acquisition and development is crucial for use of publicly-owned beach frontage for which public access is limited or otherwise nonexistent. Consequently, a site guideline is included for this special type of support facility.

Site Guidelines for Community Resources and Facilities

Equipped Play Area and Tot Lot

Equipped play areas and tot lots are open areas with play apparatus for preschool and school age children. It is recommended that an equipped play area serve neighborhoods of between 500 and 2,500 people on a minimum of a quarter acre at a site adjoining an existing recreation facility or elementary school. Elsewhere, one acre is suggested. Recommended facilities include play apparatus, landscaping, benches and open space. Depending on local recreation needs, picnic tables may be included.

Neighborhood Park

The neighborhood park is a "walk-to" park, generally located along streets where people can walk or bicycle without encountering heavy traffic. It serves the population of a neighborhood in a radius of up to one-half mile, and should have at least two acres for each 1,000 population. Its size usually ranges from five to 10 acres, and it serves a population of up to 5,000.

Because the service areas of a neighborhood park and an elementary school often coincide, it is desirable for the neighborhood park to physically join the elementary school, when feasible. Both park and school serve the same basic population, share compatible land uses, and contain recreation facilities that are of mutual benefit. Because recreation needs vary from one neighborhood to another, site design for this type of park should be flexible in order to meet the particular recreation needs of each neighborhood. Site design should also reflect the character of the neighborhood and incorporate compatible elements of both passive and active types of recreation. Typical facilities developed in the neighborhood park may include play apparatus, recreation buildings, multipurpose courts, sports fields, picnic areas and free play areas. Additional facilities may be added, depending on the recreation demands of the neighborhood.

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Use Guidelines

Community Park

A community park is a "ride to" park, located near major streets. It is designed to serve the needs of four to six neighborhoods. It serves an area with a radius of up to three miles, or a service population of up to 25,000. A minimum of 20 acres for each community park is recommended, with acreage needs based on a standard of two acres per 1,000 population. Where a community park can be located adjacent to a junior or senior high school, a minimum of five acres is recommended. The community park offers a wide range of program and facility opportunities for all individuals and families. Just as the neighborhood park fulfills the recreation needs of the neighborhood, the community park is designed to meet the recreation needs of the entire community.

Typical facilities at a community park may include swimming pools, ball fields, tennis courts, play areas, picnic areas, multipurpose courts, recreation buildings, and sports fields. Additional recreation facilities may be included to meet a particular recreation demand in the community. Adequate off-street parking may be needed to contain parking overflow from the school parking areas. Two important elements of every community park are the use of landscaping and the provision of passive recreation activity areas.

Urban Open Space

Urban open space sites are landscaped or natural open areas, located within built-up areas. Depending on their location, open space sites may serve populated areas ranging in size from a single neighborhood to an entire city. Their principal function is to intersperse congested urban environments with aesthetically pleasing buffer areas. Urban open space areas may vary in size from a tenth of an acre to several acres depending on their intended use. Some serve as linear, vest pocket or traffic circle parks, while others are parkways, boulevard medians, plazas, malls, courthouse squares and promenades. Benches, commemorative structures, trails and paths are optional depending on local needs and the size and location of individual sites.

Urban-District Park

An urban-district park is designed to serve the recreation needs of several communities, a city, or a county, and usually provides some areas and facilities that are resource-based. Typical areas and facilities include natural areas, campgrounds and play apparatus. Additional facilities may include a zoo, a golf course or a botanical garden.

Driving periods of up to 30 to 40 minutes may be required to reach an urban-district park, which should, when possible, be located on the periphery of a large urban area. Such parks should serve an average population of 50,000, with a desirable space allowance of five acres per 1,000 people. While 100 acres may meet minimum requirements, a size range of 200 acres or more is desirable.

Regional Park

Regional parks are large, resource-based areas that serve two or more communities or counties and are usually located within an hour's driving distance of the residents they serve. A space allowance of 20 acres per 1,000 population is suggested. The park should serve a population of over 100,000 and should range in size from a minimum of 250 acres to as much as several thousand acres. Because regional parks are generally designed for resource-based activities, location is dependent upon the availability of high quality natural resources capable of being developed and used for outdoor recreation.

Typical facilities provided at a regional park include water-based recreation sites, camping areas, hiking and nature trails, picnic areas and other facilities not requiring intensive development. Parking areas are necessary support facilities and should be designed to minimize adverse effects on the natural environ-

Appendix D

Use Guidelines

ment. The most prominent feature of a regional park is that it provides recreational opportunities that, through the design and development of outdoor recreation resources and facilities, capitalize on the natural environment and promote an atmosphere of beauty and serenity.

Beach Access Site

Access points and parking areas are primarily support facilities for public-owned beaches. In many areas beach access is limited to pedestrian paths and raised wooden walkways which extend to the public-owned portion of the beach (that part lying seaward of the mean high water line). Public parking may or may not be provided. Sites may range from ten to more than 100 feet in width; parking areas may range from less than to more than an acre. The study *Recreation Standards for Comprehensive Planning in Florida* found that approximately three parking spaces are presently provided for every 100 square feet of beach at public access points, with a turnover rate of three cars per day (2.75 people per car). These figures reflect the median values of all survey responses statewide. A distance of one-half mile between access sites has been developed as a guideline for the spacing of public access sites at state-financed beach restoration projects as required by Chapter 62B-36, Florida Administrative Code.

Appendix D
Use Guidelines

Table D-1
Use Guidelines for Resource-Based Outdoor Recreation Activities

Activity	Area Requirements	User Per Unit Of Facility	Turnover Rate	Guideline
Bicycling	10-20 bicycles per mile	1 user per bike	4/day	40-80 cyclists per mile per day
Camping: RV, Trailer and Tent ¹	3-10 sites/acre	4 campers per site	1/day	4 users per campsite per day
Freshwater and Saltwater Beach Activities	200-500 square feet of beach per person		2/day	100 square feet of freshwater or saltwater sandy beach/user/day
Freshwater and Saltwater Fishing (non-boat)	10 linear feet of pier, jetty or catwalk per person		2/day	5 linear feet of pier, jetty or catwalk per user per day
Freshwater and Saltwater Boat Fishing, Power	1 boat per lane	3 users per boat	36 boats/day	108 users per single-lane ramp/day
Freshwater and Saltwater Swimming	5 linear feet of beach per person		2/day	2.5 linear feet of freshwater or saltwater sandy beach/user/day
Hiking	1-5 groups per mile	2 users per group	2/day	4-20 hikers per mile of trail /day
Horseback Riding	2-8 groups per mile	4 equestrians per group	3/day	24-96 equestrians/mile of trail/day
Hunting ³	90 acres per hunter		2/day	45 acres per hunter per day
Nature Study	5-20 groups per mile	2 users per group	4/day	40-160 users per mile of trail/day
Picnicking		4 persons per table	2/day	8 user per table per day
Visiting Archeological and Historical Sites ¹	Average visit is 40 minutes Average day is 7.5 hours	20 persons at any point in the day	1 1/day	220 user per site per day

¹Based on average carrying capacities and visitation patterns at state parks. ²Average number of people in a group is based on information from the National Marine Manufacturers Association. Each boating party uses the boat ramp facility for 20 minutes/day, and during a 12-hour day, 36 boats can use a single-lane ramp. ³The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission developed the hunting guidelines for the state's Quota Hunt System.

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Use Guidelines

Table D-2
Use Guidelines for User-Oriented Outdoor Recreation Activities

Activity	Resource/Facility	Guideline
Baseball/Softball	Baseball/softball field	120 users per field per day
Basketball	Basketball court	90 users per court per day
Football/Soccer/Rugby	Football/soccer field	175 users per field per day
Golf	Golf course (9-hole)	200 user per 9-hole course per day
Physical Exercise (urban jogging and hiking)	Linear mile of exercise/parcours trail	100 users per mile of trail per day
Racquetball/Handball	Racquetball/handball court	40 users per court per day
Shuffleboard	Shuffleboard court	20 users per court per day
Swimming (pool)	Swimming pool ¹	256 users per pool per day
Tennis	Tennis court	30 users per court per day

¹ Based on a standard community pool measuring 81 feet x 60 feet (4,800 square feet).

Appendix D
Use Guidelines

Table D-3
Population Guidelines for Resource-Based Outdoor Recreation Activities¹

Activity	Resource/Facility	Population Served		
		Minimum	Maximum	Median
Bicycling Riding	Linear mile of trail	1,500	10,000	5,000
Camping (RV, trailer and tent)	Acre of camp area	5,600	25,000	6,750
Freshwater and saltwater beach activities	Mile of freshwater or saltwater sandy beach shoreline	25,000	211,200	25,000
Freshwater and Saltwater Fishing (non-boat)	800 feet of pier, catwalk or jetty	5,000	25,000	5,600
Freshwater and Saltwater Fishing, Power boating, Water skiing, Sailing	Boat ramp lane	1,500	12,500	5,000
Hiking	Linear mile of trail	5,000	10,000	6,750
Horseback Riding	Linear mile of trail	5,000	10,000	5,000
Nature Study	Linear mile of trail	6,250	10,000	6,750
Picnicking	Picnic area	5,000	10,000	6,000

¹ Population guidelines were not developed for canoeing and boat fishing, which use extensive water resources.

Appendix D
Use Guidelines

Table D-4
Population Guidelines for User-Oriented Outdoor Recreation Activities

Activity	Resource/Facility	Population Served		
		Minimum	Maximum	Median
Baseball/Softball	Baseball/Softball field	2,000	10,000	5,000
Basketball	Basketball court	500	20,000	5,000
Football/Rugby	Football/Soccer field	4,000	25,000	6,000
General Play	Equipped play area	500	15,000	10,000
	Multipurpose field	500	10,000	3,750
	Multipurpose court	3,000	4,000	3,000
Golf	9-hole golf course	8,000	50,000	25,000
	18-hole golf course	25,000	65,200	50,000
Physical Exercise (urban jogging and hiking)	Exercise/Parcours trail	10,000	50,000	15,000
Racquetball/Handball	Racquetball court	2,500	20,000	10,000
Shuffleboard	Shuffleboard court	1,000	12,000	6,000
Swimming (pool)	Swimming pool ¹	1,000	50,000	25,000
Tennis	Tennis court	1,067	10,000	2,000
Volleyball	Volleyball court	4,000	12,000	6,000

¹Based on a standard community pool measuring 81 feet X 60 feet (4,800 square feet).

*Appendix D
Use Guidelines*

**Table D-5
Site Guidelines for Community Outdoor Recreation Resources and Facilities**

Park Facility	Location	Population Served	Area per 1,000 Population	Size as a Park Adjoining School	Size as a Separate Park	Facilities
Equipped Play and Tot Lot'	Less than .25 mile distance in residential setting	2,500 maximum	.5 acre	Minimum of .25 acre	Minimum of 1 acre	Play structures, benches, picnic areas, open spaces, landscaping.
Neighborhood Park	Neighborhood area - .25 - .5 mile distance	5,000 maximum	2 acres	Minimum of 2 acres	Minimum of 5 acres	Play structures, recreation buildings, court games, hard courts, tennis courts, internal trails, shuffleboard, volleyball courts, picnic area, open area, landscaping.
Community Park	Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and .5 to 3 miles distance	5,000 maximum	2 acres	Minimum of 5 acres	Minimum of 20 acres; Optimal is 20-50 acres	All of the facilities found in a neighborhood park plus informal ball fields, swimming pools, archery ranges, disc golf areas, ornamental gardens, open space and facilities for cultural activities.
Urban Open Space	Urban Areas	.25 - .5 mile	1 acre		Min. of .1 acre	Resource-based recreation area.
Urban District Park	In a large urban area or its periphery with 30-40 minutes driving time	One park per 50,000	5 acres		Minimum of 50 acres; optimal is 75+ acres	Play structures, restrooms, trails, nature center, boating, swimming, picnic areas, sports fields.
Regional Park	On the periphery of an urban area - 30 - 60 minutes driving time	>100,000 Population	20 acres		Minimum of 250 acres - several thousand acres	Camping, nature and bridle paths, picnicking, and other facilities non-intensive development.
Beach Access with Parking	Within .25 mile of urban coastal beach or on its periphery, 1 access/.5 mile of shoreline		.5 acre		Minimum of 1 acre	Walkways, parking and restrooms optional.
Sports Complex	Strategically located community-wide facilities				Minimum of 25 acres; Optimal is 40-80 acres	Ball fields, soccer fields, football fields, tennis courts, play structures, hard courts, volleyball, internal trails, picnic areas.

Appendix E
Open Project Selection Process

Open Project Selection Process

Grants in aid to local governments in Florida from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program must be administered to assure equal opportunity for all eligible applicants and all sectors of the general public to participate in the processes and benefits of the programs. In addition, LWCF grants administration must enable the State to insure that the program is directed toward meeting the priority outdoor recreation needs identified in the state comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. The processes and procedures for the administration of the LWCF in Florida are contained with Chapter 62D-5 Part VII, of the Florida Administrative Code (FAC). This rule serves to implement Section 375.021(4), Florida Statutes.

The rule states that the Department of Environmental Protection shall publicize the dates of the application submission period and other pertinent application information specified in this rule in the Florida Administrative Weekly. The Department shall announce additional application submission periods if sufficient funds remain after the initial funding cycle. An applicant may submit only one application during each announced application submission period. The application may contain no more than one project site except for sandy beach access sites.

The LWCF grants program is administered on an annual cycle subject to federal fund availability. It begins with letters that are sent to all eligible applicants announcing the application deadline. The Secretary of the Interior issues the apportionment letter to the governor which notifies the State of the amount available to Florida from the LWCF.

The reoccurring funding schedule is:

November	A public notice is sent to all local governmental entities with the legal responsibility for providing public outdoor recreational sites and facilities.
March	Deadlines for applications for that fiscal year.
April/May	Applications are reviewed, analyzed, inspected, evaluated, and ranked by staff.
July	The State Liaison Officer and staff selects a list of successful projects for the available funds. All applicants are notified of the decisions.
August/September	Selected projects are forwarded to the Southeast Regional Office of the National Park Service for approval and fund obligation.

LWCF grants shall only be awarded to grantees for projects that are for the sole purpose of providing outdoor recreational opportunities to the public.

Each eligible project application shall be evaluated on the basis of the information provided in the application and in accordance with the Evaluation Criteria contained in Section 62D-5.072 FAC. Each application shall be assigned a total point score pursuant to this criteria and an eligible application's standing among competing eligible applications shall be determined by the extent to which it is determined to meet the criteria as follows:

Appendix E
Open Project Selection Process

(1) GENERAL CRITERIA.

Points shall be awarded as follows:

(a) The project implements the applicant's adopted local comprehensive plan and is included in their capital improvement plan or schedule (CIP) during the current or next three fiscal year = 20 points.

Or

is included as part of the plan through an adopted resolution committing the applicant to amend its CIP and complete the project should it receive program funds = 10 points.

(b) The extent to which the project would implement the outdoor recreation goals, objectives and priorities specified in the Plan = 4 points.

(c) The extent to which the project would provide for priority resource or facility needs in the region as specified in the Plan = 7 points.

(d) The project has been considered in the applicant's public participation process = 21 maximum points.

Points shall be awarded as follows:

1. Presentation at an advertised public meeting solely for the discussion of the proposed project = 10 points.

2. Presentation at a regularly scheduled advisory board meeting = 7 points.

3. Presentation to community organizations, neighborhood associations, or taking of an opinion survey = 4 points.

(e) The project is for a linear park purpose = 13 points.

(f) The project is for preservation purposes such as historical, archaeological, or cultural preservation and the site has been verified in writing by the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources = 7 points.

(g) The applicant has the capability to develop, operate and maintain the project = 8 maximum points.

Points shall be awarded as follows:

1. Has a full-time recreation or park department staffed to provide facility development, programming, and maintenance capabilities = 8 points.

2. Has demonstrated the existence of a full-time ability to provide facility development, programming, and maintenance capabilities = 4 points.

(2) DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA.

Points shall be awarded as follows:

(a) The project provides for new development of entirely undeveloped property = 5 points.

(b) The project provides new or additional recreation facilities and opportunities:

3 or more facilities or opportunities = 15 points.

2 facilities or opportunities = 10 points.

1 facility or opportunity = 5 points.

Appendix E
Open Project Selection Process

- (c) The project provides renovation of existing recreation facilities:
3 or more facilities = 13 points.
2 facilities = 9 points.
1 facility = 4 points.
- (d) The project provides new or renovated support facilities and improvement to existing recreation areas = 15 points.
- (e) The project provides developed pedestrian access to or along water resources, such as trails, boardwalks, or dune walkovers = 7 points.
- (f) The project provides facilities for recreational use of water resources, such as boat ramps, swimming docks, or fishing piers = 12 points.
- (g) The project provides a facility identified in the priority of new facilities needs or renovation/ repair needs within the applicant's population density set forth in the study entitled "An Infrastructure Assessment of Local Government Recreation and Park Department Facility Needs in the State of Florida" = 12 points.
- (h) The project addresses the priority of infrastructure funding needs set forth in the applicant's population density in the study entitled "An Infrastructure Assessment of Local Government Recreation and Park Department Facility Needs in the State of Florida" identified in (g), above:
1. Higher priority in Infrastructure Assessment or combination of new construction and renovation/ repairs = 13 points.
 2. Lower priority in Infrastructure Assessment = 8 points.

(3) ACQUISITION CRITERIA.

Points shall be awarded as follows:

- (a) The Project assists in conserving and protecting environmentally unique, irreplaceable and valued ecological resources such as flora, fauna, natural communities, or other special features identified in the "Florida Natural Areas Inventory" = 13 points.
- (b) The project provides frontage on wetlands or water bodies such as rivers, lakes, or oceans = 6 points.
- (c) The project provides for development of facilities identified in the top three priority ranked index clusters of outdoor facilities needs for new construction identified within the applicant's population density set forth in the Department's study entitled "Infrastructure Assessment of Local Government Recreation and Park Department Facility Needs in the State of Florida" identified in (2) (g) above = 15 points.
- (d) The project provides the following pursuant to the applicant's adopted local comprehensive plan = 23 maximum points.

Points shall be awarded as follows:

1. Needed acreage = 15 points.
2. Needed distribution of acreage = 8 points.

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Open Project Selection Process

(e) The applicant has:

Identified development of the property in their capital improvement plan (CIP) or schedule during the current or next three fiscal years = 6 points.

Or

The applicant has included development of the property as part of the plan through an adopted resolution committing the applicant to amend its CIP and develop the property should it receive program funds = 3 points.

(4) TIE BREAKER SYSTEM.

If two or more applications receive the same score as a result of the above evaluation, the following tie breaker system will be used to decide the priority ranking among them. Tied applicants will be evaluated according to each step of the tie-breaker system in order and will be assigned their priority accordingly. If Step 1 does not break the tie, Step 2 shall be used.

(a) Step 1 - Funding History. An order of priority among those applications with equal scores shall be established based on the per capita amount of funds previously received by the applicant from LWCF during the previous five fiscal years. The application from the applicant having the lowest per capita amount of funds receives the highest priority. Other applications will be arranged in descending order inversely to their applicants' per capita amount of funds received. The resident population within the applicant's jurisdictional boundaries shall be utilized to compute the applicant's per capita amount of funds received.

(b) Step 2 - Per Capita Operating Budget. The applicant with the lowest per capita expenditure of general operating funds receives the highest priority. The resident population within the applicant's jurisdictional boundaries will be divided into the applicant's total general operating budget for the applicant's current fiscal year to obtain the per capita operating fund amount.

