# St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park



## Advisory Group Draft Unit Management Plan

## STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Division of Recreation and Parks

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#### INTRODUCTION

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park is in Brevard and Indian River Counties (see Vicinity Map). Access to the northern half of the park is from Buffer Preserve Drive, off Babcock Street, approximately 3 miles north of Fellsmere. WW Ranch Road provides access to the southeast quadrant off County Road 512 approximately two miles east of Interstate 95 (see Reference Map). The Vicinity Map also reflects significant land and water resources existing near the park.

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park was initially acquired by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund (Trustees) on January 4, 1995 with funds from the P2000/CARL program. Since the initial purchase, the Trustees and the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) have jointly acquired several parcels and added them to the park. Currently, the park comprises 21,629.35 acres. The Trustees and SJRWMD hold fee simple title to the park. On March 29, 1996, the Trustees leased the property to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Division of Marine Resources under a 50-year lease (Lease Number 4118). This lease will expire on March 28, 2046. On January 31, 2003, the Trustees and SJRWMD leased the property to FDEP, Office of Aquatic Managed Areas under a 50-year lease (Lease Number 4397). This lease will expire on January 30, 2053. Management of both leases was transferred to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP).

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park is designated single-use to provide public outdoor recreation and conservation. There are no legislative or executive directives that constrain the use of this property (see Addendum 1).

#### Purpose and Significance of the Park

The purpose of St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park is to limit the development in the area to provide a water quality buffer for the St. Sebastian River and Indian River Lagoon and to protect the critical habitats of imperiled species particularly the Florida Manatee.

#### Park Significance

- St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park is one of the largest conservation areas in the Indian River – South Brevard County region. The park provides critical water quality protection for the St. Sebastian River and Indian River Lagoon.
- The park preserves a large expanse of open longleaf pine and wiregrass forest that was once commonplace throughout Florida. In addition to pine flatwoods the park protects cypress domes, scrubby flatwoods, sandhill, a

rare strand swamp and a forest of red, black and white mangroves that border the St. Sebastian River.

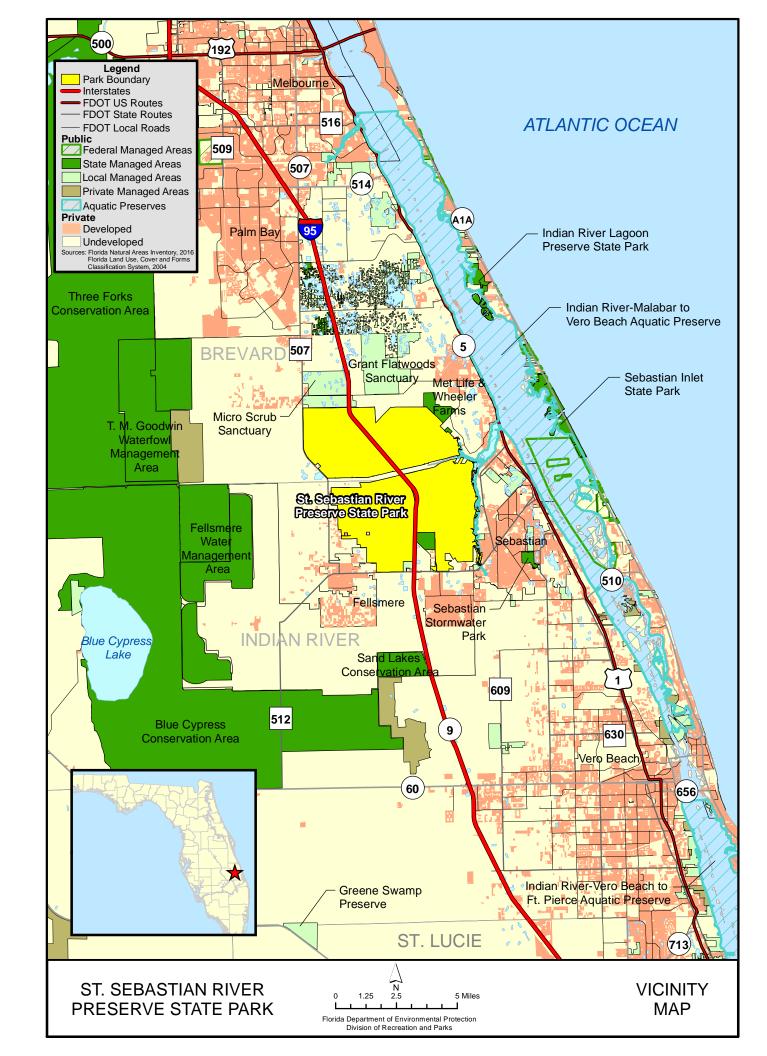
- The park provides critical habitat for several of imperiled bird species including the red-cockaded woodpecker, the crested caracara, and the Florida scrub-jay. The park is also known as an exceptional spot for viewing The Florida Manatee. Manatees are common in the St. Sebastian River and the C-54 canal during winter and spring.
- The park provides an array of cultural sites representing a wide span of human history from paleolithic hunting and gathering cultures to the working landscapes of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries including logging, turpentining, ranching, and farming.
- The park provides quality outdoor resource-based recreation, with over 60 miles of multi-use trails available for hiking, biking, horseback riding, and nature study and access to more than ten miles of the St. Sebastian River and its tributaries for paddling, boating, and fishing.