Applications are assigned a total point score by the Department. A grading report addressing the extent to which each criterion has been met is filed with each application evaluated.

Each spring the State Liaison Officer submits to the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection, for formal consideration, a recommended priority ranked listing (in descending order of the total point scores) of all program applications evaluated. The list includes the Deputy Secretary's recommendations for program grant awards.

In order to encourage effective participation by all potential program participants, annual program announcements are sent to all counties and municipalities and other agencies having primary recreational responsibilities. Workshops are held periodically to promote program benefits and to explain program requirements, particularly the need for local projects to be well supported by local recreation planning and public involvement and to support the state comprehensive outdoor recreation plan and action program.

Technical assistance in preparing and submitting grant applications, site design, planning, needs analysis, management, funding sources, public participation, permitting, and other common needs of potential applicants is provided by the Department of Environmental Protection upon request. Further technical guidance is given to local governments through Recreation Assistance Program mail outs, telephone contacts, lending library services, on-site visits, workshops, and conferences with Department staff.

2002 Statewide Outdoor Recreation Participation Study Methodology

Resident Study

Subjects and Sampling Frame

In order to achieve the objectives of the study, a statewide survey of Florida residents was conducted via telephone to target the residents of the 67 counties. The survey population consisted of adults aged 18 or older who permanently resided in this region. The survey employed random digit-dial samples of household telephone numbers in Florida. Stratified random samples of residents within two types of groups were asked to participate in the survey. Quotas per county type were created (26,000 completed surveys for non-rural counties and 900 for rural counties).

The sampling frame included 35 counties for non-rural counties (large and medium sized counties) and 32 rural counties. Rural counties were those with a population of less than 75,000 residents. Non-rural counties were those with populations over 75,000 people. A target of 74 completed interviews was set for the non-rural counties and 28 completed interviews for rural counties.

For the purpose of analysis, the sampled counties were clustered based on the population count, in which 32 counties were designated as small counties (under 75,000), 28 were medium (75,000-500,000), while seven were large (over 700,000) counties. In addition, counties were clustered and analyzed based on the 11 planning regions as designated by the State of Florida, and by coastal or non-coastal characteristics.

Collection of Data

A six page telephone interview was developed for the purpose of gathering representative information from residents of Florida (see Resident Survey). Data was collected in a computer-assisted telephone-interviewing laboratory maintained by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR). BEBR is an applied research center in the Warrington College of Business Administration at the University of Florida, Gainesville. BEBR generates Florida's official state and county population estimates and projections, develops economic forecasts, collects survey data from Florida households and publishes the Florida Statistical Abstract.

Interviewing occurred on weekday evenings and weekend afternoons during late April to mid June 2001. Up to three callbacks were made for each member of the designed sample. A total sample of 3,610 was collected. About 59 percent of the interviews were conducted in May, while 37 percent were conducted in June 2001, and four percent in April.

Appendix F
Participation Study Methodology and Survey Questionnaires

Tourist Study

Subjects and Sampling Frame

In order to achieve the objectives of the study, a nationwide survey of tourists who have visited Florida was conducted via a mail-out survey. The survey population consisted of adults aged 18 or older who permanently reside in the United States. The data was selected from a convenience sample of respondents who have previously answered questionnaires from D.K. Shifflet. The original D.K. Shifflet sample called the “Traveler Study” is stratified demographically to match the U.S. Census data. This original sample is drawn from a pool of over 700,000 households every month. They have found in their “traveler study” that approximately 51 percent of the households returned their questionnaires and approximately 40 percent have traveled.

Collection of the Data

A four page mail-back survey was developed for the purpose of gathering representative information from tourists to Florida (see Tourist Questionnaire). Data was collected by D.K. Shifflet and Associates of Virginia. D.K. Shifflet is a tourism consulting firm specializing in tracking U.S. travel behavior. The company is responsible for DKS&A Directions® Travel Intelligences System, the largest most comprehensive monthly syndicated database.

Questionnaires were mailed out May 6th and data were collected until mid June 2001. Questionnaires were sent to a select group of households (maintained by D.K. Shifflet & Associates) who agreed to participate in on-going travel research. A total sample of 2,659 was collected. Respondents who traveled were categorized by the primary county of their destination.

Appendix F
Participation Study Methodology and Survey Questionnaires

Florida Statewide Outdoor Recreation Participation Study- Resident Questionnaire
(2001)

County _____ Month _____ Phone _____

Hello, my name is _____, representing the University of Florida. The State of Florida is conducting a survey to determine the kinds of outdoor recreation activities in which people participate and their opinions about outdoor recreation in Florida. This information is being collected to help plan for the public's use of recreation facilities. This survey should take about 15 minutes to complete. *(Please read the informed consent form before proceeding with the interview)*

I would like to ask you a few questions regarding recreation activities in which you may have participated during the past **TWELVE** months. Please keep in mind that your responses should be based on your participation in the State of **FLORIDA**.

1. What activities did you participate in during the last 12 months? *(Check all that apply)*

ACTIVITIES			
	Saltwater Beach		Tent Camping
	Freshwater Beach		RV/Trailer Camping
	Outdoor Swimming Pool		Horseback Riding
	Saltwater Boat Fishing		Hiking
	Saltwater-Non Boat Fishing		Hunting
	Freshwater Boat Fishing		Canoeing
	Freshwater-Non Boat Fishing		Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites
	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use		Golfing
	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use		Baseball or Softball
	Picnicking		Football
			Soccer or Rugby
			Outdoor Basketball
			Outdoor Shuffleboard
			Outdoor Tennis
			Outdoor Handball/Racquetball
			Bicycle Riding (paved roads)
			Bicycle Riding (unpaved roads)
			Off-road motorized vehicles
			Nature Study (take nature-walk or observe wildlife/birds)

2. Among those activities that you did participate in, which activities did you participate the **MOST** in the last twelve months? *(Indicate the **TOP THREE** activities)*

ACTIVITIES:

1. _____ (name of activity)
 2. _____ (name of activity)
 3. _____ (name of activity)

3a. Did you use Public or Private/Commercial lands **most frequently** to participate in **Activity #1**?

_____ Public Lands _____ Commercial Lands _____ Private Lands _____ Don't know
(County, State, National Parks, Forest, etc.) (Commercial campgrounds, theme parks, resort golf courses, etc.) (Backyards, family farms, private hunting lands, private lands & lakes, etc.)
 If you used **Public Lands**, was it _____?

_____ Federally Managed Lands _____ State Managed Lands _____ Locally Managed Lands

Do you think there is enough access to **publicly owned lands in Florida** to meet your needs to participate in **Activity #1**?
 Yes _____ No _____ I don't know _____

If No, ask the following.....Would you like to add any additional comments about this issue?

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Participation Study Methodology and Survey Questionnaires

3b. Did you use Public or Private/Commercial lands ***most frequently*** to participate in ***Activity #2?***

<u> </u> Public Lands <i>(County, State, National Parks, Forest, etc.)</i>	<u> </u> Commercial Lands <i>(Commercial campgrounds, theme parks, resort golf courses, etc.)</i>	<u> </u> Private Lands <i>(Backyards, family farms, private hunting lands, private lands & lakes, etc.)</i>	<u> </u> Don't know
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If you used Public Lands, was it _____?

<u> </u> Federally Managed Lands	<u> </u> State Managed Lands	<u> </u> Locally Managed Lands
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Do you think there is enough access to **publicly owned lands in Florida** to meet your needs to participate in ***Activity #2?***

<u> </u> Yes	<u> </u> No	<u> </u> I don't know
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If No, ask the following.....Would you like to add any additional comments about this issue?

3c. Did you use Public or Private/Commercial lands ***most frequently*** to participate in ***Activity# 3?***

<u> </u> Public Lands <i>(County, State, National Parks, Forest, etc.)</i>	<u> </u> Commercial Lands <i>(Commercial campgrounds, theme parks, resort golf courses, etc.)</i>	<u> </u> Private Lands <i>(Backyards, family farms, private hunting lands, private lands & lakes, etc.)</i>	<u> </u> Don't know
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If you used Public Lands, was it _____?

<u> </u> Federally Managed Lands	<u> </u> State Managed Lands	<u> </u> Locally Managed Lands
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Do you think there is enough access to **publicly owned lands in Florida** to meet your needs to participate in ***Activity #3?***

<u> </u> Yes	<u> </u> No	<u> </u> I don't know
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If No, ask the following.....Would you like to add any additional comments about this issue?

4. Keeping in mind the list of activities that I read to you earlier, could you tell me if there are any activities that you would **LIKED** to have participated in but were not able to do in your city or county? Please rank **ONLY THREE ACTIVITIES** as **1, 2, 3**, in order of importance to you.

(Rank 1, 2, 3, in the order of Importance)

Appendix F
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ACTIVITIES			
	Saltwater Beach		Tent Camping
	Freshwater Beach		RV/Trailer Camping
	Outdoor Swimming Pool		Horseback Riding
	Saltwater Boat Fishing		Hiking
	Saltwater-Non Boat Fishing		Hunting
	Freshwater Boat Fishing		Canoeing
	Freshwater-Non Boat Fishing		Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites
	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use		Golfing
	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use		Baseball or Softball
	Picnicking		Football

5. Based on those activities that you would liked to have participated in, could you tell me if there is a reason why you were not able to participate in your **three-ranked activities** in your city or within your community?

ACTIVITY #1:

<i>Reason:</i>

ACTIVITY #2:

<i>Reason:</i>

ACTIVITY #3:

<i>Reason:</i>

Interview Instruction:

If the response is time and/or money limitations, please record this but also probe for at least one additional reason.

6. On a scale of 1 through 5 with 1 being not at all satisfied, and 5 being extremely satisfied, how satisfied were you with the following items during the last 12 months?

(Circle the number that best represents their level of satisfaction)

Appendix F
Participation Study Methodology and Survey Questionnaires

	<i>Not at all satisfied</i>	<i>Somewhat satisfied</i>	<i>Moderately satisfied</i>	<i>Very satisfied</i>	<i>Extremely satisfied</i>
<p>Availability of areas that support the activities that you participated in or wanted to participate in within your city or community? If they indicated 1 or 2, ask them to please explain why.....?</p>	1	2	3	4	5
<p>The Quality of natural areas that support the activities that you participated in or wanted to participate in within your city or community? If they indicated 1 or 2, ask them to please explain why.....?</p>	1	2	3	4	5
<p>The Quality of facilities that support the activities that you participated in or wanted to participate in within your city or community? If they indicated 1 or 2, ask them to please explain why.....?</p>	1	2	3	4	5

7. What would encourage you *to participate* or *to participate more* in outdoor recreation activities within your city or community? On a scale of 1 through 5 with, 1 being Strongly Disagree, and 5 being Strongly Agree, please indicate one number for each issue that best reflects how you feel.

(Circle only ONE response per item)

SA=Strongly Agree, AG=Agree, U=Uncertain, DA=Disagree, SD=Strongly Disagree, NO=No Opinion

ISSUES	SD	DA	U	AG	SA	NO
More Outdoor Facilities	1	2	3	4	5	0
More Information about Facilities	1	2	3	4	5	0
Better Repair of Facilities	1	2	3	4	5	0
Better Security	1	2	3	4	5	0
Increased Accessibility to Parks and Public lands	1	2	3	4	5	0
More Organized Activities	1	2	3	4	5	0
Lower fees required to participate	1	2	3	4	5	0
No fees required to participate	1	2	3	4	5	0

8. I'd like to read some reasons why people do not visit parks and public lands in Florida. For each one please tell me if it is a major reason why you haven't visited parks and public lands this year, or a minor reason or not a reason at all. If you are unsure then please indicate accordingly.

Please respond by either saying **MAJOR**, **MINOR**, **NOT A REASON** or **NOT SURE** for each of the following reasons. *(Circle only ONE response per item).*

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	MAJOR	MINOR	NOT A REASON	NOT SURE
REASONS				
Don't have enough time	1	2	3	4
Have no way to get to the public parks	1	2	3	4
Fear of crime	1	2	3	4
Too busy with other activities	1	2	3	4
Poor health	1	2	3	4
Poor weather	1	2	3	4
Don't have a travel companion	1	2	3	4
Lack of family interests	1	2	3	4
Don't have the skills to participate	1	2	3	4
Don't have enough money	1	2	3	4
Don't have the equipment	1	2	3	4
Parks are too crowded	1	2	3	4
Public Parks are too far away	1	2	3	4
Like to do other things for recreation	1	2	3	4
Companion prefers to do other things	1	2	3	4
Don't like to do things outdoors	1	2	3	4
Lack of information about the parks or their programs	1	2	3	4

9. I am going to read you a list of various policy issues not restricted to the State of Florida, please identify whether each issue should be a priority for State and Local policy makers. On a scale of 1 through 5 with, 1 being Strongly Disagree, and 5 being Strongly Agree, please indicate one number for each issue that best reflects how you feel.

(Circle only ONE response per item)

SA=Strongly Agree, AG=Agree, U=Uncertain, DA=Disagree, SD=Strongly Disagree, NO=No Opinion

	SD	DA	U	AG	SA	NO
ISSUES						
Maintain Current Funding Levels for Public Parks	1	2	3	4	5	0
Increase Funding for Public Parks	1	2	3	4	5	0
Acquire More Land for Public Parks	1	2	3	4	5	0
Increase Accessibility to parks and public lands	1	2	3	4	5	0
Increase Accessibility for people with disabilities	1	2	3	4	5	0

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The following questions are about your background, which will be used for statistical purposes only. The information that you provide will remain **STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**.

10. In what year were you born? _____

11. What do you consider the area around where you live to be?

_____ Farm, ranch, rural area	_____ Urban area
_____ Suburban area	_____ Metropolitan area

12. Is your residence within 20 miles of the coast? _____ Yes _____ No

13. What was the highest grade or year of school you COMPLETED?

_____ 8 years or less (no high school)	_____ Some College
_____ 9-11 years (some high school)	_____ College Degree
_____ High School Degree	_____ Graduate/Professional School (e.g. Medical, Law School, etc)

14. What is your Zipcode? _____

15. What was your household income in the past year?

_____ Less than \$10, 000	_____ Between \$40, 000 - \$59, 999
_____ Between \$10, 000 - \$19, 999	_____ Between \$60, 000 - \$79, 999
_____ Between \$20, 000 - \$39, 999	_____ More than \$80, 000

16a. Are you of Spanish or Hispanic origin? _____ Yes _____ No

16b. Do you consider yourself to be?

_____ Caucasian or White	_____ Pacific Islander
_____ African American or Black	_____ Native American or American Indian
_____ Hispanic or Spanish	_____ Multi-racial or Mixed race
_____ Asian	_____ Other (please specify) _____

17. Gender _____ Male _____ Female

That completes our survey. Thank you very much for your assistance!

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Participation Study Methodology and Survey Questionnaires

**Florida Statewide Outdoor Recreation Participation Study - Tourist Questionnaire
(2001)**

County _____ State _____ Month _____

The State of Florida is conducting a survey to determine the kinds of outdoor recreation activities in which people participate and their opinions about outdoor recreation in Florida. This information is being collected to help plan for the public's use of recreation facilities. This survey should take about ten minutes to complete. ***Please read the informed consent letter before you proceed.***

1. During your **MOST RECENT TRIP** to the State of **FLORIDA**, you may have participated in various recreation activities. What activities did you participate in during your most recent trip to Florida? (***Check all that apply***)

ACTIVITIES			
	Saltwater Beach		Tent Camping
	Freshwater Beach		RV/Trailer Camping
	Outdoor Swimming Pool		Horseback Riding
	Saltwater Boat Fishing		Hiking
	Saltwater-Non Boat Fishing		Hunting
	Freshwater Boat Fishing		Canoeing
	Freshwater-Non Boat Fishing		Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites
	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use		Golfing
	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use		Baseball or Softball
	Picnicking		Football
			Soccer or Rugby
			Outdoor Basketball
			Outdoor Shuffleboard
			Outdoor Tennis
			Outdoor Handball/Racquetball
			Bicycle Riding (paved roads)
			Bicycle Riding (unpaved roads)
			Off-road motorized vehicles
			Nature Study (take nature-walk or observe wildlife/birds)

Among those activities that you did participate in, which activities did you participate the MOST during your most recent trip to Florida? (***Indicate the TOP THREE activities***)

- ACTIVITIES:
1. _____ (name of activity)
 2. _____ (name of activity)
 3. _____ (name of activity)

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3a. Did you use Public or Private/Commercial lands **most frequently** to participate in **Activity #1?**

Public Lands
 (County, State, National Parks,
 Forest, etc.)

Private/Commercial Lands - Don't know
 (Backyards, family farms, theme parks, commercial
 campgrounds, private hunting lands, private lake, etc.)

If you used Public Lands, was it _____ ?

Federally Managed Lands

State Managed Lands

- Locally Managed Lands

Do you think there is enough access to **publicly owned lands in Florida** to meet your needs to participate in **Activity #1?**

Yes

No

I don't know

If No, would you like to add any additional comments about this issue?

3b. Did you use Public or Private/Commercial lands **most frequently** to participate in **Activity #2?**

Public Lands
 (County, State, National Parks,
 Forest, etc.)

Private/Commercial Lands - Don't know
 (Backyards, family farms, theme parks, commercial
 campgrounds, private hunting lands, private lake, etc.)

If you used Public Lands, was it _____ ?

Federally Managed Lands

State Managed Lands

- Locally Managed Lands

Do you think there is enough access to **publicly owned lands in Florida** to meet your needs to participate in **Activity #2?**

Yes

No

I don't know

If No, would you like to add any additional comments about this issue?

3c. Did you use Public or Private/Commercial lands **most frequently** to participate in **Activity #3?**

Public Lands
 (County, State, National Parks,
 Forest, etc.)

Private/Commercial Lands - Don't know
 (Backyards, family farms, theme parks, commercial
 campgrounds, private hunting lands, private lake, etc.)

If you used Public Lands, was it _____ ?

Federally Managed Lands

State Managed Lands

- Locally Managed Lands

Do you think there is enough access to **publicly owned lands in Florida** to meet your needs to participate in **Activity #3?**

Yes

No

I don't know

If No, would you like to add any additional comments about this issue?

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Participation Study Methodology and Survey Questionnaires

4. Could you tell me if there are any activities that you would have LIKED to participate in but were not able to do so in the city or community that you visited in Florida? (**Rank 1, 2, 3, in order of Preference**)

ACTIVITIES			
	Saltwater Beach		Tent Camping
	Freshwater Beach		RV/Trailer Camping
	Outdoor Swimming Pool		Horseback Riding
	Saltwater Boat Fishing		Hiking
	Saltwater-Non Boat Fishing		Hunting
	Freshwater Boat Fishing		Canoeing
	Freshwater-Non Boat Fishing		Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites
	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use		Golfing
	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use		Baseball or Softball
	Picnicking		Football
			Soccer or Rugby
			Outdoor Basketball
			Outdoor Shuffleboard
			Outdoor Tennis
			Outdoor Handball/Racquetball
			Bicycle Riding (paved roads)
			Bicycle Riding (unpaved roads)
			Off-road motorized vehicles
			Nature Study (take nature-walk or observe wildlife/birds)

5. Based upon your above choices, could you tell me if there is a reason as to why you were not able to participate in your three-ranked activities in the city or community that you visited in Florida?