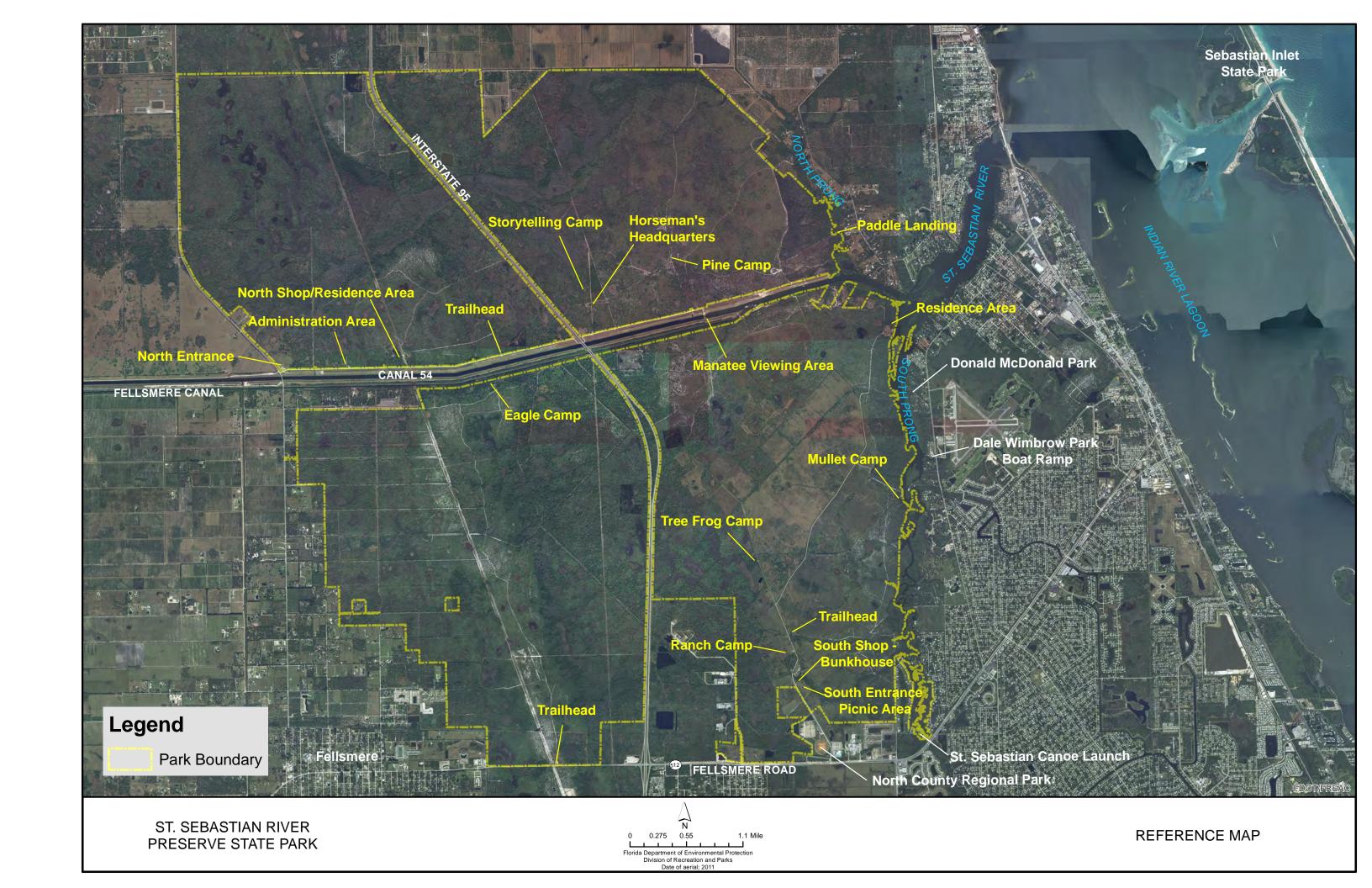
St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park is classified as a State Preserve in the DRP's unit classification system. In the management of a State Preserve, preservation and enhancement of natural conditions is all important. Resource considerations are given priority over user considerations and development is restricted to the minimum necessary for ensuring its protection and maintenance, limited access, user safety and convenience, and appropriate interpretation. Permitted uses are primarily of a passive nature, related to the aesthetic, educational and recreational enjoyment of the preserve, although other compatible uses are permitted in limited amounts. Program emphasis is placed on interpretation of the natural and cultural attributes of the preserve.

#### Purpose and Scope of the Plan

This plan serves as the basic statement of policy and direction for the management of St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park as a unit of Florida's state park system. It identifies the goals, objectives, actions and criteria or standards that guide each aspect of park administration, and sets forth the specific measures that will be implemented to meet management objectives and provide balanced public utilization. The plan is intended to meet the requirements of Sections 253.034 and 259.032, Florida Statutes, Chapter 18-2, Florida Administrative Code, and is intended to be consistent with the State Lands Management Plan. With approval, this management plan will replace the 2005 approved plan.

The plan consists of three interrelated components: The Resource Management Component, the Land Use Component and the Implementation Component. The





Resource Management Component provides a detailed inventory and assessment of the natural and cultural resources of the park. Resource management needs and issues are identified, and measurable management objectives are established for each of the park's management goals and resource types. This component provides guidance on the application of such measures as prescribed burning, exotic species removal, imperiled species management, cultural resource management and restoration of natural conditions.

The Land Use Component is the recreational resource allocation plan for the park. Based on considerations such as access, population, adjacent land uses, the natural and cultural resources of the park, and current public uses and existing development, measurable objectives are set to achieve the desired allocation of the physical space of the park. These objectives identify use areas and propose the types of facilities and programs as well as the volume of public use to be provided.

The Implementation Component consolidates the measurable objectives and actions for each of the park's management goals. An implementation schedule and cost estimates are included for each objective and action. Included in this table are (1) measures that will be used to evaluate the DRP's implementation progress, (2) timeframes for completing actions and objectives and (3) estimated costs to complete each action and objective.

All development and resource alteration proposed in this plan is subject to the granting of appropriate permits, easements, licenses, and other required legal instruments. Approval of the management plan does not constitute an exemption from complying with the appropriate local, state or federal agencies.

In accordance with 253.034(5) F.S., the potential of the park to accommodate secondary management purposes was analyzed. These secondary purposes were considered within the context of DRP's statutory responsibilities and the resource needs and values of the park. This analysis considered the park's natural and cultural resources, management needs, aesthetic values, visitation and visitor experiences. For this park, it was determined that timber management and cattle grazing conducted as part of the park's natural community management and restoration activities could be accommodated in a manner that would be compatible and not interfere with the primary purpose of resource-based outdoor recreation and conservation. These compatible secondary management purpose are addressed in the Resource Management Component of the plan.

DRP has determined that uses such as, water resource development projects, water supply projects, stormwater management projects, linear facilities and sustainable agriculture and forestry (other than those forest management activities specifically identified in this plan) would not be consistent with this plan or the management purposes of the park.

In accordance with 253.034(5) F.S. the potential for generating revenue to enhance management was also analyzed. Visitor fees and charges are the principal source of revenue generated by the park. It was determined that timber management and cattle grazing conducted as part of the park's natural community management and restoration activities would be appropriate at this park as additional sources of revenue for land management since they are compatible with the park's primary purpose of resource-based outdoor recreation and conservation. Generating revenue from consumptive uses that are not related to resource management activities is not contemplated in this management plan.

DRP may provide the services and facilities outlined in this plan either with its own funds and staff or through an outsourcing contract. Private contractors may provide assistance with natural resource management and restoration activities or a concessionaire may provide services to park visitors in order to enhance the visitor experience. For example, a concessionaire could be authorized to sell merchandise and food and to rent recreational equipment for use in the park. A concessionaire may also be authorized to provide specialized services, such as interpretive tours, or overnight accommodations when the required capital investment exceeds that which DRP can elect to incur. Decisions regarding outsourcing, contracting with the private sector, the use of concessionaires, etc. are made on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the policies set forth in DRP's Operations Manual (OM).

#### **Management Program Overview**

#### Management Authority and Responsibility

In accordance with Chapter 258, Florida Statutes and Chapter 62D-2, Florida Administrative Code, the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) is charged with the responsibility of developing and operating Florida's recreation and parks system. These are administered in accordance with the following policy:

It shall be the policy of the Division of Recreation and Parks to promote the state park system for the use, enjoyment, and benefit of the people of Florida and visitors; to acquire typical portions of the original domain of the state which will be accessible to all of the people, and of such character as to emblemize the state's natural values; conserve these natural values for all time; administer the development, use and maintenance of these lands and render such public service in so doing, in such a manner as to enable the people of Florida and visitors to enjoy these values without depleting them; to contribute materially to the development of a strong mental, moral, and physical fiber in the people; to provide for perpetual preservation of historic sites and memorials of statewide significance and interpretation of their history to the people; to contribute to the tourist appeal of Florida.

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (Trustees) has granted management authority of certain sovereign submerged lands to the DRP under Management Agreement MA 68-086 (as amended January 19, 1988). The management area includes a 400-foot zone from the edge of mean high water where a park boundary borders sovereign submerged lands fronting beaches, bays, estuarine areas, rivers or streams. Where emergent wetland vegetation exists, the zone extends waterward 400 feet beyond the vegetation. The agreement is intended to provide additional protection to resources of the park and nearshore areas and to provide authority to manage activities that could adversely affect public recreational uses.