Activity #1:

Reason:

Activity #2:

Reason:

Activity #3:

Reason:

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6. On a scale of 1 through 5 with 1 being not at all satisfied, and 5 being extremely satisfied, how satisfied were you with the following items during your most recent trip to Florida? (*Circle only ONE response per item*).

	<i>Not at all satisfied</i>	<i>Somewhat satisfied</i>	<i>Moderately satisfied</i>	<i>Very satisfied</i>	<i>Extremely satisfied</i>
Availability of areas that support the activities that you participated in or wanted to participate in the city or community that you visited? If you indicated 1 or 2, please explain why ?	1	2	3	4	5

The Quality of natural areas that support the activities that you participated in or wanted to participate in the city or community that you visited? If you indicated 1 or 2, please explain why ?	1	2	3	4	5
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The Quality of facilities that support the activities that you participated in or wanted to participate in the city or community that you visited? If you indicated 1 or 2, please explain why ?	1	2	3	4	5
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What would encourage you *to participate or to participate more* in outdoor recreation activities in the city or community that you visited in Florida? On a scale of 1 through 5 where, 1 being Strongly Disagree, and 5 being Strongly Agree, please circle one number for each issue that best reflects how you feel. (*Circle only ONE response per item*).

SA=Strongly Agree, AG=Agree, U=Uncertain, DA=Disagree, SD=Strongly Disagree, NO=No Opinion

ISSUES	SD	DA	U	AG	SA	NO
More Outdoor Facilities	1	2	3	4	5	0
More Information about Facilities	1	2	3	4	5	0
Better Repair of Facilities	1	2	3	4	5	0
Better Security	1	2	3	4	5	0
Increase Accessibility to parks and public lands	1	2	3	4	5	0
More Organized Activities	1	2	3	4	5	0
Lower fees required to participate	1	2	3	4	5	0
No fees required to participate	1	2	3	4	5	0

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8. The following are general reasons why people do not visit parks and public lands or don't visit very often in Florida. For each one please indicate if it is a major reason why you haven't visited parks and public lands in Florida this year, or a minor reason or not a reason at all for you. If you are unsure then please indicate accordingly. (*Circle only ONE response per item*).

REASONS	MAJOR	MINOR	NOT A REASON	NOT SURE
Don't have enough time	1	2	3	4
Have no way to get to the public parks	1	2	3	4
Fear of crime	1	2	3	4
Too busy with other activities	1	2	3	4
Poor health	1	2	3	4
Poor weather	1	2	3	4
Don't have a travel companion	1	2	3	4
Lack of family interests	1	2	3	4
Don't have the skills to participate	1	2	3	4
Don't have enough money	1	2	3	4
Don't have the equipment	1	2	3	4
Parks are too crowded	1	2	3	4
Public Parks are too far away	1	2	3	4
Like to do other things for recreation	1	2	3	4
Companion prefers to do other things	1	2	3	4
Don't like to do things outdoors	1	2	3	4
Lack of information about the parks or their programs	1	2	3	4

9. The following items are various policy issues **not restricted to the State of Florida**, please identify whether each issue should be a priority for State and Local policy makers. On a scale of 1 through 5 where, 1 being Strongly Disagree, and 5 being Strongly Agree, please circle one number for each issue that best reflects how you feel. (*Circle only ONE response per item*).

SA=Strongly Agree, AG=Agree, U=Uncertain, DA=Disagree, SD=Strongly Disagree, NO=No Opinion

ISSUES	SD	DA	U	AG	SA	NO
Maintain Current Funding Levels for Public Parks	1	2	3	4	5	0
Increase Funding for Public Parks	1	2	3	4	5	0
Acquire More Land for Public Parks	1	2	3	4	5	0
Increase Accessibility to parks and public lands	1	2	3	4	5	0
Increase Accessibility for people with disabilities	1	2	3	4	5	0

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The following questions are about your background, which will be used for statistical purposes only. The information that you provide will remain **STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**.

In what year were you born?

What do you consider the area around where you live to be?

Farm, ranch, rural area
Suburban area

Urban area
Metropolitan area

Is your residence within 20 miles of the coast?

Yes No

What was the highest grade or year of school you COMPLETED?

8 years or less (no high school)
9-11 years (some high school)
High School Degree

What is your Zip code?

What was your household income in the past year?

Less than \$10, 000
Between \$10, 000 - \$19, 999
Between \$20, 000 - \$39, 999

Between \$40, 000 - \$59, 999
Between \$60, 000 - \$79, 999
More than \$80, 000

What is your race or ethnic origin?

Caucasian or White
African American or Black
Hispanic or Spanish
Asian

Pacific Islander
Native American or American Indian
Multi-racial or Mixed race
_____ Other (please specify)

17. Gender

Male

Female

That completes our survey. Thank you very much for your assistance!

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Public Workshop Information

Public Workshop Information

In 2007, the Division of Recreation and Parks conducted 14 public workshops around the state to gather public input. The following charts identify the time and dates of the workshops along with the issues and concerns expressed at each workshop.

Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
November 9, 2006 Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve Ponte Vedra, FL	-Lack of water access -New sports – cricket, lacrosse -Multi-use fields -Geo-caching – managing	-ATV -Paintball -Boat ramp refurbishing

Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
January 11, 2007 DEP Service Center Ft. Myers, FL	-Canoe trail and outfitters support -support for bike trail - pedestrian/bike issues	-blueways trail programs

Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
February 15, 2007 Lakeland, FL Lakeland Public Library Larry R. Jackson Branch	-Lack of consistent standards -Open space -Environmental lands -Active/passive parks -Access to lakes/trails -Poor understanding of planning process -Rural vs. Urban interface -Funding mechanisms -Lack of vision/master plan -ROS, VAMP, VEMP, LAC, etc. -Connect corridors through conservation easements, etc.	-Additional funding for land purchase -Additional funding for infrastructure (restrooms) -Additional funding for management (including security, i.e. cameras) -Shortage of recreation opportunities -Need all-terrain vehicle parks -Equestrian trails -Boat ramps – land acquisition -Neighborhood parks - including lighting (active – basketball, etc.) -Semi-primitive camping - water available and restroom.

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Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
<p style="text-align: center;">March 1, 2007 Marion County Public Library Ocala, FL</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Skewed data from atypical year re: 2002 tourism study (UF) -Local actions may impact data in SCORP – Orange County buying \$250 million in land -Potential conflict between locals (residents) and SCORP needs. May not be the same. -Issue pertaining to larger counties vs. smaller counties in reference to new vs. retrofit (points given to grants) -Assurance for proper representation from non-government agencies re: horseback riding -Connectivity between local jurisdictional boundaries (seamless). -Enhance communications between all levels of government for regional planning -Regional issues affecting outdoor recreation. -Rapid population growth. -Land cost and availability. -Unmanaged recreation impacts on resources -Multiple managing agencies with overlapping missions. -Water quality (detoxification) -Squatters – long-term winter visitors -Cultural diversity demands or variety of recreational offerings -OHV demand vs. offered -Accessibility – ADA -Inholdings – noise/access/trespass -Local/regional political support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Competing user/uses conflicts -Should require a percent of acquisition dollars be dedicated to management of lands (i.e. new staff and positions) -Emphasize replanting native plants when exotics are removed. -Evaluate public lands for further mixed use (i.e. equestrian camping) -Public lands evaluation -Demand exceeds supply -Strengths: Large properties (national forests, state parks, forests, greenway, WMD, counties); water resources; volunteer organizations (state park cso); recreation opportunities -Water resources -Volunteer organizations (state park cso) -Recreation opportunities -Weaknesses -Lack of joint management -Funding -Lack of youth programs -User competition (ATV vs. hikers vs. horses, etc.) -Opportunities – Address weaknesses -Threats – Population growth -Activity vs. Activity usage -Cultural usages -Population -DCA comprehensive plans: guidelines; standards

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Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
<p style="text-align: center;">April 4, 2007 Conference Room Holiday Inn Express Tampa, FL</p>	<p>Strengths of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -acquisition of lands -water access -ability to partner with other agencies -beach access -golf courses - Pinellas County -youth Program / senior citizen programs -in programs such as OGT, <i>Florida Forever</i>, FCT -state parks -small funding projects such as ADA re-surfacing -funding for multi-site rehabilitation -resource based recreation -nature study -user-based recreation -golfing -number and quality of athletic fields (regional strength/Manatee Co) -partnerships with developers, school board, YMCA, etc. for Youth Sports leagues (regional strength/Manatee Co.) -county property tax millage dedicated to conservation lands (regional strength/Manatee Co.) -2.6 miles of maintained saltwater beaches (regional strength/Manatee Co.) -diverse recreational activities: beaches, golf courses, athletic fields, hunting (regional strength/Manatee Co.) <p>Strengths of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -resource-based recreation -historical/archaeological sites -grant programs -one of the best state park programs -availability of park development grants -excellent campgrounds & water/river access -land acquisition programs (OGT, FCT) 	<p>Weaknesses of local and regional programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -lack of canoeing, biking, & trail opportunities -lack of public boat ramps -lack of public community centers -no dedicated revenue source to support parks and recreation improvements -impact fees have not kept pace with the cost of park improvement -not enough senior recreation opportunities -boating access, water access in Pinellas Co. -funding -available land in Pinellas Co. -ADA compliance -off highway vehicle access and opportunities for young kids and senior citizens -skateboard access with challenging levels -marina environments/slips <p>Weaknesses of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -due to increased cost of construction, grant funding limits should be increased -lack of a coordinated trail connectivity plan -trail signage -poor communication in available funding programs -funding -lack of maintenance funds for state parks -FRDAP cap -funding for Brownfield clean up -multi-site rehabilitation -small funding programs for projects such as ADA surfacing for playgrounds, renovating facilities for ADA compliance

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Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
<p>April 5, 2007 Leu Gardens Orlando, FL</p>	<p>Strengths of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -self management in Seminole Co. -variety of opportunities -community support -leveraged dollars -skateboard facilities -sports facilities for all ages (i.e. pickle ball) -playgrounds -dog parks -shared facilities (i.e., dog park/ball field and parks/school grounds) -urban parks -lake access -diverse customers -trails -use of facilities by users from outside the local area <p>Strengths of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -convenience of online services -staffing -cleanliness of facilities -OGT and outreach program 	<p>Weaknesses of local and regional programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -not enough trails and connectivity -comprehensive plan and zoning inconsistency -land availability (prices from \$30k to \$70k/acre) -huge increases in impact fees -sustainability/maintenance -vandalism -available land -not enough staff -need equestrian trails -development of parks -community support -land use guidelines <p>Weaknesses of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -few facilities in central Florida -focus on beaches -facilities -lack of coverage across the state -lack of equestrian camping - horse tourism is very popular

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Public Workshop Information

Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
<p style="text-align: center;">April 18, 2007</p> <p>Miami Shores Community Center</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Miami Shores, FL</p>	<p>Strengths of programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CERP planning process bringing communities together to address regional needs -regulations to safeguard existing recreation lands (80% vote of local government is required to sell or transfer recreational lands) -foundations for funding site development -bond program to acquire marinas for public purposes -local initiatives to provide amenities (trails, docks, piers) to access water for non-boaters -pedestrian-friendly access -Miami-Dade County initiative to bring governments and communities together to develop open space/recreation plan (50- -private sector funds for park development 	<p>Weaknesses of programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ADA funding for universal accessibility -public transportation to parks (ADA compliant vehicles) -transportation challenges/expense for recreation programs -aging (boomers) population creating need for facilities for comfort (community center, recreation halls, pavilions, etc.) -lack of constant financial support for maintaining parks (chasing bond issues) -grants should require funds for maintenance -lack of development funding once land is acquired -dog parks -not enough boating access -lack of available land/too expensive -need creative solutions to parking -DERM/CORPS won't allow construction -economic as well as recreation issue -lack of funds to purchase archaeological sites -potential conflicts between recreation and preservation (archaeological sites for example) -lack of amenities to facilitate access to water/canals for non-boating public (piers/platforms, etc.) -funding for exotics control and eradication

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Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
<p style="text-align: center;">April 19, 2007 1:00 p.m. Elsa R. Kimbell and Research Center Jonathan Dickinson State Park Hobe Sound, FL</p>	<p>Strengths of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -standards of development -available resources -affordability -user-based programs -user driven -local control/flexibility -local community support -coastline parks -relationships with boards, etc. and inter-governmental/interagency agreements -connectivity (multi-modal) -identification -Northeast Everglades Natural Areas (NENA) program identifying linkages (emphasis on greenways assists in linkages) -affordability, free access -Crime Prevention Through Design (CPTD) standards <p>Strengths of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -large areas/sites -nature-based activities -conservation opportunities -Citizen Support Organizations 	<p>Weaknesses of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -need more operational funds -accessibility to land and information -need educational/interpretive signage -perception -need to publicize more -- maps and plans -lack of connectivity -- properties separated by easements, etc. -dog friendly parks/beaches (off-leash) -programming uncertain (availability of funding) -special needs of specific user groups (off road bikes, equestrian, etc.) -lack of public education about programming/facilities/opportunities -land ownership <p>Weaknesses of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -cost -- park entrance fees, expensive cabins -educational issues -- burning/ burn bans -- need to better educate public regarding benefits and purposes -lack of partnerships -fees impede trail systems -limited number of access points -lack of grant availability -dependency on federal funding -insufficient law enforcement staffing -need to address geocaching -lack of ATV parks in South Florida -declining boat ramp facilities -- need to be replaced -no net loss for hunting -greenway plans -- lack of ability to connect lands -freshwater boating access
	<p>General Concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -youth violence prevention -deviant sexual behavior -homelessness -- homeless population in parks drives visitors away -escalating land acquisition and development costs restricting purchase and accessibility particularly I coastal communities with boating access demands and beach properties -addressing costs of disaster impacts such as hurricanes, limited funds to reconstruct, and impacting general public use and accessibility -one size does not fit all by region; impacts grants ratings -how to account for seasonal populations and their impacts on facilities and space -State mandates, i.e. "enforce water quality regulations" without funding. Formulas and approaches need to be developed for funding of statewide needs and concerns -purchase of development rights to protect conservation properties. How will these lands be inventoried when they are not "owned" -tax reduction: potential impacts on acquisition and protection of active and passive resources 	

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Public Workshop Information

Date	Identified Needs/Issues	
<p>April 19, 2007</p> <p>7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Elsa R. Kimbell</p> <p>Environmental Education and Research Center</p> <p>Jonathan Dickinson State Park</p> <p>Hobe Sound, FL</p>	<p>Strengths of local and regional programs:</p> <p>Strengths of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -upgrades of existing facilities -state parks provide outstanding recreation opportunities -state park cabins are excellent -educational opportunities at state parks (LIFE program) -good meeting facilities -state parks web pages have good information 	<p>Weaknesses of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -need improved boating access to public waters (motorized and non-motorized) -need for greater cooperation and less competition between cities -increased demand for dog parks not being met -operating hours do not match user requirements, need to consider expanded hours (24/7), access permits, self-policing -problems with homeless population -lack of formal process to initiate change in operating hours and area access -availability of facilities not well know or advertised -need funds for purchasing and/or developing campgrounds -- cooperation between State and local governments -consider/include all types of boating activities and access: ramps, sailing, personal water craft, etc. <p>Weaknesses of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -need a cultural change in park management's thinking process (ability to adapt to changing circumstances) -need to provide information regarding website usage to field staff and encourage park managers to keep webpage current - push for greater OPS funding to meet staffing needs -Reserve America is not a good program -need more input from FWCC and other land managers to bolster staffing -operating hours do not match user requirements, need to consider expanded hours (24/7), access permits, self-policing -lack of formal process to initiate change in operating hours and area access -RV use fees are too low -park fee scale should consider indexing in line with inflation -availability of facilities not well know or advertised -consider/include all types of boating activities and access: ramps, sailing, personal water craft, etc.
	<p>General Concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -SCORP plan: table 4 needs modification to include slips, overnight uses and transient use -SCORP plan: consider condensing various sections of the plan. -SCORP should be more vocal -lack of campgrounds in southeast Florida -consider opportunities for non-staffed sites -need more creative thinking 	

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Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
<p>April 25, 2007</p> <p>Santa Fe Room</p> <p>Suwannee River Water Management District HQS</p> <p>Live Oak, FL</p>	<p>Strengths of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -lots of public lands and state parks in the area -good access to public lands w/springs & rivers -canoe trail development -REDI waivers have helped small rural communities qualify for grants to develop and acquire recreation land and facilities -fortunate to have lands left to be acquired if the funding is available <p>Strengths of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Grant programs & technical assistance -field staff at state parks and recreation sites are valuable resources 	<p>Weaknesses of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -lack of funding for facility staffing, programming and upkeep -perceived lack of access to public lands i.e. no vehicle traffic allowed on some WMD lands -inadequate signage for recreation lands -need for ATV, equestrian & extreme sports facilities -visibility of recreation areas needs improvement & better promotion of the area's assets -recreation resources and facilities should receive better appreciation from citizens - cut down on vandalism and abuse <p>Weaknesses of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -two-way communications between locals and state need some improvement -Lack of state staff to work on historic resources issues -need more law enforcement staff at recreation sites to protect historic and natural resources -there is state funding for acquisition of resources but no funding to maintain and protect lands once acquired -FRDAP grants give highest priority to saltwater activities and non-coastal areas like North Central FL communities can't qualify - grant programs don't give a high enough priority to nature based activities like hunting and fishing for areas where those activities dominate to qualify for state grants -state needs to survey equestrian trail users to get a better grasp of the demand within that user group for equestrian camping & facilities to meet needs of both riders and mounts. -state land managers need to consider science that refutes the impact of horses in the spread of non- -state needs to consider economic impact of the equestrian recreationists, both residents and visitors who visit FL state parks, forests and other public lands either for day trips or long stays

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Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
<p>April 25, 2007</p> <p>Balis Community Center</p> <p>Jacksonville, FL</p>	<p>Strengths of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - enormous demand in some areas for playing fields for league sports teams (e.g. soccer, baseball, softball) gets short-changed because SCORP state-level and broad regional demand assessments upon which many community officials rely in planning recreational facilities do not reflect needs at the micro level. <p>Strengths of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Putnam County got funding to build a handicap baseball field & T-Ball facility 	<p>Weaknesses of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - boating access points do not have adequate parking -need more handicap access to parks and handicap specific facilities and programs <p>Weaknesses of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -need state guidelines for recreational beach driving; why hasn't the state addressed the safety issue of unregulated beach driving?

Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
<p>May 17, 2007</p> <p>Florida Department of Transportation District 3 Headquarters</p> <p>Chipley, FL</p>	<p>Strengths of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -need to bring bike trails north of 331 bridge (for recreation and transportation) -Walton County needs more bike trails and feeder trails -multi-use parks -beaches -community support for recreation -new facilities -available grants -full-featured park in Cottondale -- not just nature appreciation, but activities as well -there is space for park areas in the city of Marianna -upcoming Chipola River Greenway project -state parks in area -available grants -great improvement in organized use of recreational facilities -funding for land acquisition -Chipola River Greenway program shows real promise -Florida Caverns State Park is a great attraction 	<p>Weaknesses of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -do not abandon any waterfront access whether river, lake, bayou, bay or gulf (state or county) -provide onsite parking with restrooms, showers, etc. -identify all existing waterfront access -ban jet skis in enclosed waters -concern about loss of horse trails or being condensed with ATVs and dirt bikes -get rid of airboats -need better trail head parking and access -need bridges and equipment -need right-of-way and access -need more volunteers and publicity -existing trails not wide enough (12 feet) -multi-trail users are too close on bridges -need funding for restroom facilities in areas open for public use. -need ATV trails in each county -need more horse trails with camping facilities -need more canoe trails

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Date/Location cont.	Identified Needs/Issues cont.
	<p>Weaknesses of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -need more hiking trails -need more outdoor swimming pools -need more camping areas -need more bike trails -need better communication between agencies -need more land available and affordable for recreation -maintenance and staffing -beach and boater access sites -more parking -need more enclosed, secure storage areas -resources! we have interests in outdoor swimming areas, trails, racquetball, jogging, fishing and nature study programs, we just need the will and the funds to develop programs and areas <p>Weaknesses of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -need more areas added to the Greenways and Trails program -counties not always able to meet the State matching requirements - adjust requirements -better publicity for existing areas - produce a handbook showing available facilities -need more horse trail riding areas and facilities in Northwest Florida, including maps, camping, water supply and facilities - need more parks similar to Blackwater and Coldwater. These areas have well laid out trails, good camping and recreation facilities, but are almost always full. -lots of land available, but not accessible to public -more ATV trails -more beach access sites -recognition of multi-modal uses/needs -need closer coordination with the water management districts to develop trails, especially equestrian trails -availability of potable water for equestrian camping and trail activities -need to partner with local governments who lack funding for acquisition, development and promotion

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Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
<p>May 17, 2007</p> <p>Pensacola Junior College</p> <p>Pensacola, FL</p>	<p>Strengths of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -equestrian groups (unity) -popularity of parks -ability to designate where funds should go -length of trails / opportunities for trails users -generally, the facilities are good -Escambia County Equestrian Center is available for rodeos and other events -Coldwater facilities are well maintained -beach access in Okaloosa County -local facilities -opportunities to provide more water management district lands available -Friends of Florida State Forests accomplishments -University of West Florida multi-use trails -large amount of land being conserved -Chumuckla Area (for soccer and horse use) and Milton Recreation Arena -there is a massive opportunity with the development of property in the north end of Escambia County -lots of Gulf-front beach with easy public access <p>Strengths of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Fred Gannon State Park - very nice park -Blackwater State Forest offers a variety of activities -good trail system in Blackwater River State Forest -<i>Florida Forever</i> program -opportunity for input via public meetings/workshops -trails at Coldwater are well maintained (go easy on the rock beds though) -Eglin Air Force Base multi-use trails and recreation -popularity of horse facilities -good rapport with Division of Forestry staff -knowing we have the ability to designate funds to our local State facilities -transportation enhancement projects 	<p>Weaknesses of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -need trails and equestrian center in Barrineau Park (Molino) area -need to open waterfront in Eglin for horseback, trails and camping -need to complete Stage III development of equestrian center (trails) -a lot of horses with no place to ride -need to address need for providing water for horses -hunting appears to have priority over other uses -local land managers need funding and grants to develop and maintain recreational areas -local government doesn't have professional staff that understand recreational issues and that it is a sustainable industry -lack of planning for more open spaces -not enough equestrian, multi-use or hiking trails -lack of outreach to user groups -access to Escambia River for recreational use -lack of public pools -need to allow horses in water bodies -need more parking and trailer accessible parking -trails in Washington County need more potable water facilities -lack of wagon trail availability -gaps in trail sections (hiking, biking, etc.) -lack of multiple use and compatible use trails -need long distance trails with camping and infrastructure -need to provide bathrooms along canoe/kayak trails -need more volunteers -there is a need for youth and clean family activities in Escambia County -need off-road/motorbike facilities -need to make available recreational opportunities for home schooler's needs -lack of any equestrian trails (state or local) in north Escambia County -need to improve communication between agencies -need a pet park for healthy pets

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Public Workshop Information

Date/Location cont.	Identified Needs/Issues cont.
	<p>Weaknesses of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -need more boat ramps on West Choctawhatchee Bay -need more bay-front parks for inlanders -need more vegetation to stabilize shorelines and absorb boat wake energy -need to educate users regarding health issues and pollution -need saltwater access area for pets <p>Weaknesses of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Tarkiln Bayou State Park - great opportunity for equestrian use -need to have equestrian access to Perdido River side of Tarkiln Bayou State Park -need to increase space accommodations -- bathrooms and showers -not enough facilities for equestrian use/camping/trails -no access to water for horses -lack of funding and grants to develop and maintain recreational areas -not enough staff to maintain areas -need to conduct study to thoroughly investigate and determine source of fecal contamination in local waters -Coldwater has cut back on food plots -- seeing less wildlife as a result -hunting should never be allowed where there are horse trails -time involved in process and lack of staff/resources to support recreational trails -connectivity of public land to cities/communities with trails -need to provide 4-wheeler/off-road activities in Santa Rosa and Okaloosa Counties. -look into possibility of using Perdido Water Land Management Area for horse activities as well as camping -need to collect data on number of out-of-state horses coming into Florida -horses can't go where vehicles can on water management lands -improve methods of gathering data -- state is made up of more than just tourists -need to update horse ownership information statewide -need to be proactive in land acquisition planning -use requirements are not consistent across user groups

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Date/Location	Identified Needs/Issues	
<p style="text-align: center;">June 7, 2007</p> <p>Dept of Environmental Protection Douglas Building Tallahassee, FL</p>	<p>Strengths of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -lower population density in north Florida -public ownership of springs - good water quality -many quality multiple-use trails -karsts resources abundant but fragile -springs natural resource feature is unique and world class -availability of boating access to public waters -local governments provide activities that are not provided at state level, i.e. sports -wide variety of local trails, river access <p>Strengths of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -good funding through <i>Florida Forever</i> -more progressive and comprehensive planning than many states -areas provided for public hunting -Florida National Scenic Trail -quality of local state parks, number of parks -pristine rivers from Panhandle to Leon County -more karsts features than any other region in Florida -Big Bend Aquatic Seagrass Preserve -state capital -major universities -closest to Floridian aquifer -organized mechanism for volunteers, like the "Friends of ..." is useful and should be expanded -the grant programs help develop and acquire a lot of parks that would not be built without help -many state park and trail facilities (such as boat ramps on St. Marks trail, are available to all around the clock 	<p>Weaknesses of local and regional programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -threats to local programs: high cost of insurance; risk management limits program types; population growth and change in growth patterns -connectivity of natural habitats -rising cost of real estate -lack of staffing for publicly managed lands -technology: changing recreation trends -cultural-based heritage tourism as well as archaeological-based -recreation access requirements differ across individual parks - lack of standardization -access is under priced -ability to purchase land for parks in high-dollar areas of the county. This causes a void in recreation facilities located in high-dollar areas. -lack of programs provided by local governments -lack of staffing at public parks <p>Weaknesses of state programs, opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -lack of agency coordination due to complexity of organization -- federal, local and State -lack of volume, multi-use trails -lack of aquatic cave management plans and lack of cave access (diving). Need to measure demand and revenue generation potential. Past SCORP does not reflect growth of cave diving and quality of diver training. -Diving resources in different areas need to be identified clearly considering the fragility of certain caves and diving resources. Access to springs varies and needs to be laid out clearly to define where you can and cannot dive.

Assessment and Protection of Wetlands

The Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986 (PL 99-645), requires each state comprehensive outdoor recreation plan to include a component that identifies wetlands as a priority concern within that state. To fulfill the requirements sections of the *2006-2010 Coastal Zone Management Act 309 Assessment and Strategies* and a summary of wetland and other surface water regulatory and proprietary programs prepared by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Office of Submerged Lands and Environmental Resources in 2007 are used. This addendum identifies the wetlands communities that exist in Florida, discusses major threats to the State's wetlands and describes the wetlands protection and acquisition programs that exist today.

Extent of Florida's Wetlands

DEP and the water management districts (WMD) share responsibility for implementing the Wetland Resource and Environmental Resource Permitting (ERP) programs and sovereign submerged lands authorization for dredge, fill and construction in wetlands and other surface waters. Since 1984, the department and WMD have been independently tracking total wetland acreages permitted to be eliminated, temporarily disturbed, improved, created and preserved. The data reported in Table H-1 indicates wetlands gain/loss data as permitted through the department and the five WMD. Data is not tracked by wetland type, therefore, the non-tidal and freshwater acreage cannot be reported by type.

Threats to Florida's Wetlands

Human activity and natural factors are directly responsible for the loss and degradation of wetland habitat. In Florida, natural threats such as droughts, hurricanes and natural succession are relatively insignificant when compared to the losses incurred through human actions such as drainage for agriculture, flood control and filling for development. Given all the benefits of wetlands, it is important to recognize what kinds of activities threaten these important areas. The following information is extracted from the document submitted by the Coastal Management Program of DEP pursuant of Section 309 of the Coastal Management Zone Act, which lists and describes direct and indirect threats to Florida's wetlands. The threats to wetlands discussed by the Coastal Management Program can be considered throughout the state as a result of Florida's coastal zone that includes all 67 counties and territorial seas.

Direct and indirect threats to coastal wetlands:

Note: Suppositions noted below on the scope of the threat and recent trends are anecdotal and inconclusive. Sufficient data does not exist to address the scope of the threat or recent trends for the threats identified. Impediments may not be noted in cases where none were identified by agency partners. There is no statewide wetlands data available; data referred to is that derived from the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI). The NWI data cannot be compared to state permitting data as the delineation methodologies differ and the NWI data is fragmented and outdated. Therefore, an overlying impediment to addressing all the threats is the lack of accurate, up-to-date, comprehensive data.

Threat of Development/Fill: Filling wetlands results in the loss of habitat, marine productivity and areas for water storage and groundwater recharge; flooding; increased stormwater runoff and pollution; and fragmentation of wildlife corridors.

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Table H-1: Extent of Wetlands in Florida

Wetlands Type	Extent (Acres)
Tidal	No accurate data statewide 76,020 for NFWFMD ¹ 55,000 for IRL-NEP ²
Non-tidal/Freshwater	No accurate data statewide 2,176,312 for NFWFMD ¹
Publicly acquired Wetlands	5,646,890 acres ³
Preserved Wetlands	111,625.33
Created Wetlands	17,064.61 ⁴
Improved Wetlands ⁵	42,652.23 ⁴
Temporarily Disturbed Wetlands	8,868.4 ⁴
Permanently Destroyed Wetlands	27,329.91 ⁴
Mitigation Bank Credits Used	6,954.66
<p>Notes:</p> <p>1 Northwest Florida Water Management District reporting acreage based on DEP Land Cover GIS layers (1994 aerials) and NWI information (1971-1992 aerials). Limitations of information noted below in Resource Characterization item 2.</p> <p>2 Of the 55,000 acres of coastal (tidal) wetland in the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program system, over 40,000 acres were impounded for mosquito control with over 29,350 acres of those impoundments now reconnected via culverts, breached, or restored by all parties. In addition, 2,000 acres of wetlands were severely impacted by dragline ditching, also for mosquito control. Just over 80 acres of these wetlands have been rehabilitated, thereby returning approximately 35 acres to wetland elevations.</p> <p>3 The Florida Natural Areas Inventory reported that a total of 5,646,890 acres of functional wetlands are protected on conservation lands to date. Of that acreage, 497,890 were added since 2001. Note that conservation lands include conservation easements as well as publicly owned lands. "Functional wetlands" is defined on the inventory's website (www.fnai.org).</p> <p>4 Numbers only reflect the acreages as they were permitted, by DEP and all five WMDs, and do not reflect what was actually constructed, or the degree to which such creation, restoration, and enhancement was successful. Approximately one year ago, DEP updated its permit application tracking database (ERPce) to allow staff, for the first time, to keep track of such numbers. Due to resource limitations however, DEP staff are not able to perform compliance inspections of all sites to determine if mitigation projects are meeting all success criteria.</p> <p>5 Over the last five years DEP's Bureau of Invasive Plant Management has had success controlling hydrilla in 120,000 acres of waterways, and controlling plant invaders on more than 250,000 acres of wetland and upland forest. This acreage is not reflected in the "improved" wetland acreage.</p> <p>Source: 2006-2010 Coastal Zone Management Act 309 Assessment and Strategies.</p>	

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H-2: SIGNIFICANCE OF THREATS TO FLORIDA'S
WETLANDS

Threat	Significance
Development/fill	High
Alteration of hydrology	Medium
Erosion	Low
Pollution	Low
Channelization	Low
Nuisance or exotic species	High
Freshwater input	Medium
Sea level rise	Medium
Other	Medium

Impediments: Staff has limited tools to rapidly assess functional losses and cumulative impacts. The environmental resource program has limited engineering staff to assess flooding potential associated with individual single family residential construction.

Threat of Alteration of Hydrology: Alteration of hydrology can result in loss of wetland functions, conversion from a wetland to upland or conversion from one wetland type to another wetland or surface water type. Disturbances to the timing of water delivery can also adversely affect wetland functions. However, some hydrologic alterations are positive, in that they can also improve natural conditions.

Impediments: Same as those specifically noted above in development/fill threat.

Threat of Erosion: Erosion causes sedimentation leading to loss of wetland functions by smothering of habitat, food resources and breeding areas. Reduced productivity may result over time if community types change and water clarity is reduced.

Impediments: Erosion in itself is not specifically regulated and is only mediated through properly functioning stormwater controls.

Threat of Pollution: Pollution impacts are far-ranging, depending on the type, nature and quantity of the pollutant involved. Impacts can include chronic and acute toxicity of marine resources, loss of habitat and changes to reproductive capability.

Impediments: The complexity of controlling non-point source pollution.

Threat of Channelization: Channelization most typically results in draining of wetlands and direct loss of resources.

Impediments: None identified.

Threat of Nuisance or Exotic Species: Nuisance or exotic species primarily affecting Florida wetlands are Brazilian pepper, Australian pine, melaleuca trees and Chinese tallow. Proliferation of those species typically results from hydrologic alteration. Wetland impacts may be authorized to address the presence of exotic species or the removal of exotic species, which activities may in turn be used to offset

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other wetland impacts. DEP's Bureau of Invasive Plant Management and the WMD administer programs for the control of exotics in waters used for navigation and recreation.

Impediments: The scale and complexity of the threat and the limited resources available to confront it.

Threat of Freshwater Input: Freshwater input is essential in estuaries and freshwater wetlands. Adverse effects result when the amount, timing, or quality of freshwater input is changed. Effects vary depending on the change, including alteration of vegetative composition, death and changes to animal communities and decline in water quality. This is most notable when "slugs" of freshwater are discharged to estuaries at inappropriate times and volumes.

Impediments: Balancing the need for flood control while maintaining natural hydrology.

Threat of Sea Level Rise: Sea level rise affects change in community composition, such as conversion of freshwater marshes to saltwater marshes and forested systems (mangroves) and contributes to accelerated erosion.

Impediments: None identified.

State Regulatory Efforts

Florida implements an independent *state* permit program that operates *in addition to* the federal dredge and fill permit program. The state regulatory permit program is implemented differently, depending on the location of the activity. As described below, this includes a statewide regulatory environmental resource and wetland resource permit under part IV of chapter 373 of the Florida Statutes. It also includes a mangrove trimming and alteration program under chapter 403 of the Florida Statutes. These are further described as follows:

- **In peninsular Florida** (encompassing the geographic territory of four WMDs, beginning south and east of mid-Jefferson County): An environmental resource permit (ERP) program regulates virtually all alterations to the landscape, including all tidal and freshwater wetlands and other surface waters (including isolated wetlands) *and* uplands. The ERP addresses dredging and filling in wetlands and other surface waters, as well as stormwater runoff *quality* (i.e. stormwater treatment) and *quantity* (i.e. stormwater attenuation and flooding of other properties) including that resulting from alterations of uplands. This program regulates everything from construction of single-family residences in wetlands, convenience stores in the uplands, dredging and filling for any purpose in wetlands and other surface waters (including maintenance dredging), construction of roads located in uplands and wetlands, and agricultural alterations that impede or divert the flow of surface waters. Issuance of the ERP also constitutes a water quality certification or waiver thereto under section 401 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1341. In addition, issuance of an ERP in coastal counties constitutes a finding of consistency under Florida Coastal Zone Management Program under Section 307 (Coastal Zone Management Act). The ERP program is implemented jointly by DEP and the four WMDs, in accordance with an operating agreement that identifies the respective division of responsibilities.
- **In the panhandle** (encompassing the geographic territory of the Northwest Florida WMD (NFWWMD), west of and including mid-Jefferson County): A wetland resource permit (WRP) program under Chapter 62-346, F.A.C. is authorized under Section 373.4145(1)(a), F.S., to provide the authority for the department and NFWWMD to regulate stormwater management systems. The remaining components of the comprehensive Northwest ERP program, including isolated wetlands, are scheduled for completion in 2008. Until the rules authorized under Section 373.4145(1)(b), F.S., become effective, the WRP program remains in effect. This program regulates dredging and filling

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in all tidal and freshwater wetlands and other surface waters that are connected (by one or more natural or artificial waters) to other bays, bayous, streams, rivers, lakes, estuaries or the Gulf of Mexico. It does not regulate dredging or filling in isolated wetlands. Issuance of a wetland resource permit also constitutes a water quality certification or waiver thereto under section 401 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1341, and a finding of consistency under the Florida Coastal Zone Management Act under Section 307. This program is implemented solely by DEP.

- An agricultural and dam safety program implemented by the NFWFMD under chapter 40A-4 of the Florida Administrative Code. This includes regulating the management, storage and drainage of surface waters associated with agricultural and forestry projects. This program has jurisdiction over impacts to isolated wetlands in agricultural lands, and issuance of this permit constitutes water quality certification under section 401 of the Clean water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1341. The dam safety program regulates the construction, alteration or abandonment of dams or levees utilized in non-agricultural settings.
- The trimming or alteration of mangroves (a tropical tree species growing in the estuaries of middle and south Florida, including the red mangrove *Rhizophora mangle*; black mangrove *Avicennia germinans*; and white mangrove *Laguncularia racemosa*) is regulated in accordance with the Mangrove Protection Act of 1996 (sections 403.9321-403.9334, F.S.). Levels of regulation include exemptions, general permits and individual permits, depending on the number and extent of trimming or alteration.
- In addition to the above *regulatory* permit programs, activities that are located on submerged lands that are owned by the State of Florida (otherwise called sovereign submerged lands) also require a *proprietary* authorization for such use under Chapter 253 of the Florida Statutes. Such lands generally extend waterward from the mean high water line (of tidal waters) or the ordinary high water line (of fresh waters) both inland and out to the state's territorial limit (approximately three miles into the Atlantic Ocean, and ten miles in the Gulf of Mexico). If such lands are located within certain designated aquatic preserves, the authorization also must meet the requirements of Chapter 258 of the Florida Statutes. Such authorization considers issues such as riparian rights, impacts to submerged land resources and preemption of other uses of the water by the public. Authorizations typically are in the form of consents of use, easements and leases. This program is implemented jointly by DEP and four of the state's five WMD in accordance with the same operating agreement that governs the ERP program. The program is structured such that applicants who do not qualify at the time of the permit application for *both* the regulatory permit and the proprietary authorization cannot receive either permit or authorization.