Many operating procedures are standardized system-wide and are set by internal direction. These procedures are outlined in the OM that covers such areas as personnel management, uniforms and personal appearance, training, signs, communications, fiscal procedures, interpretation, concessions, public use regulations, resource management, law enforcement, protection, safety and maintenance.

#### Park Management Goals

The following park goals express DRP's long-term intent in managing the state park:

- Provide administrative support for all park functions.
- Protect water quality and quantity in the park, restore hydrology to the extent feasible and maintain the restored condition.
- Restore and maintain the natural communities/habitats of the park.
- Maintain, improve or restore imperiled species populations and habitats in the park.
- Remove exotic and invasive plants and animals from the park and conduct needed maintenance-control.
- Protect, preserve and maintain the cultural resources of the park.
- Provide public access and recreational opportunities in the park.
- Develop and maintain the capital facilities and infrastructure necessary to meet the goals and objectives of this management plan.

#### **Management Coordination**

The park is managed in accordance with all applicable laws and administrative rules. Agencies having a major or direct role in the management of the park are discussed in this plan.

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), Florida Forest Service (FFS), assists DRP staff in the development of wildfire emergency

plans and provides the authorization required for prescribed burning. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) assists staff in the enforcement of state laws pertaining to wildlife, freshwater fish and other aquatic life existing within the park. In addition, the FWC aids DRP with wildlife management programs, including imperiled species management. The Florida Department of State (FDOS), Division of Historical Resources (DHR) assists staff to ensure protection of archaeological and historical sites. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Florida Coastal Office (FCO) aids staff in aquatic preserves management programs.

At the St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park, ongoing coordination programs include active management of the park's imperiled animal species, particularly the red cockaded woodpecker and the Florida scrub jay, with the FWC and the USFWS. Division staff works with the St. Johns River Water Management District on an ambitious hydrological restoration program and with both the water management district and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the management of the C-54 and Fellsmere canals and associated control and maintenance facilities. FCO and Division staff collaborate regarding water quality protection and enhancement, in addition to other issues within the state park.

#### **Public Participation**

DRP provided an opportunity for public input by conducting a public workshop and an Advisory Group meeting to present the draft management plan to the public. These meetings were held on [INSERT Dates], respectively. Meeting notices were published in the Florida Administrative Register, [INSERT publication date, VOL/ISSUE], included on the Department Internet Calendar, posted in clear view at the park, and promoted locally. The purpose of the Advisory Group meeting is to provide the Advisory Group members an opportunity to discuss the draft management plan (see Addendum 2).

#### **Other Designations**

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park is not within an Area of Critical State Concern as defined in Section 380.05, Florida Statutes, and it is not presently under study for such designation. The park is a component of the Florida Greenways and Trails System, administered by the Department's Office of Greenways and Trails.

All waters within the park have been designated as Outstanding Florida Waters, pursuant to Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code. Surface waters in this park are also classified as Class III waters by the Department. This park is adjacent to the Indian River-Malabar to Vero Aquatic Preserve as designated under the Florida Aquatic Preserve Act of 1975 (Section 258.35, Florida Statutes).

#### RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMPONENT

#### Introduction

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) in accordance with Chapter 258, Florida Statutes, has implemented resource management programs for preserving for all time the representative examples of natural and cultural resources of statewide significance under its administration. This component of the unit plan describes the natural and cultural resources of the park and identifies the methods that will be used to manage them. Management measures expressed in this plan are consistent with the DRP's overall mission in natural systems management. Cited references are contained in Addendum 3.

The DRP's philosophy of resource management is natural systems management. Primary emphasis is placed on restoring and maintaining, to the degree possible, the natural processes that shaped the structure, function and species composition of Florida's diverse natural communities as they occurred in the original domain. Single species management for imperiled species is appropriate in state parks when the maintenance, recovery or restoration of a species or population is complicated due to constraints associated with long-term restoration efforts, unnaturally high mortality or insufficient habitat. Single species management should be compatible with the maintenance and restoration of natural processes and should not imperil other native species or seriously compromise the park values.

The DRP's management goal for cultural resources is to park sites and objects that represent Florida's cultural periods, significant historic events or persons. This goal often entails active measures to stabilize, reconstruct or restore resources, or to rehabilitate them for appropriate public use.

Because park units are often components of larger ecosystems, their proper management can be affected by conditions and events that occur beyond park boundaries. Ecosystem management is implemented through a resource management evaluation program that assesses resource conditions, evaluates management activities and refines management actions, and reviews local comprehensive plans and development permit applications for park/ecosystem impacts.

The entire park is divided into management zones that delineate areas on the ground that are used to reference management activities (see Management Zones Map). The shape and size of each zone may be based on natural community type, burn zone, and the location of existing roads and natural fire breaks. It is important to note that all burn zones are management zones; however, not all management zones include fire-dependent natural communities. Table 1 reflects the management zones with the acres of each zone.

Table 1. St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park Management Zones				
Management Zone	Acreage	Managed with Prescribed Fire	Contains Known Cultural Resources	
SSR-001n	67.6747112	Υ	N	
SSR-001s	37.13282327	Υ	N	
SSR-002	179.4882321	Υ	N	
SSR-003n	89.3109745	Υ	N	
SSR-003s	130.6197573	Υ	N	
SSR-004	290.3886066	Υ	N	
SSR-005n	267.0984743	Υ	N	
SSR-005s	251.4918229	Υ	N	
SSR-006	186.3348778	Υ	N	
SSR-007	86.82391945	Υ	N	
SSR-008e	215.0257412	Υ	N	
SSR-008w	91.98052696	Υ	N	
SSR-009	380.3800732	Υ	N	
SSR-010	126.0108657	Υ	N	
SSR-011n	100.0853118	Υ	N	
SSR-011s	42.16659898	Υ	N	
SSR-012	136.7635986	Υ	N	
SSR-013	79.69427062	Υ	N	
SSR-014	418.1059283	Υ	N	
SSR-014A	24.61529062	Υ	N	
SSR-015	232.3340949	Υ	N	
SSR-016n	372.6006779	Υ	N	
SSR-016s	92.85983427	Υ	N	
SSR-017	65.93543227	Υ	N	
SSR-018	312.464754	Υ	N	
SSR-019	205.1488332	Υ	N	
SSR-020e	29.2091161	Υ	N	
SSR-020w	73.52174356	Υ	Υ	
SSR-021e	262.9196283	Υ	N	
SSR-021w	112.8962499	Υ	N	
SSR-022	172.3567623	Υ	N	
SSR-023e1	40.31813423	Υ	Υ	
SSR-023e2	21.61123742	Υ	N	
SSR-023e3	23.26150886	Υ	N	
SSR-023w	77.81946536	Υ	N	
SSR-024	30.32953319	Υ	N	
SSR-025	76.84623747	Υ	N	
SSR-026	167.8954642	Υ	N	
SSR-027	104.5531736	Υ	N	
SSR-028e	20.4712533	Υ	Υ	
SSR-028w	140.53097	Υ	N	
SSR-029e	167.9364332	Υ	N	
SSR-029w	191.7582054	Υ	N	

Table 1. St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park Management Zones				
Management Zone	Acreage	Managed with Prescribed Fire	Contains Known Cultural Resources	
SSR-030	276.6171017	Υ	N	
SSR-031	109.2950707	Υ	N	
SSR-032	177.573138	Υ	N	
SSR-033	193.832235	Υ	N	
SSR-034	185.6289026	Υ	N	
SSR-035n	103.3010998	Υ	N	
SSR-035s	122.5508157	Υ	N	
SSR-036	314.3327404	Υ	Υ	
SSR-037	249.0699182	Υ	N	
SSR-038	163.3732946	Υ	N	
SSR-039c	80.24114444	Υ	N	
SSR-039n	8.104054443	Υ	N	
SSR-039s	57.5225675	Υ	N	
SSR-040n	14.01411627	Υ	N	
SSR-040s	212.4695426	Υ	N	
SSR-041	155.8732178	Υ	N	
SSR-042	115.4378997	Υ	N	
SSR-042A	14.06064026	Υ	N	
SSR-043	214.2286158	Υ	Υ	
SSR-044	84.7876061	Υ	N	
SSR-045	97.00682921	Υ	Υ	
SSR-046	84.76099582	Υ	N	
SSR-047	5.892881508	Υ	N	
SSR-047e	14.61330186	Υ	N	
SSR-047ne	57.09418876	Υ	N	
SSR-047se	64.48716909	Υ	N	
SSR-047w	110.1298286	Υ	N	
SSR-048	314.5170484	Υ	N	
SSR-049e	9.013909863	Υ	N	
SSR-049w	51.51962806	Υ	N	
SSR-050n	9.082199836	Υ	N	
SSR-050s	44.57985875	Υ	N	
SSR-051	134.0091103	Υ	N	
SSR-052e	59.70303735	Υ	Υ	
SSR-052w	44.91802977	Υ	N	
SSR-053	211.8286838	Υ	N	
SSR-054c	16.15434166	Υ	N	
SSR-054n	20.66223879	Υ	N	
SSR-054s	25.98636699	Υ	N	
SSR-055c	53.21832727	Υ	N	
SSR-055n	12.45755694	Υ	N	
SSR-055s	187.3468899	Υ	N	
SSR-056n	69.82982269	Υ	N	

Table 1. St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park Management Zones				
Management Zone	Acreage	Managed with Prescribed Fire	Contains Known Cultural Resources	
SSR-056s	25.89575212	Υ	N	
SSR-057	186.7888432	Υ	N	
SSR-058e	37.97422028	Υ	N	
SSR-058w	23.76764803	Υ	N	
SSR-059n	62.48096655	Υ	N	
SSR-059se	14.92844233	Υ	N	
SSR-059sw	11.59817236	Υ	N	
SSR-060e	54.9941221	Υ	N	
SSR-060n	226.6422322	Υ	N	
SSR-060s	64.19845137	Υ	N	
SSR-060se	56.42707879	Υ	N	
SSR-060w	145.7990799	Υ	N	
SSR-061	69.57705408	Υ	N	
SSR-062n	19.43657471	Υ	N	
SSR-062s	174.520102	Υ	N	
SSR-063c	8.211362397	Υ	N	
SSR-063n	64.76076425	Υ	N	
SSR-063s	203.5592685	Υ	N	
SSR-064e	24.68360793	Υ	N	
SSR-064n	250.4236353	Υ	N	
SSR-064s	150.929953	Υ	N	
SSR-065n	149.3519461	Υ	N	
SSR-065s	168.0054239	Υ	N	
SSR-066	46.12534461	Υ	N	
SSR-067	247.8554357	Υ	N	
SSR-068	210.7512048	Υ	N	
SSR-069	227.8281863	Υ	N	
SSR-070	43.10397	Υ	N	
SSR-071	107.0932223	Υ	N	
SSR-072	74.03611462	Υ	N	
SSR-073e	0.484038473	Υ	N	
SSR-073w	22.52242006	Υ	Υ	
SSR-074	113.261986	Υ	N	
SSR-075	72.73156594	Υ	N	
SSR-076	123.9646012	Υ	N	
SSR-077	74.75495019	Υ	N	
SSR-077se	15.8648371	Υ	N	
SSR-078e	25.08429988	Υ	N	
SSR-078w	84.89157067	Υ	N	
SSR-079	125.4392744	Υ	N	
SSR-080	81.42476451	Υ	N	
SSR-081	110.1709307	Υ	N	
SSR-081se	6.172775214	Υ	N	

Table 1. St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park Management Zones				
Management Zone	Acreage	Managed with Prescribed Fire	Contains Known Cultural Resources	
SSR-082	136.2606396	Υ	N	
SSR-083e	63.6584471	Υ	N	
SSR-083w	20.45779704	Υ	N	
SSR-084	81.52553544	Υ	Υ	
SSR-085	147.5845157	Υ	Υ	
SSR-086	83.30209213	Υ	Υ	
SSR-087	51.60791085	Υ	N	
SSR-088	330.5776461	Υ	N	
SSR-089n	39.59762449	Υ	N	
SSR-089s	10.27568063	Υ	N	
SSR-090n	266.2557061	Υ	N	
SSR-090s	56.06859531	Υ	N	
SSR-091	63.82047654	Υ	N	
SSR-092	212.4453597	Υ	Υ	
SSR-093	129.3315588	Υ	N	
SSR-094c	44.81624351	Υ	N	
SSR-094e	41.6358391	Υ	N	
SSR-094w	15.97879552	Υ	N	
SSR-095e	174.0567268	Υ	N	
SSR-095w	103.1047311	Υ	N	
SSR-096e	128.99582	Υ	N	
SSR-096w	63.23919754	Υ	N	
SSR-097e	98.62946844	Υ	N	
SSR-097n	66.19605304	Υ	N	
SSR-097ne	16.33510331	Υ	N	
SSR-097nw	17.76448165	Υ	N	
SSR-097w	40.50328714	Υ	N	
SSR-098e	261.6036023	Υ	N	
SSR-098sw	33.1792296	Υ	N	
SSR-098w	81.99151647	Υ	N	
SSR-099	114.1802214	Υ	N	
SSR-100	269.9694988	Υ	N	
SSR-101e	66.18713294	Υ	N	
SSR-101w	16.23744616	Υ	N	
SSR-102	112.4629774	Υ	N	
SSR-103	38.83237979	Υ	N	
SSR-104	352.4272296	Υ	N	
SSR-105e	110.3874668	Υ	N	
SSR-105n	27.8063561	Υ	N	
SSR-105w	287.3425671	Υ	N	
SSR-106ne	69.88393491	Υ	N	
SSR-106nw	92.16086669	Υ	N	
SSR-106se	84.00096462	Υ	N	