Federal Regulatory Efforts

- As described, issuance of a state environmental resource or wetland resource permit also constitutes a state water quality certification or waiver thereto under section 401 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1341, and, in coastal counties, a finding of consistency under Florida Coastal Zone Management Program under Section 307 (Coastal Zone Management Act). When a corresponding federal dredge and fill permit is required, it is issued independently from the state permit by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) after issuance or waiver of the state water quality certification and applicable coastal zone consistency concurrence.
- In addition to the *state regulatory* programs, Florida has statewide authorization to implement the federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program for stormwater. Areas of regulation include municipal separate storm sewer systems, certain industrial activities and construction activities. The municipal program has jurisdiction over large and medium municipalities. The industrial program covers selected industries and are identified by Standard Industrial

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Code. New construction may also require a stormwater permit if the clearing, grading, or excavation work disturbs five or more acres of land and discharges to either a surface water of the state or to a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. NPDES stormwater permit needed is called the *Generic Permit for Stormwater Discharge from Construction Activities that Disturb Five or More Acres of Land*. Copies of the permit, application forms, guidance materials and other information about the permit and NPDES stormwater program can be downloaded from the following website: <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/stormwater/npdes/>.

- State Programmatic General Permit - USACE has delegated to DEP the ability to issue the federal dredge and fill permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for certain activities that qualify for an ERP or wetland resource permit or exemption.

Innovative Features and New Programs/Initiatives:

- The comprehensive nature of the *state* program is broader than the federal program in that it also regulates alterations of uplands that may affect surface water flows, including addressing issues of flooding and stormwater treatment;
- The state program is *in addition to*, not in place of or superseded by the federal dredge and fill permit programs. There are *no* thresholds wherein some activities are reviewed by the state and others by the federal government. In essence applicants must get *all* applicable permits and authorizations from *both* the state and the federal government before beginning work;
- The division of responsibilities is between DEP and WMD (who have regional *ad valorem* taxing authority);
- A wetland delineation methodology ratified under state law that is binding on all state, regional and local governments throughout Florida. This methodology is specific to Florida, and differs from the federal wetland delineation methodology;
- A statewide mitigation banking program implemented by the department and three of the state's five WMDs;
- ERP permits that are valid for the life of the system (includes all structures and works authorized for construction or land alteration). The ERP permit does not automatically expire after the construction phase (typically a five-year period), and continues to cover *operation* (use of) of the system.
- A joint permit application form, wherein applicants for a federal dredge and fill permit apply directly to either DEP or the applicable WMD using the same form that is used for the state ERP or wetland resource permit. The department and the WMDs then forward the application to the USACE for concurrent federal permit processing (which can only be issued after issuance of the applicable state permit that grants or waives water quality certification);
- A program that regulates the trimming or alteration of mangroves;
- The issuance of a State Programmatic General Permit from USACE to DEP that provides certain activities (such as docks, seawalls, dredging and activities that qualify for state exemptions or general permits) that qualify under the state regulatory program also will receive the associated federal dredge and fill permit; and
- A limited delegation of the ERP program from DEP and the South Florida WMD to Broward County.

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Restoration

Program Description

Florida's legislature established the *Florida Forever* program in 1998 to enhance land acquisition and restoration efforts. This program is scheduled to raise \$300 million each year during the decade beginning in Fiscal Year 2000-01. Nearly a quarter of these funds may be used for facilities development, ecological or hydrological restoration, or other capital improvements to public lands. Most of the ecological and hydrological restoration funds will funnel through the state's five WMDs, which may spend collectively up to \$52.5 million annually from *Florida Forever* funds for these purposes. Each district has its own governing board and operation rules and policies, but DEP provides oversight and approves all *Florida Forever* expenditures. In addition to these funds, approximately \$10.5 million may be available for capital improvements to the department acquired properties through the Acquisition and Restoration Council, a nine-member board composed of five state agency heads and four governor appointees. The Council has not yet fully developed procedures for awarding these funds. However, both WMD and the Council's capital improvement projects must meet goals and measures established in legislation [s. 259.105(4), F.S.].

The state also has a very active invasive plant management program that is critical to its restoration programs. Nearly \$34.8 million was appropriated for this effort in Fiscal Year 2000-01. The amount available for invasive plant management is increased substantially through partnerships with other state agencies, WMDs and local and federal governments such that \$29,725,376 (includes both uplands and aquatic plant control) will be expended in 2007. These funds are allocated based on a priority schedule developed by regional working groups in concert with DEP's Bureau of Invasive Plant Management.

President George W. Bush and Governor Jeb Bush entered into an historic pact between the state and federal government that keeps Everglades restoration on track and ensures long-term protection for the "River of Grass". The agreement, signed nearly one year ahead of schedule, requires Florida to reserve water specifically for environmental purposes in order to receive federal funding for the \$7.8 billion restoration project. The agreement protects 68 endangered and threatened species as well as the natural resources of the Everglades National Park, Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, the Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge and Water Conservation Areas. Everglades restoration is designed to recapture over 1.5 billion gallons of water daily that is currently diverted to the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico. The majority of water will be used to protect South Florida's system, while providing for other water-related needs of the region, including water supply and flood control.

Federal Conservation Reserve, Conservation Reserve Enhancement and Wetland Reserve grants have been awarded to the department and the WMDs to assist in funding wetland restoration projects.

Restoration Program Goals

The *Florida Forever* program [s. 259.105, F.S.] includes the following goals and measures concerning wetlands:

- Protect, restore and maintain the quality and natural functions of land, water and wetland systems of the state, as measured by:
 - The number of acres of publicly-owned land identified as needing restoration, acres undergoing restoration and acres with restoration activities completed;
 - The percentage of water segments that fully meet, partially meet, or do not meet their designated uses as reported in DEP's State Water Quality Assessment 305(b) Report;

Appendix H
Assessment and Protection of Wetlands

- The percentage completion of targeted capital improvements in surface water improvement and management plans created under s. 373.453(2), F.S., regional or master stormwater management system plans, or other adopted restoration plans;
- The percentage of miles of critically eroding beaches contiguous with public lands that are restored or protected from further erosion;
- The percentage of public lakes and rivers in which invasive, non-native aquatic plants are under maintenance control; or
- The number of acres of public conservation lands in which upland invasive, exotic plants are under maintenance control.

The Legislature has also established performance measures for DEP invasive plant management program services:

- The percent of Florida's public waters where control of hydrilla, water hyacinth and water lettuce has been achieved and sustained;
- The number of new acres of public land where invasive, exotic, upland plants are controlled and maintained;
- The number of acres of public water bodies treated;
- The number of acres surveyed.

Appendix I
Trail Opportunity Maps

Florida Recreational Trail Opportunities Maps

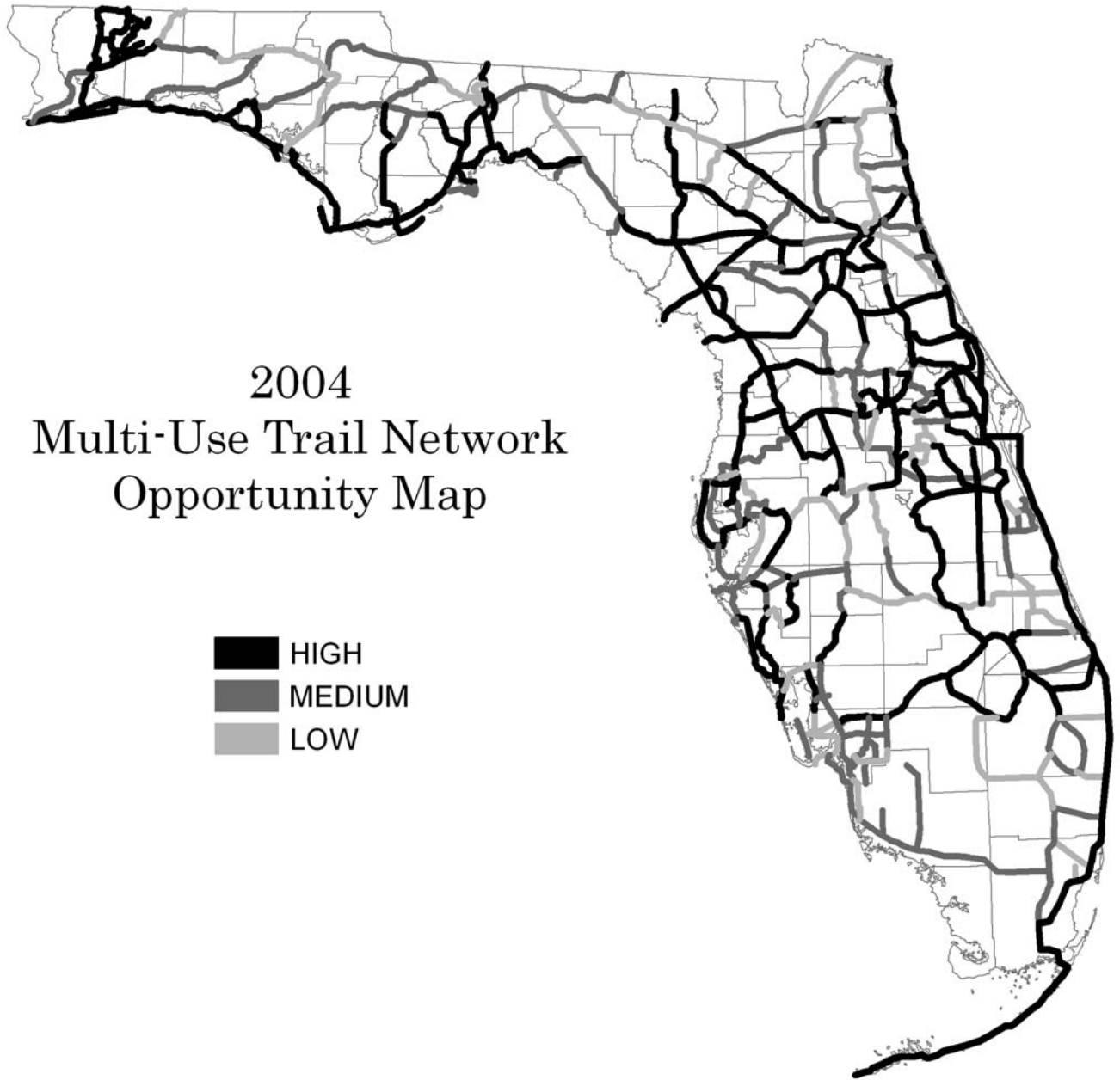
The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT) is the lead state agency for developing and implementing a statewide system for greenways and trails, and serves as administrator of the Florida Greenways Coordinating Council. OGT contracts with the University of Florida GeoPlan Center to identify the best opportunities to protect ecological connectivity statewide and produce a series of trail networks. Working together with agencies, organization and citizens, OGT and GeoPlan produced a series of trail maps which collectively serve as a guide for a comprehensive connected statewide system of greenways and trails.

Several trail option maps were developed as part of a five-year implementation plan for state greenways and trails, which in 2004 were reduced to multi-use, paddling and hiking trails and are referred to as the Recreational Trail Opportunity Maps. The hiking trail network is the congressionally designated Florida National Scenic Trail and did not go through the prioritization process, but the other maps are result of statewide consensus and technical input from several sources on what the trail needs are throughout the state.

Because eligibility for OGT's acquisition program is contingent upon a project being included within the trail opportunity maps it is critical that the updated maps reflect current statewide trail planning. OGT and GeoPlan produced an ecological connectivity opportunities map which is based on prioritized critical ecological linkages. The critical linkages map serves as the "road map" to guide OGT's efforts for acquiring land to protect hubs and areas threatened by development.

Updates to the Trail Opportunity Maps take place every four to five years and OGT is currently updating and prioritizing the opportunity maps through a series of public workshops as well as providing opportunities via website for community participation in the process. This website is being used to update the multi-use trail and paddling trail opportunity maps, and to collect public comment about the maps. The hiking map will be updated by conforming it to the planning corridor for the congressionally designated Florida National Scenic Trail.

Appendix I
Trail Opportunity Maps

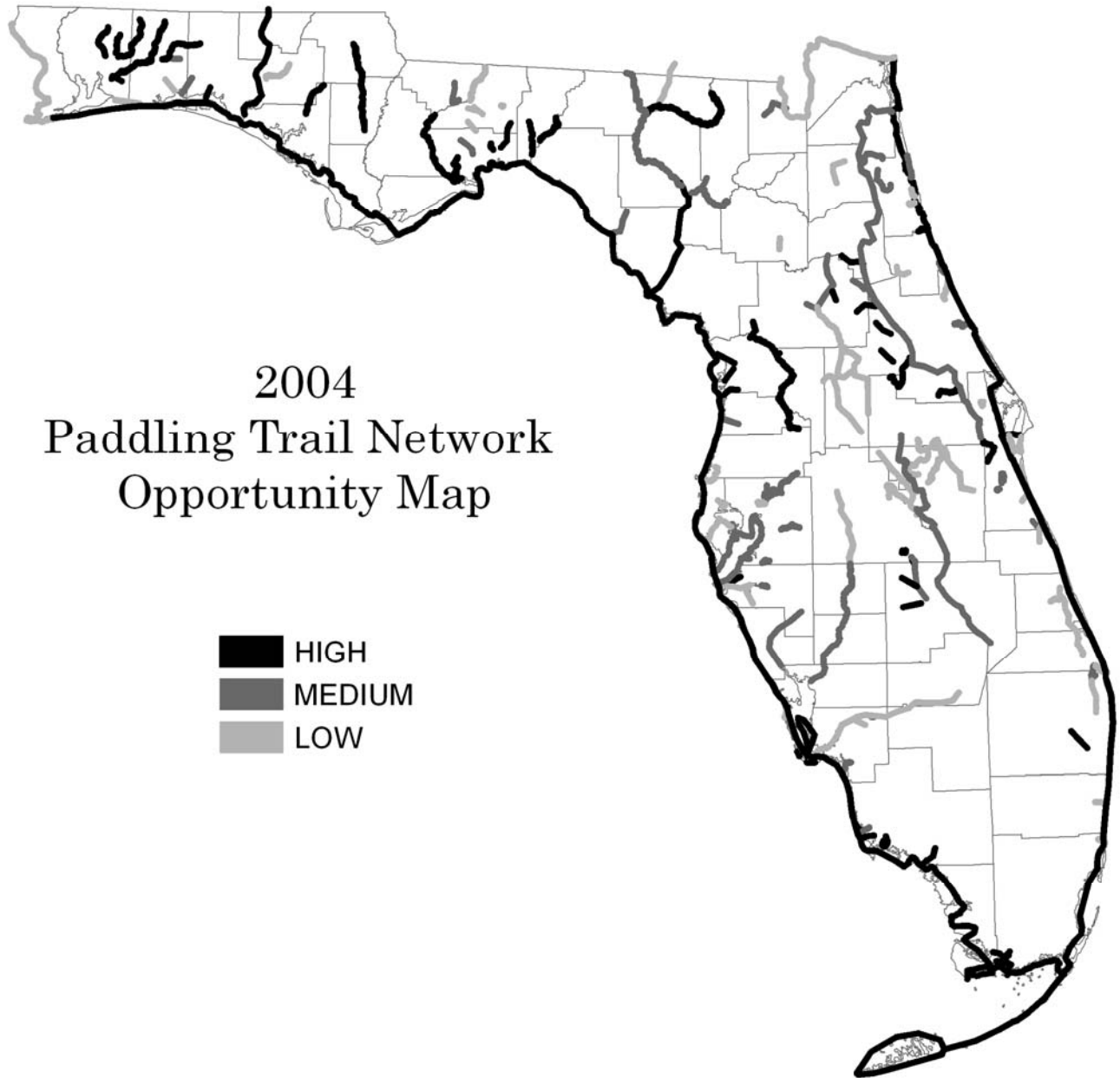


Source: University of Florida Geo Plan Center



Source: Florida Trail Association, Inc.

Appendix I
Trail Opportunity Maps



Source: Florida Trail Association, Inc.

Appendix J
Statewide and Regional Participation Projections

West Florida
Projected Participants

Resource-Based	2010	2015	2020
Bicycle Riding-Paved Trails	958,527	1,042,429	1,533,944
Bicycle Riding-Unpaved Trails	362,324	392,283	710,449
Canoeing/Kayaking	296,033	319,825	302,639
Freshwater Beach Activities	1,121,234	1,222,615	1,211,301
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	251,697	270,863	708,023
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	244,378	263,031	585,273
Hiking	792,214	862,937	1,113,855
Horseback Riding	203,330	220,622	382,805
Hunting	131,735	140,972	240,051
Nature Study	2,632,159	2,877,419	2,879,342
Off Highway Vehicle Riding	234,620	252,589	540,413
Picnicking	2,152,205	2,348,637	2,042,522
RV/Trailer Camping	476,241	520,256	718,473
Saltwater Beach Activities	8,621,023	9,442,505	5,842,023
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	320,852	347,902	485,252
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	819,473	893,625	758,183
Tent Camping	352,566	381,840	460,247
Visiting Historical or Archaeological Sites	2,958,315	3,232,514	4,639,678
User-Oriented			
Baseball/Softball	490,029	531,977	718,174
Football	291,578	316,575	355,075
Golf	1,105,006	1,208,284	1,181,594
Outdoor Basketball	306,215	332,239	395,083
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	39,033	41,770	180,187
Outdoor Shuffleboard	294,866	323,129	217,919
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	6,326,369	6,929,292	4,675,134
Outdoor Tennis	328,595	357,706	272,632
Soccer/Rugby	97,581	104,424	230,049

Apalachee
Projected Participants

Resource-Based	2010	2015	2020
Bicycle Riding-Paved Trails	235,036	251,772	267,880
Bicycle Riding-Unpaved Trails	145,895	155,969	165,504
Canoeing/Kayaking	139,452	150,442	161,556
Freshwater Beach Activities	261,451	281,078	300,480
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	215,621	231,190	246,283
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	178,752	190,801	202,053
Hiking	194,712	209,024	223,024
Horseback Riding	77,194	83,138	89,085
Hunting	109,025	115,580	121,275
Nature Study	849,864	925,719	1,006,492
Off Highway Vehicle Riding	116,493	123,496	129,581
Picnicking	555,847	600,993	647,261
RV/Trailer Camping	58,246	61,748	64,791
Saltwater Beach Activities	1,470,110	1,602,801	1,744,694
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	152,894	164,692	176,508
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	320,811	349,221	379,382
Tent Camping	88,116	93,414	98,017
Visiting Historical or Archaeological Sites	704,818	764,132	825,841
User-Oriented			
Baseball/Softball	101,558	107,663	112,968
Football	59,740	63,331	66,452
Golf	55,259	58,581	61,468
Outdoor Basketball	107,064	114,803	122,311
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	22,402	23,749	24,920
Outdoor Shuffleboard	7,467	7,916	8,307
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	811,502	883,746	960,601
Outdoor Tennis	44,805	47,498	49,839
Soccer/Rugby	63,752	68,888	74,133