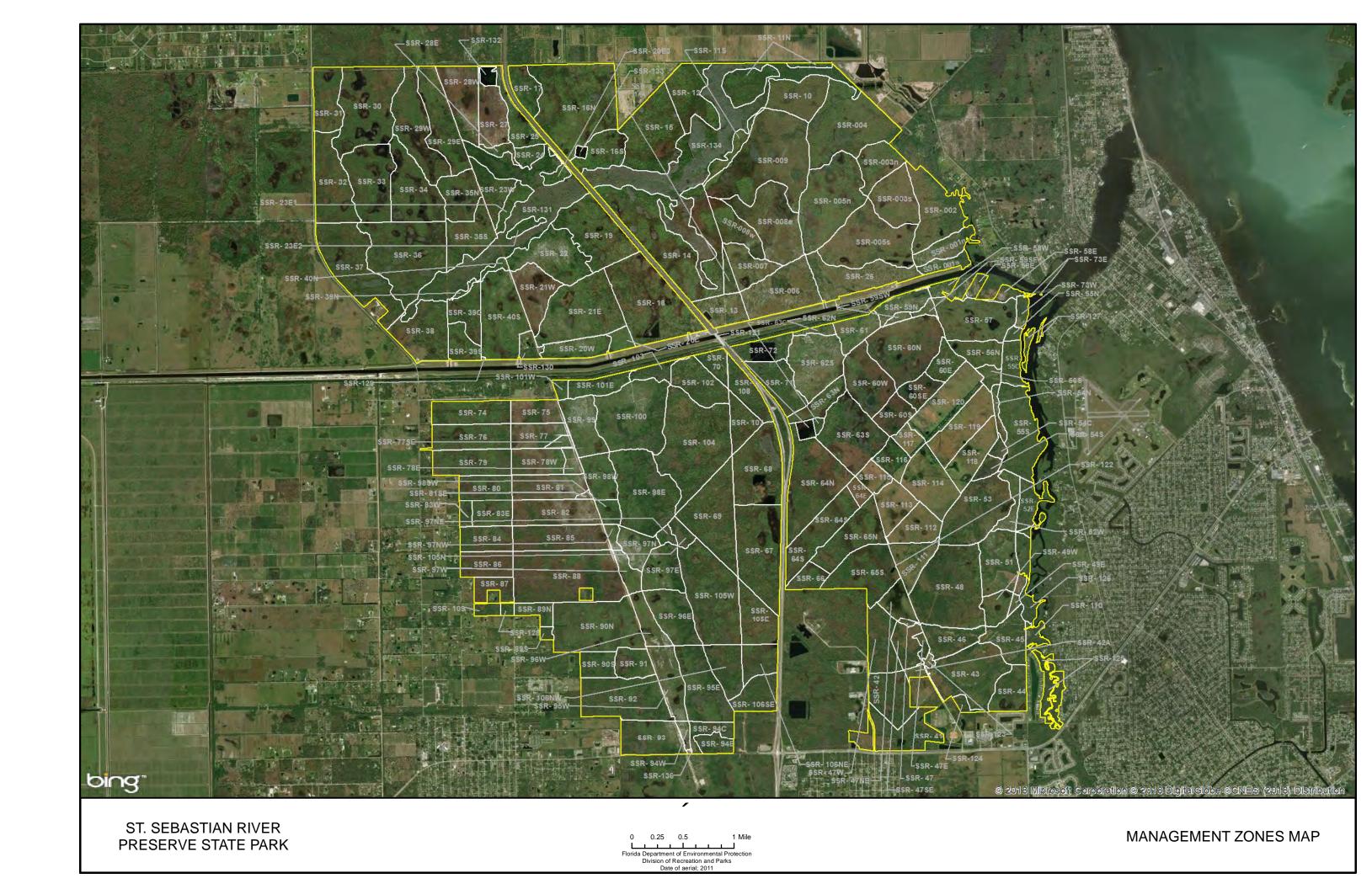
Table 1. St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park Management Zones				
			Contains	
Management	Acreage	Managed with	Known	
Zone	Acreage	Prescribed Fire	Cultural	
			Resources	
SSR-107	67.48670536	Υ	N	
SSR-108	77.01923246	Υ	N	
SSR-109	20.04803762	Υ	N	
SSR-110	23.2593142	Υ	N	
SSR-111	78.40016455	Υ	N	
SSR-112	87.65886697	Υ	N	
SSR-113	84.70678072	Υ	N	
SSR-114	151.1602936	Υ	N	
SSR-115	42.54993415	Υ	N	
SSR-116	56.27984257	Υ	N	
SSR-117	36.08351605	Υ	N	
SSR-118	105.2459584	Υ	N	
SSR-119	137.5014416	Υ	N	
SSR-120	156.6354623	Υ	N	
SSR-121	19.49480099	N	N	
SSR-122	7.832898246	N	N	
SSR-123	10.10247666	N	N	
SSR-124	14.38871454	N	N	
SSR-125	70.75669964	N	N	
SSR-126	27.55160359	N	N	
SSR-127	15.88951349	N	N	
SSR-128	10.40014155	N	N	
SSR-129	0.715675565	N	N	
SSR-130	30.74164724	N	N	
SSR-131	421.5274704	N	N	
SSR-132	17.95946764	N	N	
SSR-133	7.681697495	N	N	
SSR-134	569.7923332	N	N	
SSR-136	1.395610574	N	N	

#### **Resource Description and Assessment**

#### **Natural Resources**

#### **Topography**

Lands within the St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park are relatively flat, with an average elevation of 24 feet above mean sea level. The highest spots are in the scrubby flatwoods on the north side of the park, west of I-95, where elevations reach 33 to 34 feet. The property slopes gently to the east, towards the St. Sebastian River. The greatest topographic variation on the property can be found along the river, where periodically steep bluffs occur along the western bank. The



elevation changes from approximately 5 feet to 20 feet above mean sea level in a relatively narrow band.

#### Geology

White (1970) divided Florida into three major geomorphic zones. The park falls within the Mid-Peninsular zone and is "characterized by discontinuous highlands in the form of sub-parallel ridges separated by broad valleys." In general, highlands are well drained and correspond to high recharge areas, while lowlands are often swampy and poorly drained. Within the Mid-Peninsular zone, the park lies within the Eastern Valley sub-unit and includes a portion of Ten Mile Ridge.

#### Soils

The park has 58 different soil types (see Soils Map), including those found in disturbed areas. The soil survey was compiled by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service in the soil survey of Brevard County (Huckle et al. 1974) and Indian River County (Wettstein et al. 1987). Addendum 4 contains detailed descriptions of the soil types within this unit.

Soil and water conservation will be largely addressed under hydrologic restoration. Management activities will follow generally accepted best management practices to prevent soil erosion and conserve soil and water resources in the park. Removal of interior ditching and restoration of sheet flow to the greatest extent possible will result in improvements to water quality and erosion prevention.

#### **Minerals**

Valuable mineral resources, such as oil, gas or phosphate are not known in the area (Scott 1992).

#### Hydrology

*Groundwater*: The St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park overlies two aquifers (groundwater reservoirs), the Floridan and the surficial. The Floridan aquifer underlies the entire state of Florida and the Coastal Plain of Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina. In the region of the park, the top of the Floridan Aquifer is 100-500 feet below ground level, and is 2,800-3,200 feet thick. There are no areas of high recharge within the park. The surficial aquifer consists of sand and shell deposits with uppermost layers contiguous with the land surface. Both aquifers are artesian, meaning that the groundwater is confined beneath a non-porous geologic formation (Duncan et al. 1994).

Brevard and Indian River counties are areas of artesian flow and have low probabilities for sinkhole development. There are no springs within the park or within Brevard or Indian River counties (Fernald et al. 1985). However, numerous surficial springs do occur in both Indian River and Brevard Counties and may possibly occur at the SSRPSP.

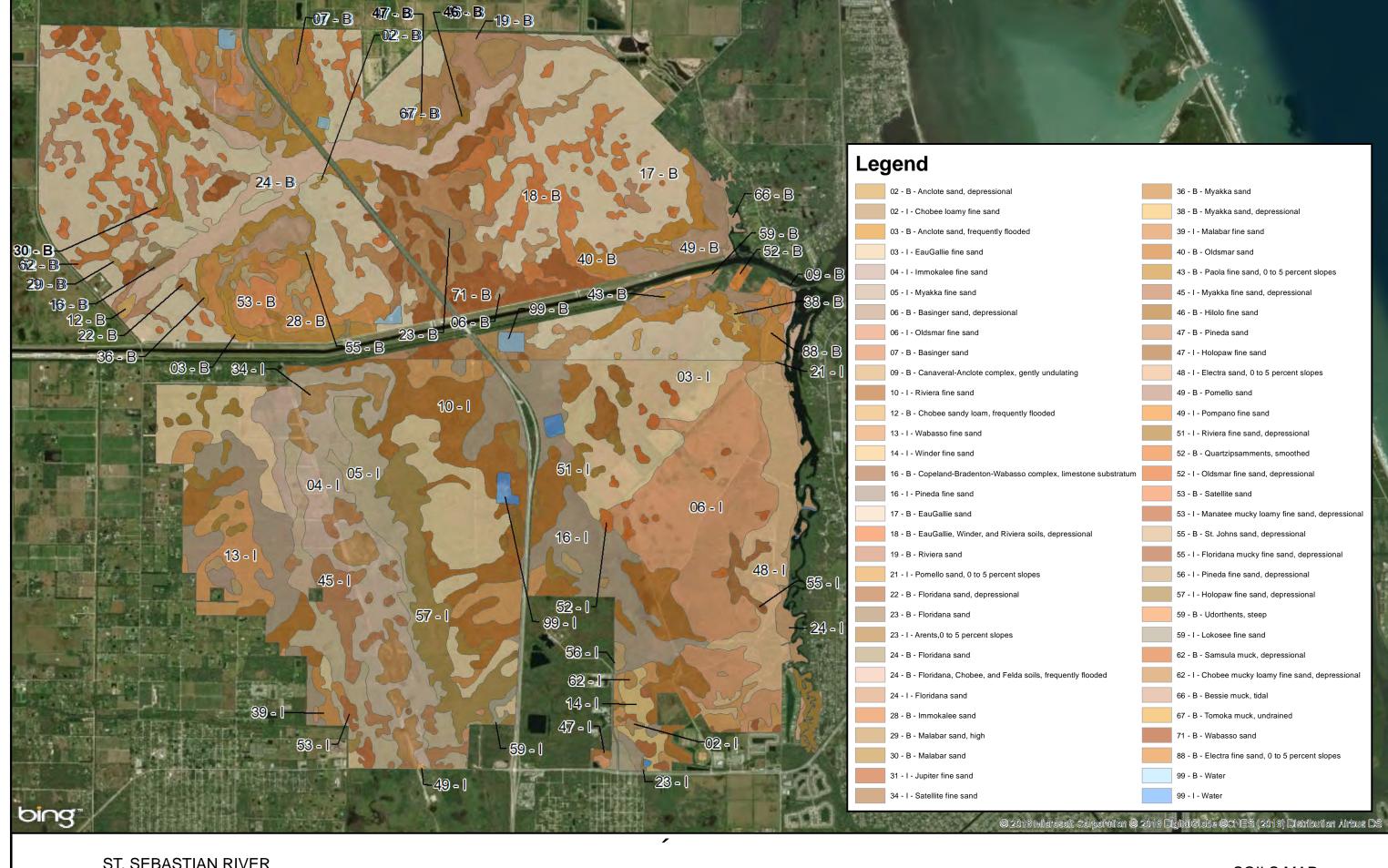
Surface Water: Major surface water features within the park include the St. Sebastian River and Herndon Swamp. The C-54 Canal is a man-made structure that was built to provide flood relief to the upper St. Johns River basin. During major storm events, water is discharged from the upper St. Johns River marsh through the C-54 Canal into the Indian River Lagoon. All surface waters within the park are designated as Class III waters. The St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park is adjacent to the Indian River – Malabar to Vero Beach Aquatic Preserve which has been designated as an Outstanding Florida Water, pursuant to Chapter 62-302 F.A.C. and classified as Class III waters by the FDEP. The Indian River Lagoon is one of the country's most productive, diverse, and commercially and recreationally important estuaries.

**Drainage Basin:** The park lies within the St. Sebastian River drainage basin. Subbasins are described by Steward and Van Arman (1987).

Regional Drainage Patterns: The region is flat and was characterized historically by its many poorly drained swamps. Historically, the land drained naturally to the east into the St. Sebastian River. In recent times, drainage has been dramatically altered by the construction of numerous canal systems for urban and agricultural drainage. Thousands of acres of St. Johns River marsh floodplain were converted to agricultural land, adding abnormal amounts of freshwater to the Indian River Lagoon. Without the diversion canals, water would have discharged into the Indian River Lagoon only during major floods.

Freshwater discharge enters the Indian River Lagoon as over-land flow and as point discharges through several natural creeks and man-made canals, including the Fellsmere Canal and C-54 Canal. The C-54 Canal was built as part of the old Upper St. Johns River Flood Control Project to convey excess floodwaters from the St. Johns River marshes to the Indian River Lagoon through the St. Sebastian River. The C-54 Canal empties into the St. Sebastian River at Structure S-157, which has a maximum discharge capacity of 6,500 cubic feet per second (cfs). The upper basin project was redesigned in the 1980's to address environmental concerns with the original design and the role of the C-54 changed. As part of the original upper basin project, C-54 discharged directly from the St. Johns River to the lagoon. However, C-54 is no longer directly connected to the St. Johns River, but instead serves only as an emergency overflow for the St. Johns Water Management Area to ensure that extreme flood events do not overtop the flood protection levees. The analysis and restoration of the lagoon's hydrology is a complex project being handled by St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff and other agencies separately from the management of the park.

**Drainage Patterns within the park:** Black and white aerial photography from 1943, 1951, 1958, 1980, 1989, and infrared aerial photography from 1984 and 1994 were used to determine changes in land use and hydrology over time. The evaluation indicated present drainage patterns in the park are considerably different from historic drainage patterns. Historically, park lands generally drained eastward to the St. Sebastian River. Construction of the C-54 Canal, Fellsmere Canal and Interstate 95, subdivided drainage into four nearly disjunct quadrants. Each of the quadrants is discussed below.



The major drainage feature within the northeast portion of the park is Herndon Swamp, which drains from the southwest to the northeast. Historically, water flowed from the swamp to the north prong of the St. Sebastian River through two drainage paths. One was east through an extension of the swamp and the second extended north from the park, then arched east and south to the North Prong. The northern drainage route was lost when the land was converted to citrus groves; the North Canal was built as a drainage replacement. A portion of Herndon Swamp used to drain excessively into the North Canal through large erosion ditches cut into the north levee, however these eroded sites were restored in a mitigation project under the management of the SJRWMD in 2007. Now water only drains into North Canal from Herndon Swamp during extreme rain events. Furthermore, SJRWMD in partnership with FDEP, FDOT, and Brevard County purchased the Wheeler property located in southernmost Brevard County adjacent to the park's northeast property line. The Wheeler Stormwater Park project was designed to reduce pollutant loads from the Sottile Canal watershed from entering the Sebastian River and eventually the Indian River Lagoon as well as restore habitat connectivity between Herndon Swamp with the park and the floodplain of the North Prong to the Sebastian River. The Wheeler Stormwater Project was completed in 2016.