Appendix J
Statewide and Regional Participation Projections

North Central Florida
Projected Participants

Resource-Based	2010	2015	2020
Bicycle Riding-Paved Trails	220,731	236,299	250,499
Bicycle Riding-Unpaved Trails	122,167	130,080	136,822
Canoeing/Kayaking	78,817	83,923	88,272
Freshwater Beach Activities	166,830	177,637	186,843
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	157,635	167,846	176,545
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	119,540	127,283	133,880
Hiking	173,441	185,945	197,536
Horseback Riding	65,681	69,936	73,560
Hunting	98,522	104,904	110,341
Nature Study	310,185	335,356	360,550
Off Highway Vehicle Riding	147,168	157,971	168,111
Picnicking	500,788	542,115	583,884
RV/Trailer Camping	212,977	231,852	251,680
Saltwater Beach Activities	513,925	556,102	598,596
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	116,913	124,486	130,938
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	122,210	131,395	140,159
Tent Camping	128,778	138,389	147,515
Visiting Historical or Archaeological Sites	383,748	413,684	442,937
User-Oriented			
Baseball/Softball	161,618	173,357	184,295
Football	131,405	141,186	150,457
Golf	147,211	159,286	171,448
Outdoor Basketball	91,954	97,910	102,985
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	27,586	29,373	30,895
Outdoor Shuffleboard	47,333	51,669	56,300
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	492,907	533,723	575,056
Outdoor Tennis	36,781	39,164	41,194
Soccer/Rugby	28,900	30,772	32,367

Northeast Florida
Projected Participants

Resource-Based	2010	2015	2020
Bicycle Riding-Paved Trails	1,277,763	1,406,074	1,533,944
Bicycle Riding-Unpaved Trails	592,219	652,307	710,449
Canoeing/Kayaking	252,375	278,130	302,639
Freshwater Beach Activities	1,008,696	1,109,536	1,211,301
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	590,052	649,708	708,023
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	488,059	537,851	585,273
Hiking	927,246	1,019,497	1,113,855
Horseback Riding	318,979	351,167	382,805
Hunting	200,296	220,901	240,051
Nature Study	2,395,349	2,631,304	2,879,342
Off Highway Vehicle Riding	450,343	495,835	540,413
Picnicking	1,700,258	1,869,312	2,042,522
RV/Trailer Camping	597,915	657,123	718,473
Saltwater Beach Activities	4,858,663	5,335,262	5,842,023
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	404,603	445,808	485,252
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	631,619	695,132	758,183
Tent Camping	383,739	422,798	460,247
Visiting Historical or Archaeological Sites	3,859,440	4,239,105	4,639,678
User-Oriented			
Baseball/Softball	598,237	658,316	718,174
Football	296,270	326,750	355,075
Golf	983,337	1,080,731	1,181,594
Outdoor Basketball	329,653	363,567	395,083
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	150,061	165,080	180,187
Outdoor Shuffleboard	181,115	198,701	217,919
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	3,888,166	4,269,531	4,675,134
Outdoor Tennis	227,338	250,517	272,632
Soccer/Rugby	191,950	211,697	230,049

Appendix J
Statewide and Regional Participation Projections

Withlacoochee
Projected Participants

Resource-Based	2010	2015	2020
Bicycle Riding-Paved Trails	445,986	496,879	546,264
Bicycle Riding-Unpaved Trails	226,102	252,268	277,398
Canoeing/Kayaking	161,282	179,555	197,381
Freshwater Beach Activities	556,467	616,722	677,513
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	223,509	249,359	274,197
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	180,464	201,755	221,916
Hiking	271,740	302,781	332,879
Horseback Riding	80,377	90,163	99,220
Hunting	111,491	125,065	137,628
Nature Study	736,954	815,094	895,181
Off Highway Vehicle Riding	106,305	119,248	131,227
Picnicking	769,100	851,836	935,719
RV/Trailer Camping	223,004	246,748	271,008
Saltwater Beach Activities	1,224,975	1,354,355	1,487,347
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	223,509	249,359	274,197
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	188,243	210,480	231,518
Tent Camping	108,898	122,157	134,427
Visiting Historical or Archaeological Sites	983,293	1,088,019	1,194,994
User-Oriented			
Baseball/Softball	154,536	172,670	189,909
Football	72,599	81,438	89,618
Golf	391,032	433,189	475,861
Outdoor Basketball	108,898	122,157	134,427
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	33,707	37,810	41,608
Outdoor Shuffleboard	104,240	115,569	126,967
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	1,387,312	1,532,368	1,682,610
Outdoor Tennis	84,530	94,140	103,492
Soccer/Rugby	41,485	46,536	51,210

East Central Florida
Projected Participants

Resource-Based	2010	2015	2020
Bicycle Riding-Paved Trails	2,941,858	3,242,540	3,541,752
Bicycle Riding-Unpaved Trails	971,653	1,072,761	1,169,994
Canoeing/Kayaking	686,245	757,116	826,265
Freshwater Beach Activities	2,671,468	2,938,243	3,215,511
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	944,424	1,041,732	1,137,097
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	959,726	1,058,883	1,155,551
Hiking	1,890,323	2,080,748	2,275,475
Horseback Riding	421,223	464,017	507,088
Hunting	280,276	309,283	337,470
Nature Study	5,302,022	5,828,492	6,381,435
Off Highway Vehicle Riding	652,267	719,539	785,345
Picnicking	3,727,993	4,103,495	4,487,564
RV/Trailer Camping	1,018,985	1,120,532	1,226,477
Saltwater Beach Activities	9,939,754	10,921,632	11,962,762
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	796,635	878,515	959,134
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	1,107,467	1,221,133	1,333,352
Tent Camping	796,682	879,482	959,295
Visiting Historical or Archaeological Sites	5,833,682	6,414,875	7,021,554
User-Oriented			
Baseball/Softball	1,044,645	1,152,342	1,257,771
Football	512,985	565,958	617,652
Golf	2,314,778	2,545,138	2,786,091
Outdoor Basketball	1,027,633	1,133,070	1,237,230
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	275,192	303,888	331,373
Outdoor Shuffleboard	723,454	795,065	870,714
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	15,694,510	17,234,121	18,887,544
Outdoor Tennis	891,677	981,795	1,073,389
Soccer/Rugby	348,231	384,436	419,311

Appendix J
Statewide and Regional Participation Projections

Central Florida
Projected Participants

Resource-Based	2010	2015	2020
Bicycle Riding-Paved Trails	623,532	681,472	740,225
Bicycle Riding-Unpaved Trails	175,133	190,935	206,019
Canoeing/Kayaking	103,471	112,962	122,339
Freshwater Beach Activities	296,520	323,391	349,278
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	236,046	257,213	277,147
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	221,714	241,618	260,411
Hiking	245,917	268,710	291,705
Horseback Riding	68,079	74,075	79,496
Hunting	117,804	128,557	139,075
Nature Study	711,792	778,640	847,834
Off Highway Vehicle Riding	139,302	151,949	164,179
Picnicking	651,757	712,562	774,700
RV/Trailer Camping	288,036	315,295	343,920
Saltwater Beach Activities	907,985	992,868	1,079,961
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	103,910	113,061	121,336
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	139,741	152,048	163,176
Tent Camping	103,910	113,061	121,336
Visiting Historical or Archaeological Sites	701,482	767,044	834,279
User-Oriented			
Baseball/Softball	306,391	334,888	363,837
Football	125,409	136,453	146,440
Golf	473,041	517,728	564,497
Outdoor Basketball	128,992	140,352	150,624
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	28,665	31,189	33,472
Outdoor Shuffleboard	177,838	194,635	212,209
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	1,294,153	1,416,829	1,546,048
Outdoor Tennis	110,637	120,759	130,707
Soccer/Rugby	35,831	38,987	41,840

Tampa Bay
Projected Participants

Resource-Based	2010	2015	2020
Bicycle Riding-Paved Trails	2,361,614	2,554,585	2,748,758
Bicycle Riding-Unpaved Trails	763,639	822,789	880,435
Canoeing/Kayaking	627,472	676,128	723,577
Freshwater Beach Activities	1,480,580	1,605,996	1,734,752
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	491,305	529,466	566,719
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	678,260	731,299	783,293
Hiking	1,480,580	1,605,996	1,734,752
Horseback Riding	272,333	293,324	313,716
Hunting	234,791	251,599	267,142
Nature Study	4,080,780	4,446,125	4,832,151
Off Highway Vehicle Riding	461,862	497,167	531,289
Picnicking	3,407,962	3,700,491	4,002,954
RV/Trailer Camping	505,310	549,701	596,160
Saltwater Beach Activities	8,072,173	8,806,921	9,589,612
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	672,734	723,883	773,147
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	1,049,977	1,136,349	1,223,592
Tent Camping	402,974	432,570	460,428
Visiting Historical or Archaeological Sites	3,908,505	4,249,566	4,605,266
User-Oriented			
Baseball/Softball	1,491,253	1,617,432	1,746,895
Football	723,902	782,449	841,012
Golf	1,756,246	1,908,119	2,065,767
Outdoor Basketball	688,933	742,735	795,436
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	160,085	171,545	182,142
Outdoor Shuffleboard	556,477	608,267	664,025
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	7,015,153	7,649,579	8,323,274
Outdoor Tennis	657,295	711,821	767,157
Soccer/Rugby	245,463	263,036	279,285

Appendix J
Statewide and Regional Participation Projections

Southwest Florida
Projected Participants

Resource-Based	2010	2015	2020
Bicycle Riding-Paved Trails	2,016,688	2,235,936	2,459,882
Bicycle Riding-Unpaved Trails	381,536	425,698	469,136
Canoeing/Kayaking	231,647	259,346	286,072
Freshwater Beach Activities	678,620	753,655	829,515
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	297,877	332,273	366,154
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	366,801	409,948	451,983
Hiking	760,536	842,548	926,736
Horseback Riding	101,088	113,923	125,883
Hunting	119,468	134,636	148,771
Nature Study	3,042,772	3,353,788	3,683,791
Off Highway Vehicle Riding	249,077	279,844	308,973
Picnicking	1,922,095	2,127,622	2,339,694
RV/Trailer Camping	295,183	327,526	360,405
Saltwater Beach Activities	6,251,275	6,885,792	7,561,998
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	428,436	477,697	526,342
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	781,610	868,009	955,372
Tent Camping	156,228	176,063	194,547
Visiting Historical or Archaeological Sites	2,566,014	2,836,181	3,117,619
User-Oriented			
Baseball/Softball	661,191	733,157	806,614
Football	170,012	191,597	211,713
Golf	1,726,414	1,905,386	2,093,623
Outdoor Basketball	249,077	279,844	308,973
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	102,989	114,354	125,857
Outdoor Shuffleboard	557,408	614,487	674,982
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	5,632,074	6,207,658	6,818,445
Outdoor Tennis	554,557	613,841	675,022
Soccer/Rugby	125,014	140,030	154,480

Treasure Coast
Projected Participants

Resource-Based	2010	2015	2020
Bicycle Riding-Paved Trails	1,825,358	2,000,380	2,177,696
Bicycle Riding-Unpaved Trails	363,105	397,632	430,431
Canoeing/Kayaking	257,554	281,965	304,551
Freshwater Beach Activities	691,411	757,726	825,065
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	268,216	293,750	318,229
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	268,216	293,750	318,229
Hiking	687,526	753,362	819,401
Horseback Riding	234,328	256,649	278,156
Hunting	94,888	103,882	112,203
Nature Study	2,997,242	3,286,243	3,591,238
Off Highway Vehicle Riding	189,777	207,764	224,406
Picnicking	1,477,710	1,619,334	1,762,332
RV/Trailer Camping	247,883	271,490	294,185
Saltwater Beach Activities	5,678,822	6,226,794	6,808,145
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	483,203	529,448	575,654
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	625,535	685,271	743,958
Tent Camping	210,110	230,024	248,449
Visiting Historical or Archaeological Sites	2,345,424	2,570,856	2,803,360
User-Oriented			
Baseball/Softball	606,193	664,320	723,227
Football	182,999	200,344	216,391
Golf	2,113,079	2,316,825	2,531,829
Outdoor Basketball	366,989	401,997	436,095
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	74,555	81,622	88,159
Outdoor Shuffleboard	242,097	265,379	289,483
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	5,566,494	6,103,707	6,674,250
Outdoor Tennis	726,291	796,136	868,450
Soccer/Rugby	169,443	185,504	200,362

Appendix J
Statewide and Regional Participation Projections

South Florida
Projected Participants

Resource-Based	2010	2015	2020
Bicycle Riding-Paved Trails	3,345,259	3,563,241	3,777,780
Bicycle Riding-Unpaved Trails	1,178,473	1,247,279	1,312,253
Canoeing/Kayaking	957,693	1,022,366	1,086,798
Freshwater Beach Activities	1,664,404	1,793,963	1,928,731
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	307,636	326,555	344,786
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	463,641	493,140	521,928
Hiking	1,586,297	1,705,555	1,828,394
Horseback Riding	281,600	297,085	311,340
Hunting	238,277	251,380	263,442
Nature Study	5,548,502	6,003,747	6,484,015
Off Highway Vehicle Riding	710,667	757,753	804,363
Picnicking	4,186,941	4,509,261	4,843,507
RV/Trailer Camping	541,749	581,548	622,265
Saltwater Beach Activities	12,381,294	13,454,492	14,602,336
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	1,438,622	1,531,742	1,623,178
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	1,772,294	1,887,766	2,001,410
Tent Camping	970,606	1,031,986	1,091,754
Visiting Historical or Archaeological Sites	6,549,936	7,092,279	7,665,779
User-Oriented			
Baseball/Softball	1,490,902	1,600,911	1,713,603
Football	1,001,016	1,068,071	1,134,696
Golf	2,132,629	2,303,950	2,483,689
Outdoor Basketball	1,226,171	1,299,601	1,369,648
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	398,657	424,582	450,080
Outdoor Shuffleboard	537,584	585,162	636,302
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	11,648,965	12,673,886	13,774,025
Outdoor Tennis	1,538,600	1,653,233	1,770,998
Soccer/Rugby	533,000	568,315	603,272

A Technical Explanation of the Methodology for Developing the Relative Need Index

“Relative need” expresses the relationship among all outdoor recreation resource and facility needs--how the needs in any one activity in any one region compare to the needs for all activities in all regions. The relative need index provides a priority ranking of all these activities after a comparative analysis has been accomplished.

The Relative Need Index For All Suppliers of Outdoor Recreation Opportunity-Methodology

Given: There are 25 activities in 11 regions.

Step 1: Multiply the resource and facility needs for each activity in each region found in Chapter 5 by the appropriate activity use guidelines found in Appendix D. This is done to convert the resources and facilities needed for each activity, which are expressed in terms of different units (miles, ramps, sites, etc.) to a common unit. The highest daily use recommendations for each activity are used.

Formula for Step 1:

$$\text{Relative Need Index Number} = \frac{\text{Projected activity resource or facility requirements}}{\text{Corresponding activity use guideline}}$$

Step 2: Rank all the activities by the relative need index numbers from highest to lowest.

The relative need indices for 2010, 2015 and 2020 are located in Tables K-1 through K-3. Each table includes the relative need index number, statewide ranking and the activity’s region. Tables K-4 through K-14 condense the large statewide relative need index tables into regional tables. The regional tables rank activities from highest to lowest according to the statewide ranking. Each table provides the statewide ranking and relative need index number for 2010, 2015 and 2020. The tables offer a smaller, more manageable reference tool for researching relative needs for a specific region.

Each index has a total of 272 activities. Saltwater activities in the non-coastal Central Florida Region are excluded. Also, a relative need index number for off-highway vehicle trails cannot be calculated because a use guideline for off-highway vehicle riding was not established in the *Recreation Standards for Comprehensive Planning in Florida* study. In addition, canoeing and kayaking, saltwater boat fishing and freshwater boat fishing are not included due to the virtually unlimited resources available for each activity.

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 1

2010 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
1	Picnicking	6	8270	36	Soccer or Rugby	6	2126
2	RV/Trailer Camping	6	5540	37	Saltwater Beach Activities	4	2098
3	Picnicking	9	5257	38	Horseback Riding	6	2042
4	Picnicking	8	4899	39	Baseball or Softball	1	1988
5	Saltwater Beach Activities	1	4734	40	Saltwater Beach Activities	2	1986
6	RV/Trailer Camping	9	4389	41	Saltwater Beach Activities	8	1960
7	Football	6	4318	42	Picnicking	1	1903
8	RV/Trailer Camping	8	4081	43	Outdoor Tennis	11	1852
9	Baseball or Softball	6	4007	44	Golf	6	1844
10	RV/Trailer Camping	7	3772	45	Football	5	1818
11	Football	10	3523	46	RV/Trailer Camping	5	1789
12	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	11	3470	47	Picnicking	10	1768
13	Picnicking	11	3429	48	Nature Study	2	1759
14	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	6	3150	49	Nature Study	5	1738
15	Baseball or Softball	8	3036	50	Baseball or Softball	5	1701
16	Football	11	3002	51	Outdoor Tennis	10	1687
17	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	4	2942	52	Golf	11	1658
18	Picnicking	7	2892	53	Football	9	1644
19	Saltwater Beach Activities	9	2864	54	Baseball or Softball	7	1642
20	Golf	10	2806	55	Football	1	1640
21	Baseball or Softball	4	2799	56	Nature Study	9	1636
22	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	9	2722	57	Baseball or Softball	9	1632
23	Football	8	2702	58	Saltwater Beach Activities	10	1623
24	Baseball or Softball	10	2651	59	Outdoor Basketball	11	1591
25	Baseball or Softball	11	2613	60	Picnicking	4	1581
26	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	8	2579	61	Golf	8	1581
27	Nature Study	6	2563	62	Outdoor Basketball	10	1553
28	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	6	2560	63	Outdoor Tennis	6	1553
29	Outdoor Basketball	6	2496	64	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	6	1519
30	Picnicking	5	2464	65	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	6	1517
31	Saltwater Beach Activities	11	2438	66	Football	3	1444
32	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	10	2224	67	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	11	1437
33	Saltwater Beach Activities	6	2194	68	Outdoor Basketball	8	1423
34	Football	4	2169	69	RV/Trailer Camping	11	1396
35	Golf	9	2167	70	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	2	1387

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K -1 (continued)

2010 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
71	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	4	1353	106	Soccer or Rugby	10	844
72	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	7	1312	107	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	5	842
73	Nature Study	11	1307	108	Freshwater Beach Activities	8	839
74	Outdoor Tennis	8	1293	109	Outdoor Basketball	9	829
75	Soccer or Rugby	11	1291	110	Baseball or Softball	3	828
76	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	6	1280	111	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	5	826
77	Outdoor Basketball	4	1238	112	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	6	816
78	Picnicking	3	1185	113	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	11	813
79	Outdoor Tennis	9	1167	114	Horseback Riding	4	794
80	Nature Study	4	1163	115	Golf	1	790
81	Nature Study	3	1152	116	Outdoor Shuffleboard	6	779
82	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	5	1145	117	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	6	774
83	Nature Study	7	1144	118	Soccer or Rugby	9	772
84	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	1	1133	119	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	11	772
85	Soccer or Rugby	8	1109	120	RV/Trailer Camping	1	768
86	Nature Study	8	1095	121	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	9	767
87	Golf	4	1077	122	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	1	764
88	RV/Trailer Camping	10	1045	123	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	11	763
89	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	7	1043	124	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	4	760
90	Outdoor Basketball	5	1038	125	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	2	757
91	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	1	1033	126	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	8	752
92	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	8	991	127	Tent Camping	6	746
93	Soccer or Rugby	5	972	128	Outdoor Tennis	4	746
94	Soccer or Rugby	4	953	129	Horseback Riding	3	733
95	Baseball or Softball	2	950	130	RV/Trailer Camping	4	732
96	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	9	948	131	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	4	731
97	Horseback Riding	5	947	132	Horseback Riding	8	722
98	Picnicking	2	933	133	Nature Study	10	708
99	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	9	933	134	Outdoor Basketball	3	700
100	Soccer or Rugby	3	924	135	Soccer or Rugby	1	696
101	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	5	913	136	Horseback Riding	7	693
102	Football	7	894	137	Football	2	692
103	Hunting	9	871	138	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	9	688
104	Golf	7	865	139	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	6	684
105	Outdoor Shuffleboard	8	849	140	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	8	677