The general drainage pattern for areas adjacent to Herndon Swamp is towards the swamp or North Canal, then east to the North Prong. Areas south of Herndon Swamp nearer to the C-54 Canal generally drain south to what was once the West

Prong and is now the C-54 Canal. The North and West Prongs converge and flow east to meet the South Prong, which flows north/northeast and discharges into the Indian River Lagoon.

Herndon Swamp remains as the prominent drainage feature in the northwest portion of the park. Adjacent lands generally drain to the swamp, then northeast towards the North Prong of the St. Sebastian River. Drainage northeast through the swamp has been disrupted by elevated roadbeds, a power line easement and I-95. Some flow in Herndon Swamp does continue northeast through culverts under I-95. Drainage through the swamp had also been disrupted by several ditches that diverted the historic flow southward to the C-54 Canal. In 2000-2005 mitigation monies were sought to fill in several of these ditches in efforts to restore the natural drainage to the greatest extent practical. Approximately ten miles of ditches were filled in the park at no cost to the state. However, an additional 60 miles still need to be evaluated for potential filling.

The southwest quadrant of the park contains the Carson Platt Tract and a portion of the Coraci Tract, where a high sandy ridge west of I-95 divides the quadrant into easterly and westerly drainages. On either side of the ridge, drainage historically flowed away from the ridge as sheetflow. East of the ridge, canals now intercept the sheet flow and divert surface water through culverts under I-95, and on to small creeks connecting to the St. Sebastian River. West of the ridge, 12 ditches running east to west drain into a canal located approximately ½ mile west of the park boundary.

Drainage in the southeast quadrant of the park historically flowed eastward across wet prairies, depression marshes, wet swales, and pine flatwoods, eventually

collecting in numerous small seasonal streams which flowed on to the St. Sebastian River through sandy ridges along the south and west prongs. This pattern was disrupted when numerous ditches were constructed to drain pastures and surrounding wooded areas for agriculture. The network of ditches was connected to existing natural creeks along the eastern edge of the park that empty into the South Prong of the St. Sebastian River and the C-54 Canal. In addition, several raised roadbeds constructed through the southeast quadrant of the park intercept sheet flow and divert it into the network of drainage ditches.

The park has endured a number of hydrologic alterations, including major disruptions within the park, and large-scale modifications to surrounding properties. Irreversible changes have occurred, complicating restoration efforts.

The first hydrologic alteration occurred in 1916 with the construction of the Fellsmere Canal. The canal is still present today and is located immediately south of the C-54 Canal. It drained marshland west of the park, carrying the water east to the West Prong of the St. Sebastian River. The second major change occurred in the early 1920s when the Graves Brothers constructed 12 miles of elevated logging tram roads throughout the park. A railroad was installed on the tram roads and used to transport timber to Wabasso. The tracks were removed prior to 1937, but the tram roads are still present and serve as an obstacle to sheetflow.

Other than these two changes, natural drainage patterns within and around were still functioning as of 1943. Review of aerial photography from that year revealed that no canals had been built between Micco Road and the Fellsmere Canal. In the 1950s, a series of canals were built north of the park, including North Canal. Citrus groves were planted north and east of the park in the 1960s. The Hudman Tree Farm and two V-shaped canals were built in 1963. The northern drainage channel for Herndon Swamp was destroyed and replaced by North Canal. Florida Power Company installed double power lines on the east side of the park in 1957, and Florida Gas installed an underground gas line through the center of the park in 1958. Both lines required construction of cleared, elevated roads. Culverts were installed in the sections through the swamp.

The C-54 Canal was constructed in 1968. It was built on top of the West Prong of the St. Sebastian River and is bordered by large levees. The canal splits the park into northern and southern halves. Southerly drainage from the northern half of the park was provided by five drainage outlets to the canal. The outlets were not placed at points of natural drainage. The C-54 Canal and the drainage outlets reduced southerly drainage and had a major impact on the hydrology of the park.

Interstate-95 was built from 1968 to 1970, and split the park into disjunct east and west units. Although numerous culverts were placed under the highway, I-95 caused major changes in drainage patterns. Six borrow pits, with associated haul roads, were dug along the road corridor to provide fill for the elevated highway. A portion of flatwoods was cleared for an asphalt plant during construction of the highway and is an open field today. Two additional underground gas lines were installed on the west side of the I-95 corridor in 1970 and 1995.

After the alterations, portions of the Corrigan Tract no longer drained effectively and some areas became excessively wet. Many shallow ditches were dug between 1968 and 1993 to provide relief from flooding, to protect pine trees and restore cattle forage. In some cases, the ditching may have been too extensive, as some plant communities now have an insufficient hydroperiod to perpetuate themselves. For example, much of the wet prairie community in the park has an insufficient hydroperiod and is being invaded by woody shrubs and/or pine trees. Similarly, much of the basin swamp community has unnatural understory components and would benefit from a longer hydroperiod.

Three large ditches were constructed on the Mary A and Egan Tracts prior to purchase by the State. The three interconnected ditches extended from the north boundary of the park and emptied into the C-54 Canal. In 1999, the ditch located in the Mary A parcel (the northernmost of the three ditches) was backfilled as part of a mitigation project. As a part of another mitigation project, the northern portion of Egan ditch was also backfilled. The remainder of the ditch was filled in 2003 as part of a Florida FDEP Restoration project. Monitoring reports associated with these projects submitted to SJRWMD indicate that the hydrology has been successfully restored as evidenced by the high-water elevation in the wetlands; recruitment of appropriate wetland vegetation was also apparent and is expected to continue.

Many ditches were present on the extreme southern portions of the Coraci Tract prior to 1943; however, minimal interior ditching was present on the majority of the site. The ditches presumably were constructed to promote agricultural development in the area, primarily improved pasture for cattle grazing. Additional ditch construction accompanied conversion of natural habitat to agricultural lands until the early 1990s. Larger drainage canals including the Fleming Grant Canal, two canals associated with the industrial park, and several unnamed canals were constructed after 1943. The two canals associated with the industrial park are deeded, maintained drainage easements.

Hydrologic Restoration Projects: Hydrologic alterations within and around the park have been extensive. The system of ditches constructed to improve drainage for agricultural land uses has significantly impacted many natural communities by altering historic drainage patterns, reducing the level and duration of inundation in wetlands, and reducing water retention in pine flatwoods communities. Ecological consequences of the increased drainage and reduced hydroperiod include a decrease in the size of many isolated wetland communities, shifts in the species composition and the physiognomy of plant communities, invasion by exotic species, and the encroachment of mesophytic species into wetlands. Drainage has also facilitated an increase in the frequency and intensity of fire in communities where infrequent low intensity fires would occur, such as dome, hydric hammock, and floodplain swamp. This has resulted in significant damage to many forested wetland areas, especially isolated cypress or black gum dominated dome and baygall communities.

Restoration of all impacted areas will not be possible; some alterations such as I-95 and the C-54 Canal are permanent. However, a number of objectives and action items have been identified and are identified in the "Resource Management Program/Management Goals, Objectives, and Actions" section of the UMP.