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 1 (continued)

2010 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
141	Outdoor Basketball	7	673	176	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	2	430
142	Golf	5	664	177	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	3	429
143	RV/Trailer Camping	3	663	178	Hiking	6	422
144	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	9	660	179	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	2	420
145	Hunting	2	650	180	Soccer or Rugby	2	418
146	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	1	641	181	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	10	411
147	Tent Camping	5	636	182	Hunting	1	410
148	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	8	628	183	Outdoor Tennis	7	400
149	Nature Study	1	624	184	Freshwater Beach Activities	6	399
150	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	9	619	185	Hunting	6	390
151	Hunting	5	601	186	Freshwater Beach Activities	10	388
152	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	3	600	187	Hiking	2	373
153	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	7	584	188	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	11	368
154	Horseback Riding	10	580	189	Outdoor Basketball	2	367
155	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	3	573	190	Outdoor Shuffleboard	11	366
156	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	1	534	191	Hiking	4	357
157	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	9	527	192	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	5	357
158	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	3	525	193	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	8	346
159	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	6	517	194	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	8	332
160	Outdoor Tennis	1	516	195	Outdoor Shuffleboard	10	327
161	Outdoor Basketball	1	509	196	Hunting	11	325
162	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	10	509	197	Hiking	3	318
163	Hiking	5	508	198	Hunting	4	312
164	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	11	506	199	Hiking	7	308
165	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	10	488	200	RV/Trailer Camping	2	302
166	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	7	488	201	Outdoor Tennis	5	301
167	Outdoor Shuffleboard	7	485	202	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	4	300
168	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	4	482	203	Hiking	10	293
169	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	10	469	204	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	10	290
170	Outdoor Shuffleboard	9	469	205	Horseback Riding	11	280
171	Horseback Riding	9	465	206	Hunting	10	279
172	Soccer or Rugby	7	453	207	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	4	266
173	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	10	443	208	Hiking	8	260
174	Hiking	9	437	209	Tent Camping	1	260
175	Horseback Riding	2	432	210	Tent Camping	9	251

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K -1 (continued)

2010 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
211	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	5	248	246	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	3	124
212	Hiking	11	246	247	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	5	118
213	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	10	237	248	Tent Camping	10	117
214	Horseback Riding	1	237	249	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	7	115
215	Hunting	3	236	250	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	2	110
216	Tent Camping	3	225	251	Freshwater Beach Activities	9	91
217	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	4	225	252	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	5	91
218	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	8	224	253	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	3	91
219	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	1	222	254	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	3	91
220	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	2	219	255	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	1	88
221	Hiking	1	212	256	Freshwater Beach Activities	11	85
222	Tent Camping	4	210	257	Freshwater Beach Activities	1	84
223	Tent Camping	2	208	258	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	2	80
224	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	1	204	259	Outdoor Shuffleboard	4	78
225	Outdoor Tennis	2	204	260	Outdoor Shuffleboard	1	77
226	Outdoor Shuffleboard	5	201	261	Freshwater Beach Activities	5	72
227	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	7	192	262	Freshwater Beach Activities	4	59
228	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	5	188	263	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	1	58
229	Golf	2	185	264	Freshwater Beach Activities	2	48
230	Outdoor Tennis	3	183	265	Freshwater Beach Activities	3	45
231	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	3	179	266	Hunting	7	40
232	Golf	3	168	267	Outdoor Shuffleboard	3	37
233	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	7	164	268	Hunting	8	36
234	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	10	155	269	Saltwater Beach Activities	5	18
235	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	11	150	270	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	3	17
236	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	9	149	271	Outdoor Shuffleboard	2	9
237	Tent Camping	8	135	272	Saltwater Beach Activities	3	8
238	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	2	135				
239	Freshwater Beach Activities	7	134				
240	Tent Camping	7	134				
241	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	11	132				
242	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	4	128				
243	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	8	128				
244	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	2	127				
245	Tent Camping	11	126				

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 2

2015 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
1	Picnicking	6	30008	36	Soccer or Rugby	6	7733
2	RV/Trailer Camping	6	20085	37	Saltwater Beach Activities	4	7596
3	Picnicking	9	19036	38	Horseback Riding	6	7415
4	Picnicking	8	17818	39	Baseball or Softball	1	7161
5	Saltwater Beach Activities	1	17116	40	Saltwater Beach Activities	8	7109
6	RV/Trailer Camping	9	15897	41	Saltwater Beach Activities	2	6998
7	Football	6	15698	42	Picnicking	1	6872
8	RV/Trailer Camping	8	14827	43	Outdoor Tennis	11	6745
9	Baseball or Softball	6	14565	44	Golf	6	6685
10	RV/Trailer Camping	7	13757	45	Football	5	6663
11	Football	10	12996	46	RV/Trailer Camping	5	6508
12	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	11	12580	47	Picnicking	10	6459
13	Picnicking	11	12474	48	Nature Study	5	6321
14	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	6	11408	49	Baseball or Softball	5	6224
15	Baseball or Softball	8	11051	50	Nature Study	2	6175
16	Football	11	10963	51	Outdoor Tennis	10	6145
17	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	4	10654	52	Golf	11	6026
18	Picnicking	7	10599	53	Baseball or Softball	7	6025
19	Saltwater Beach Activities	9	10365	54	Football	9	5964
20	Golf	10	10199	55	Nature Study	9	5923
21	Baseball or Softball	4	10154	56	Baseball or Softball	9	5911
22	Football	8	9856	57	Football	1	5906
23	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	9	9853	58	Saltwater Beach Activities	10	5895
24	Baseball or Softball	10	9683	59	Outdoor Basketball	11	5834
25	Baseball or Softball	11	9518	60	Golf	8	5747
26	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	8	9359	61	Picnicking	4	5732
27	Nature Study	6	9288	62	Outdoor Basketball	10	5698
28	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	6	9281	63	Outdoor Tennis	6	5636
29	Outdoor Basketball	6	9068	64	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	6	5525
30	Picnicking	5	8971	65	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	6	5512
31	Saltwater Beach Activities	11	8844	66	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	11	5252
32	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	10	8076	67	Outdoor Basketball	8	5200
33	Saltwater Beach Activities	6	7950	68	RV/Trailer Camping	11	5086
34	Football	4	7883	69	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	4	4899
35	Golf	9	7844	70	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	7	4783

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 2 (continued)

2015 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
71	Football	3	4782	106	Freshwater Beach Activities	8	3053
72	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	2	4762	107	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	5	3020
73	Nature Study	11	4746	108	Outdoor Basketball	9	3004
74	Soccer or Rugby	11	4715	109	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	11	2973
75	Outdoor Tennis	8	4710	110	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	6	2965
76	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	6	4653	111	Soccer or Rugby	3	2911
77	Outdoor Basketball	4	4500	112	Horseback Riding	4	2880
78	Outdoor Tennis	9	4226	113	Baseball or Softball	2	2854
79	Nature Study	4	4214	114	Golf	1	2853
80	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	5	4185	115	Outdoor Shuffleboard	6	2822
81	Nature Study	7	4183	116	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	6	2811
82	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	1	4098	117	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	11	2803
83	Soccer or Rugby	8	4069	118	Soccer or Rugby	9	2799
84	Picnicking	3	4068	119	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	11	2791
85	Nature Study	8	3975	120	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	9	2781
86	Nature Study	3	3932	121	RV/Trailer Camping	1	2772
87	Golf	4	3905	122	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	4	2759
88	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	7	3877	123	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	8	2748
89	RV/Trailer Camping	10	3838	124	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	1	2738
90	Outdoor Basketball	5	3806	125	Baseball or Softball	3	2718
91	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	1	3729	126	Tent Camping	6	2714
92	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	8	3612	127	Outdoor Tennis	4	2709
93	Soccer or Rugby	5	3562	128	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	4	2656
94	Horseback Riding	5	3471	129	RV/Trailer Camping	4	2652
95	Soccer or Rugby	4	3464	130	Horseback Riding	8	2638
96	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	9	3434	131	Horseback Riding	7	2592
97	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	9	3378	132	Nature Study	10	2574
98	Football	7	3346	133	Outdoor Basketball	7	2520
99	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	5	3319	134	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	9	2493
100	Picnicking	2	3161	135	Soccer or Rugby	1	2488
101	Hunting	9	3158	136	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	6	2486
102	Golf	7	3157	137	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	8	2478
103	Soccer or Rugby	10	3113	138	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	2	2449
104	Outdoor Shuffleboard	8	3076	139	Golf	5	2417
105	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	5	3064	140	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	9	2389

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 2 (continued)

2015 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
141	Tent Camping	5	2332	176	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	2	1509
142	RV/Trailer Camping	3	2328	177	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	10	1509
143	Horseback Riding	3	2310	178	Outdoor Tennis	7	1477
144	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	1	2306	179	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	3	1474
145	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	8	2294	180	Hunting	1	1465
146	Nature Study	1	2253	181	Freshwater Beach Activities	6	1445
147	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	9	2242	182	Horseback Riding	2	1434
148	Outdoor Basketball	3	2206	183	Freshwater Beach Activities	10	1418
149	Hunting	5	2204	184	Hunting	6	1418
150	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	7	2169	185	Soccer or Rugby	2	1410
151	Horseback Riding	10	2129	186	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	11	1347
152	Football	2	2081	187	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	2	1333
153	Hunting	2	1954	188	Outdoor Shuffleboard	11	1326
154	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	1	1929	189	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	5	1304
155	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	9	1910	190	Hiking	4	1295
156	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	3	1891	191	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	8	1263
157	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	6	1881	192	Hiking	2	1216
158	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	10	1871	193	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	8	1213
159	Outdoor Tennis	1	1861	194	Hunting	11	1197
160	Hiking	5	1855	195	Outdoor Shuffleboard	10	1191
161	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	11	1850	196	Outdoor Basketball	2	1187
162	Outdoor Basketball	1	1834	197	Hunting	4	1134
163	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	7	1808	198	Hiking	7	1131
164	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	3	1806	199	Outdoor Tennis	5	1099
165	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	10	1786	200	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	4	1089
166	Outdoor Shuffleboard	7	1770	201	Hiking	10	1071
167	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	3	1767	202	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	10	1058
168	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	4	1747	203	Hiking	3	1042
169	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	10	1731	204	Hunting	10	1028
170	Outdoor Shuffleboard	9	1696	205	Horseback Riding	11	1028
171	Soccer or Rugby	7	1695	206	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	4	966
172	Horseback Riding	9	1687	207	Hiking	8	947
173	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	10	1623	208	Tent Camping	1	935
174	Hiking	9	1582	209	Tent Camping	9	910
175	Hiking	6	1532	210	RV/Trailer Camping	2	907

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 2 (continued)

2015 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
211	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	5	907	246	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	5	431
212	Hiking	11	895	247	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	2	424
213	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	10	865	248	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	2	407
214	Horseback Riding	1	852	249	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	3	391
215	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	8	821	250	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	5	332
216	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	4	815	251	Freshwater Beach Activities	9	331
217	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	1	799	252	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	2	331
218	Hiking	1	765	253	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	1	318
219	Tent Camping	4	761	254	Freshwater Beach Activities	11	308
220	Tent Camping	3	747	255	Freshwater Beach Activities	1	303
221	Hunting	3	744	256	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	3	286
222	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	1	732	257	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	3	285
223	Outdoor Shuffleboard	5	731	258	Outdoor Shuffleboard	4	281
224	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	2	728	259	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	2	281
225	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	7	703	260	Outdoor Shuffleboard	1	278
226	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	5	688	261	Freshwater Beach Activities	5	261
227	Tent Camping	2	626	262	Freshwater Beach Activities	4	214
228	Outdoor Tennis	2	613	263	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	1	208
229	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	7	603	264	Freshwater Beach Activities	2	157
230	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	3	583	265	Hunting	7	146
231	Golf	3	576	266	Freshwater Beach Activities	3	141
232	Outdoor Tennis	3	575	267	Outdoor Shuffleboard	3	132
233	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	10	570	268	Hunting	8	131
234	Golf	2	557	269	Saltwater Beach Activities	5	66
235	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	11	550	270	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	3	57
236	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	9	541	271	Outdoor Shuffleboard	2	26
237	Tent Camping	7	501	272	Saltwater Beach Activities	3	26
238	Freshwater Beach Activities	7	497				
239	Tent Camping	8	495				
240	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	11	484				
241	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	8	466				
242	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	4	465				
243	Tent Camping	11	460				
244	Tent Camping	10	433				
245	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	7	432				

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 3

2020 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
1	Picnicking	6	52242	36	Football	4	13194
2	RV/Trailer Camping	6	35259	37	Soccer or Rugby	6	13134
3	Picnicking	9	33254	38	Horseback Riding	6	12823
4	Picnicking	8	31176	39	Saltwater Beach Activities	8	12594
5	Saltwater Beach Activities	1	30601	40	Baseball or Softball	1	12528
6	RV/Trailer Camping	9	27595	41	Saltwater Beach Activities	2	12358
7	Football	6	26802	42	Picnicking	1	12184
8	RV/Trailer Camping	8	26074	43	Outdoor Tennis	11	11770
9	Baseball or Softball	6	24900	44	Golf	6	11749
10	RV/Trailer Camping	7	24242	45	RV/Trailer Camping	5	11330
11	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	11	22359	46	Picnicking	10	11195
12	Picnicking	11	21853	47	Football	5	11147
13	Football	10	21761	48	Nature Study	5	11018
14	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	6	20276	49	Nature Study	2	10877
15	Baseball or Softball	8	19273	50	Outdoor Tennis	10	10760
16	Football	11	18874	51	Golf	11	10608
17	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	4	18791	52	Baseball or Softball	5	10523
18	Picnicking	7	18475	53	Baseball or Softball	7	10477
19	Saltwater Beach Activities	9	18360	54	Nature Study	9	10472
20	Golf	10	18000	55	Saltwater Beach Activities	10	10428
21	Baseball or Softball	4	17483	56	Football	1	10336
22	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	9	17420	57	Baseball or Softball	9	10278
23	Football	8	17012	58	Golf	8	10072
24	Baseball or Softball	10	16809	59	Football	9	9989
25	Baseball or Softball	11	16591	60	Picnicking	4	9986
26	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	8	16559	61	Outdoor Basketball	11	9881
27	Nature Study	6	16351	62	Outdoor Tennis	6	9787
28	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	6	16296	63	Outdoor Basketball	10	9735
29	Saltwater Beach Activities	11	15695	64	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	6	9427
30	Picnicking	5	15568	65	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	6	9377
31	Outdoor Basketball	6	15561	66	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	11	9006
32	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	10	14292	67	Outdoor Basketball	8	8899
33	Saltwater Beach Activities	6	14052	68	RV/Trailer Camping	11	8861
34	Golf	9	13816	69	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	4	8670
35	Saltwater Beach Activities	4	13442	70	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	7	8440

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 3 (continued)

2020 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
71	Nature Study	11	8374	106	Soccer or Rugby	10	5213
72	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	2	8274	107	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	5	5128
73	Outdoor Tennis	8	8178	108	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	11	5099
74	Soccer or Rugby	11	8106	109	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	6	5087
75	Football	3	7945	110	Golf	1	5082
76	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	6	7942	111	Outdoor Basketball	9	5064
77	Outdoor Basketball	4	7531	112	Outdoor Shuffleboard	6	4980
78	Nature Study	4	7421	113	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	11	4951
79	Outdoor Tennis	9	7383	114	Horseback Riding	4	4931
80	Nature Study	7	7329	115	RV/Trailer Camping	1	4927
81	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	1	7327	116	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	6	4839
82	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	5	7105	117	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	11	4782
83	Nature Study	8	7018	118	Soccer or Rugby	9	4749
84	Picnicking	3	6981	119	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	9	4744
85	Golf	4	6832	120	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	4	4712
86	Soccer or Rugby	8	6807	121	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	8	4693
87	Nature Study	3	6714	122	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	1	4663
88	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	1	6599	123	RV/Trailer Camping	4	4641
89	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	7	6546	124	Tent Camping	6	4611
90	RV/Trailer Camping	10	6523	125	Soccer or Rugby	3	4603
91	Outdoor Basketball	5	6367	126	Outdoor Tennis	4	4582
92	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	8	6259	127	Nature Study	10	4542
93	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	9	6023	128	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	4	4517
94	Soccer or Rugby	5	5959	129	Baseball or Softball	2	4508
95	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	9	5851	130	Horseback Riding	8	4500
96	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	5	5811	131	Baseball or Softball	3	4480
97	Horseback Riding	5	5808	132	Horseback Riding	7	4310
98	Soccer or Rugby	4	5797	133	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	9	4276
99	Football	7	5563	134	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	6	4260
100	Golf	7	5556	135	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	8	4212
101	Outdoor Shuffleboard	8	5473	136	Golf	5	4192
102	Picnicking	2	5444	137	Outdoor Basketball	7	4190
103	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	5	5334	138	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	9	4156
104	Freshwater Beach Activities	8	5327	139	Soccer or Rugby	1	4146
105	Hunting	9	5289	140	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	2	4090

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 3 (continued)

2020 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
141	RV/Trailer Camping	3	4079	176	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	2	2656
142	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	1	4022	177	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	10	2561
143	Nature Study	1	4011	178	Outdoor Tennis	7	2535
144	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	8	3927	179	Freshwater Beach Activities	6	2533
145	Tent Camping	5	3901	180	Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	3	2532
146	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	9	3839	181	Freshwater Beach Activities	10	2464
147	Hunting	5	3688	182	Hunting	1	2442
148	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	7	3665	183	Horseback Riding	2	2436
149	Horseback Riding	3	3654	184	Soccer or Rugby	2	2423
150	Horseback Riding	10	3622	185	Hunting	6	2417
151	Outdoor Basketball	3	3488	186	Outdoor Shuffleboard	11	2357
152	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	1	3431	187	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	11	2290
153	Football	2	3287	188	Hiking	4	2255
154	Outdoor Tennis	1	3280	189	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	5	2224
155	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	9	3272	190	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	2	2199
156	Outdoor Basketball	1	3203	191	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	8	2186
157	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	6	3187	192	Outdoor Shuffleboard	10	2086
158	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	11	3172	193	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	8	2074
159	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	10	3165	194	Hiking	2	2041
160	Hiking	5	3162	195	Hunting	11	1999
161	Outdoor Shuffleboard	7	3114	196	Outdoor Basketball	2	1983
162	Hunting	2	3086	197	Hiking	7	1962
163	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	10	3082	198	Hunting	4	1897
164	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	7	3069	199	Outdoor Tennis	5	1876
165	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	4	3004	200	Hiking	10	1851
166	Outdoor Shuffleboard	9	2997	201	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	10	1851
167	Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	3	2991	202	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	4	1845
168	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	3	2981	203	Hunting	10	1722
169	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	10	2898	204	Horseback Riding	11	1717
170	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	3	2856	205	Hiking	3	1714
171	Horseback Riding	9	2826	206	Hiking	8	1653
172	Soccer or Rugby	7	2818	207	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	4	1633
173	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	10	2783	208	Tent Camping	1	1625
174	Hiking	9	2757	209	Hiking	11	1564
175	Hiking	6	2666	210	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	5	1530

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 3 (continued)

2020 Relative Need Index Priority Ranking

Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index	Rank	Activity	Region	Need Index
211	Tent Camping	9	1525	246	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	7	718
212	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	10	1501	247	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	2	695
213	Horseback Riding	1	1488	248	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	2	678
214	RV/Trailer Camping	2	1433	249	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	3	619
215	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	4	1404	250	Freshwater Beach Activities	9	573
216	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	1	1387	251	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	5	561
217	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	8	1373	252	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	1	559
218	Hiking	1	1351	253	Freshwater Beach Activities	11	540
219	Tent Camping	4	1290	254	Freshwater Beach Activities	1	536
220	Outdoor Shuffleboard	5	1265	255	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	2	522
221	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	1	1247	256	Outdoor Shuffleboard	4	504
222	Tent Camping	3	1243	257	Outdoor Shuffleboard	1	497
223	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	2	1237	258	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	2	494
224	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	7	1228	259	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	3	452
225	Hunting	3	1176	260	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	3	451
226	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	5	1151	261	Freshwater Beach Activities	5	451
227	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	7	1049	262	Freshwater Beach Activities	4	370
228	Tent Camping	2	988	263	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	1	347
229	Golf	3	986	264	Freshwater Beach Activities	2	264
230	Outdoor Tennis	2	969	265	Hunting	7	250
231	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	10	968	266	Outdoor Shuffleboard	3	234
232	Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	3	951	267	Freshwater Beach Activities	3	224
233	Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	11	941	268	Hunting	8	219
234	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	9	937	269	Saltwater Beach Activities	5	115
235	Outdoor Tennis	3	910	270	Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	3	95
236	Golf	2	880	271	Saltwater Beach Activities	3	44
237	Freshwater Beach Activities	7	847	272	Outdoor Shuffleboard	2	41
238	Tent Camping	8	833				
239	Tent Camping	7	833				
240	Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	8	818				
241	Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	11	817				
242	Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	4	805				
243	Tent Camping	11	785				
244	Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	5	733				
245	Tent Camping	10	725				

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 4

Relative Need Priority Index
Region I - West Florida

Activity	2010		2015		2020	
	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank
Saltwater Beach Activities	4,734	5	17,116	5	30,601	5
Baseball or Softball	1,988	39	7,161	39	12,528	40
Picnicking	1,903	42	6,872	42	12,184	42
Football	1,640	55	5,906	57	10,336	56
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	1,133	84	4,098	82	7,327	81
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	1,033	91	3,729	91	6,599	88
Golf	790	115	2,853	114	5,082	110
RV/Trailer Camping	768	120	2,772	121	4,927	115
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	764	122	2,738	124	4,663	122
Soccer or Rugby	696	135	2,488	135	4,146	139
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	641	146	2,306	144	4,022	142
Nature Study	624	149	2,253	146	4,011	143
Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	534	156	1,929	154	3,431	152
Outdoor Tennis	516	160	1,861	159	3,280	154
Outdoor Basketball	509	161	1,834	162	3,203	156
Hunting	410	182	1,465	180	2,442	182
Tent Camping	260	209	935	208	1,625	208
Horseback Riding	237	214	852	214	1,488	213
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	222	219	799	217	1,387	216
Hiking	212	221	765	218	1,351	218
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	204	224	732	222	1,247	221
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	88	255	318	253	559	252
Freshwater Beach Activities	84	257	303	255	536	254
Outdoor Shuffleboard	77	260	278	260	497	257
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	58	263	208	263	347	263

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 5
Relative Need Priority Index
Region II - Apalachee

Activity	2010		2015		2020	
	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank
Saltwater Beach Activities	1,986	40	6,998	41	12,358	41
Nature Study	1,759	48	6,175	50	10,877	49
Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	1,387	70	4,762	72	8,274	72
Baseball or Softball	950	95	2,854	113	4,508	129
Picnicking	933	98	3,161	100	5,444	102
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	757	125	2,449	138	4,090	140
Football	692	137	2,081	152	3,287	153
Hunting	650	145	1,954	153	3,086	162
Horseback Riding	432	175	1,434	182	2,436	183
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	430	176	1,509	176	2,656	176
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	420	179	1,333	187	2,199	190
Soccer or Rugby	418	180	1,410	185	2,423	184
Hiking	373	187	1,216	192	2,041	194
Outdoor Basketball	367	189	1,187	196	1,983	196
RV/Trailer Camping	302	200	907	210	1,433	214
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	219	220	728	224	1,237	223
Tent Camping	208	223	626	227	988	228
Outdoor Tennis	204	225	613	228	969	230
Golf	185	229	557	234	880	236
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	135	238	424	247	695	247
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	127	244	407	248	678	248
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	110	250	331	252	522	255
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	80	258	281	259	494	258
Freshwater Beach Activities	48	264	157	264	264	264
Outdoor Shuffleboard	9	271	26	271	41	272

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 6

Relative Need Priority Index
Region III - North Central

Activity	2010		2015		2020	
	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank
Football	1,444	66	4,782	71	7,945	75
Picnicking	1,185	78	4,068	84	6,981	84
Nature Study	1,152	81	3,932	86	6,714	87
Soccer or Rugby	924	100	2,911	111	4,603	125
Baseball or Softball	828	110	2,718	125	4,480	131
Horseback Riding	733	129	2,310	143	3,654	149
Outdoor Basketball	700	134	2,206	148	3,488	151
RV/Trailer Camping	663	143	2,328	142	4,079	141
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	600	152	1,891	156	2,991	167
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	573	155	1,806	164	2,856	170
Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	525	158	1,767	167	2,981	168
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	429	177	1,474	179	2,532	180
Hiking	318	197	1,042	203	1,714	205
Hunting	236	215	744	221	1,176	225
Tent Camping	225	216	747	220	1,243	222
Outdoor Tennis	183	230	575	232	910	235
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	179	231	583	230	951	232
Golf	168	232	576	231	986	229
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	124	246	391	249	619	249
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	91	253	286	256	452	259
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	91	254	285	257	451	260
Freshwater Beach Activities	45	265	141	266	224	267
Outdoor Shuffleboard	37	267	132	267	234	266
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	17	270	57	270	95	270
Saltwater Beach Activities	8	272	26	272	44	271

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 7
Relative Need Priority Index
Region IV - Northeast Florida

Activity	2010		2015		2020	
	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank
Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	2,942	17	10,654	17	18,791	17
Baseball or Softball	2,799	21	10,154	21	17,483	21
Football	2,169	34	7,883	34	13,194	36
Saltwater Beach Activities	2,098	37	7,596	37	13,442	35
Picnicking	1,581	60	5,732	61	9,986	60
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	1,353	71	4,899	69	8,670	69
Outdoor Basketball	1,238	77	4,500	77	7,531	77
Nature Study	1,163	80	4,214	79	7,421	78
Golf	1,077	87	3,905	87	6,832	85
Soccer or Rugby	953	94	3,464	95	5,797	98
Horseback Riding	794	114	2,880	112	4,931	114
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	760	124	2,759	122	4,712	120
Outdoor Tennis	746	128	2,709	127	4,582	126
RV/Trailer Camping	732	130	2,652	129	4,641	123
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	731	131	2,656	128	4,517	128
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	482	168	1,747	168	3,004	165
Hiking	357	191	1,295	190	2,255	188
Hunting	312	198	1,134	197	1,897	198
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	300	202	1,089	200	1,845	202
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	266	207	966	206	1,633	207
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	225	217	815	216	1,404	215
Tent Camping	210	222	761	219	1,290	219
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	128	242	465	242	805	242
Outdoor Shuffleboard	78	259	281	258	504	256
Freshwater Beach Activities	59	262	214	262	370	262

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 8

Relative Need Priority Index
Region V - Withlacoochee

Activity	2010		2015		2020	
	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank
Picnicking	2,464	30	8,971	30	15,568	30
Football	1,818	45	6,663	45	11,147	47
RV/Trailer Camping	1,789	46	6,508	46	11,330	45
Nature Study	1,738	49	6,321	48	11,018	48
Baseball or Softball	1,701	50	6,224	49	10,523	52
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	1,145	82	4,185	80	7,105	82
Outdoor Basketball	1,038	90	3,806	90	6,367	91
Soccer or Rugby	972	93	3,562	93	5,959	94
Horseback Riding	947	97	3,471	94	5,808	97
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	913	101	3,319	99	5,811	96
Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	842	107	3,064	105	5,334	103
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	826	111	3,020	107	5,128	107
Golf	664	142	2,417	139	4,192	136
Tent Camping	636	147	2,332	141	3,901	145
Hunting	601	151	2,204	149	3,688	147
Hiking	508	163	1,855	160	3,162	160
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	357	192	1,304	189	2,224	189
Outdoor Tennis	301	201	1,099	199	1,876	199
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	248	211	907	211	1,530	210
Outdoor Shuffleboard	201	226	731	223	1,265	220
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	188	228	688	226	1,151	226
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	118	247	431	246	733	244
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	91	252	332	250	561	251
Freshwater Beach Activities	72	261	261	261	451	261
Saltwater Beach Activities	18	269	66	269	115	269

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 9
Relative Need Priority Index
Region VI - East Central Florida

Activity	2010		2015		2020	
	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank
Picnicking	8,270	1	30,008	1	52,242	1
RV/Trailer Camping	5,540	2	20,085	2	35,259	2
Football	4,318	7	15,698	7	26,802	7
Baseball or Softball	4,007	9	14,565	9	24,900	9
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	3,150	14	11,408	14	20,276	14
Nature Study	2,563	27	9,288	27	16,351	27
Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	2,560	28	9,281	28	16,296	28
Outdoor Basketball	2,496	29	9,068	29	15,561	31
Saltwater Beach Activities	2,194	33	7,950	33	14,052	33
Soccer or Rugby	2,126	36	7,733	36	13,134	37
Horseback Riding	2,042	38	7,415	38	12,823	38
Golf	1,844	44	6,685	44	11,749	44
Outdoor Tennis	1,553	63	5,636	63	9,787	62
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	1,519	64	5,525	64	9,377	65
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	1,517	65	5,512	65	9,427	64
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	1,280	76	4,653	76	7,942	76
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	816	112	2,965	110	5,087	109
Outdoor Shuffleboard	779	116	2,822	115	4,980	112
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	774	117	2,811	116	4,839	116
Tent Camping	746	127	2,714	126	4,611	124
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	684	139	2,486	136	4,260	134
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	517	159	1,881	157	3,187	157
Hiking	422	178	1,532	175	2,666	175
Freshwater Beach Activities	399	184	1,445	181	2,533	179
Hunting	390	185	1,418	184	2,417	185

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 10

Relative Need Priority Index
Region VII - Central Florida

Activity	2010		2015		2020	
	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank
RV/Trailer Camping	3,772	10	13,757	10	24,242	10
Picnicking	2,892	18	10,599	18	18,475	18
Baseball or Softball	1,642	54	6,025	53	10,477	53
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	1,312	72	4,783	70	8,440	70
Nature Study	1,144	83	4,183	81	7,329	80
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	1,043	89	3,877	88	6,546	89
Football	894	102	3,346	98	5,563	99
Golf	865	104	3,157	102	5,556	100
Horseback Riding	693	136	2,592	131	4,310	132
Outdoor Basketball	673	141	2,520	133	4,190	137
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	584	153	2,169	150	3,665	148
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	488	166	1,808	163	3,069	164
Outdoor Shuffleboard	485	167	1,770	166	3,114	161
Soccer or Rugby	453	172	1,695	171	2,818	172
Outdoor Tennis	400	183	1,477	178	2,535	178
Hiking	308	199	1,131	198	1,962	197
Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	192	227	703	225	1,228	224
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	164	233	603	229	1,049	227
Freshwater Beach Activities	134	239	497	238	847	237
Tent Camping	134	240	501	237	833	239
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	115	249	432	245	718	246
Hunting	40	266	146	265	250	265
Saltwater Beach Activities	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 11

Relative Need Priority Index
Region VIII - Tampa Bay

Activity	2010		2015		2020	
	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank
Picnicking	4,899	4	17,818	4	31,176	4
RV/Trailer Camping	4,081	8	14,827	8	26,074	8
Baseball or Softball	3,036	15	11,051	15	19,273	15
Football	2,702	23	9,856	22	17,012	23
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	2,579	26	9,359	26	16,559	26
Saltwater Beach Activities	1,960	41	7,109	40	12,594	39
Golf	1,581	61	5,747	60	10,072	58
Outdoor Basketball	1,423	68	5,200	67	8,899	67
Outdoor Tennis	1,293	74	4,710	75	8,178	73
Soccer or Rugby	1,109	85	4,069	83	6,807	86
Nature Study	1,095	86	3,975	85	7,018	83
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	991	92	3,612	92	6,259	92
Outdoor Shuffleboard	849	105	3,076	104	5,473	101
Freshwater Beach Activities	839	108	3,053	106	5,327	104
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	752	126	2,748	123	4,693	121
Horseback Riding	722	132	2,638	130	4,500	130
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	677	140	2,478	137	4,212	135
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	628	148	2,294	145	3,927	144
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	346	193	1,263	191	2,186	191
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	332	194	1,213	193	2,074	193
Hiking	260	208	947	207	1,653	206
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	224	218	821	215	1,373	217
Tent Camping	135	237	495	239	833	238
Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	128	243	466	241	818	240
Hunting	36	268	131	268	219	268

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 12
Relative Need Priority Index
Region IX - Southwest Florida

Activity	2010		2015		2020	
	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank
Picnicking	5,257	3	19,036	3	33,254	3
RV/Trailer Camping	4,389	6	15,897	6	27,595	6
Saltwater Beach Activities	2,864	19	10,365	19	18,360	19
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	2,722	22	9,853	23	17,420	22
Golf	2,167	35	7,844	35	13,816	34
Football	1,644	53	5,964	54	9,989	59
Nature Study	1,636	56	5,923	55	10,472	54
Baseball or Softball	1,632	57	5,911	56	10,278	57
Outdoor Tennis	1,167	79	4,226	78	7,383	79
Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	948	96	3,434	96	6,023	93
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	933	99	3,378	97	5,851	95
Hunting	871	103	3,158	101	5,289	105
Outdoor Basketball	829	109	3,004	108	5,064	111
Soccer or Rugby	772	118	2,799	118	4,749	118
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	767	121	2,781	120	4,744	119
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	688	138	2,493	134	4,276	133
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	660	144	2,389	140	4,156	138
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	619	150	2,242	147	3,839	146
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	527	157	1,910	155	3,272	155
Outdoor Shuffleboard	469	170	1,696	170	2,997	166
Horseback Riding	465	171	1,687	172	2,826	171
Hiking	437	174	1,582	174	2,757	174
Tent Camping	251	210	910	209	1,525	211
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	149	236	541	236	937	234
Freshwater Beach Activities	91	251	331	251	573	250

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 13

Relative Need Priority Index
Region X - Treasure Coast

Activity	2010		2015		2020	
	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank
Football	3,523	11	12,996	11	21,761	13
Golf	2,806	20	10,199	20	18,000	20
Baseball or Softball	2,651	24	9,683	24	16,809	24
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	2,224	32	8,076	32	14,292	32
Picnicking	1,768	47	6,459	47	11,195	46
Outdoor Tennis	1,687	51	6,145	51	10,760	50
Saltwater Beach Activities	1,623	58	5,895	58	10,428	55
Outdoor Basketball	1,553	62	5,698	62	9,735	63
RV/Trailer Camping	1,045	88	3,838	89	6,523	90
Soccer or Rugby	844	106	3,113	103	5,213	106
Nature Study	708	133	2,574	132	4,542	127
Horseback Riding	580	154	2,129	151	3,622	150
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	509	162	1,871	158	3,165	159
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	488	165	1,786	165	3,082	163
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	469	169	1,731	169	2,898	169
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	443	173	1,623	173	2,783	173
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	411	181	1,509	177	2,561	177
Freshwater Beach Activities	388	186	1,418	183	2,464	181
Outdoor Shuffleboard	327	195	1,191	195	2,086	192
Hiking	293	203	1,071	201	1,851	200
Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	290	204	1,058	202	1,851	201
Hunting	279	206	1,028	204	1,722	203
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	237	213	865	213	1,501	212
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	155	234	570	233	968	231
Tent Camping	117	248	433	244	725	245

Appendix K
Relative Need Methodology

Table K - 14

Relative Need Priority Index
Region XI - South Florida

Activity	2010		2015		2020	
	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank	Need Index	Statewide Need Rank
Outdoor Swimming Pool Use	3,470	12	12,580	12	22,359	11
Picnicking	3,429	13	12,474	13	21,853	12
Football	3,002	16	10,963	16	18,874	16
Baseball or Softball	2,613	25	9,518	25	16,591	25
Saltwater Beach Activities	2,438	31	8,844	31	15,695	29
Outdoor Tennis	1,852	43	6,745	43	11,770	43
Golf	1,658	52	6,026	52	10,608	51
Outdoor Basketball	1,591	59	5,834	59	9,881	61
Saltwater Non-Boat Fishing	1,437	67	5,252	66	9,006	66
RV/Trailer Camping	1,396	69	5,086	68	8,861	68
Nature Study	1,307	73	4,746	73	8,374	71
Soccer or Rugby	1,291	75	4,715	74	8,106	74
Bicycle Riding - Paved Trails	813	113	2,973	109	5,099	108
Visiting Historical or Archeological Sites	772	119	2,803	117	4,951	113
Saltwater Boat Ramp Use	763	123	2,791	119	4,782	117
Outdoor Handball/Racquetball	506	164	1,850	161	3,172	158
Freshwater Boat Ramp Use	368	188	1,347	186	2,290	187
Outdoor Shuffleboard	366	190	1,326	188	2,357	186
Hunting	325	196	1,197	194	1,999	195
Horseback Riding	280	205	1,028	205	1,717	204
Hiking	246	212	895	212	1,564	209
Freshwater Non-Boat Fishing	150	235	550	235	941	233
Bicycle Riding - Unpaved Trails	132	241	484	240	817	241
Tent Camping	126	245	460	243	785	243
Freshwater Beach Activities	85	256	308	254	540	253

Appendix L
List of Acronyms

Acronyms

BWFS	Boating, Waterways and Field Service Section
CAMA	Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas
CARL	Conservation and Recreation Lands
CERP	Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan
DCA	Florida Department of Community Affairs
DEP	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
DDFM	Division of Freshwater Fisheries Management
DHR	Division of Historical Resources
DLE	Division of Law Enforcement
DOF	Division of Forestry
DOS	Florida Department of State
DOT	Florida Department of Transportation
DRP	Division of Recreation and Parks
DSL	Division of State Lands
DWRM	Division of Water Resource Management
ERP	Environment Resource Permit
DDFM	Freshwater Fisheries Management
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FIND	Florida Inland Navigation District
FWCC	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
LATF	Land Acquisition Trust Fund
LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPS	National Park Service
NFWWMD	Northwest Florida Water Management District
OCHP	Office of Cultural and Historical Programs
OGT	Office of Greenways and Trails
OHV	Off-Highway Vehicle
ORS	Office of Recreation Services
SFWMD	South Florida Water Management District
SJRWMD	St. Johns River Water Management District
SOR	Save Our Rivers
SRWMD	Suwannee River Water Management District
SWFWMD	Southwest Florida Water Management District
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDOD	United States Department of Defense
USFS	United States Forest Service
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WCIND	West Coast Inland Navigation District
WRP	Wetlands Resource Permit

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks
Office of Park Planning
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000





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