#### **Natural Communities**

This section of the management plan describes and assesses each of the natural communities found in the state park. It also describes the desired future condition (DFC) of each natural community and identifies the actions that will be required to bring the community to its desired future condition. Specific management objectives and actions for natural community management, exotic species management, imperiled species management [and population restoration] are discussed in the Resource Management Program section of this component.

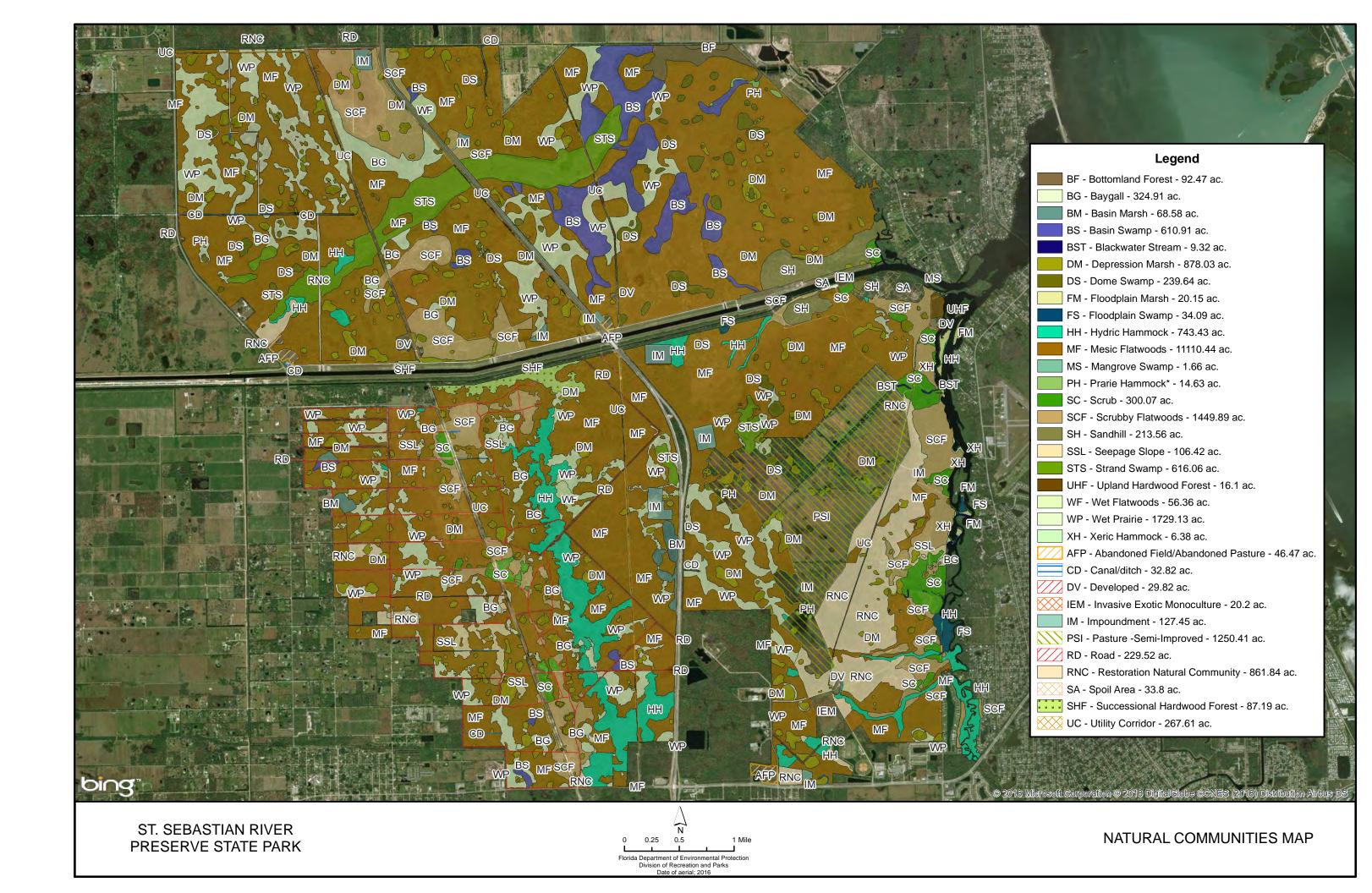
The system of classifying natural communities employed in this plan was developed by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI). The premise of this system is that physical factors such as climate, geology, soil, hydrology and fire frequency generally determine the species composition of an area, and that areas that are similar with respect to those factors will tend to have natural communities with similar species compositions. Obvious differences in species composition can occur, however, despite similar physical conditions. In other instances, physical factors are substantially different, yet the species compositions are quite similar. For example, coastal strand and scrub--two communities with similar species compositions--generally have quite different climatic environments, and these necessitate different management programs. Some physical influences, such as fire frequency, may vary from FNAI's descriptions for certain natural communities in this plan.

When a natural community within a park reaches the desired future condition, it is considered to be in a "maintenance condition." Required actions for sustaining a community's maintenance condition may include; maintaining optimal fire return intervals for fire dependent communities, ongoing control of non-native plant and animal species, maintaining natural hydrological functions (including historic water flows and water quality), preserving a community's biodiversity and vegetative structure, protecting viable populations of plant and animal species (including those that are imperiled or endemic), and preserving intact ecotones that link natural communities across the landscape.

The park contains 22 distinct natural communities as well as altered landcover types (see Natural Communities Map). A list of known plants and animals occurring in the park is contained in Addendum 5.

#### **Upland Hardwood Forest**

Desired Future Condition: This community is characterized as having a well-developed, closed canopy dominated by deciduous hardwood tree species on mesic soils in areas that are sheltered from fire. At St. Sebastian River Preserve overstory tree species will include pignut hickory (Carya glabra), live oak (Quercus virginiana), laurel oak (Q. laurifolia), sugarberry (Celtis laevigata), and southern magnolia (Magnolia grandiflora). Understory species will include trees and shrubs such as beautyberry (Callicarpa americana), hog plum (Ximenia americana). Carolina laurelcherry (Prunus caroliniana), American elm (Ulmus americana), gum bully (Sideroxylon lanuginosum), and red bay (Persea borbonia). Ground cover will consist of various shade tolerant herbaceous species, sedges, and vines.



Description and Assessment: This community occurs adjacent to the Sebastian River and just south of the peninsula. The natural community is in fair condition. Several cultural sites are located within this community and therefore have resulted in long term soil disturbance which has allowed invasive plants, mainly rosary pea and Cogon Grass to gain a foothold. Feral hogs also prefer this shaded community. An aggressive exotic animal removal program must be continued and strengthened.

General Management Measures: FWC funded contractors to treat the invasive exotic plants Rosary Pea and Cogon Grass within this community in 2015. It is imperative to continue treatment of these aggressive exotic plants in order to eventually achieve the desired future condition.

#### Prairie Mesic Hammock

Desired Future Condition: Mesic hammock is a well-developed evergreen hardwood and/or palm forest which occurs, with variation, throughout much of peninsular Florida. At St. Sebastian River Preserve a variant of mesic hammock, prairie mesic hammock, is represented at various locations throughout the park. In general, prairie mesic hammocks are characterized as isolated patches of canopied hammock found within a larger matrix of fire-adapted vegetation (usually dry prairie or mesic flatwoods). Dominant vegetation will include cabbage palm (Sabal palmetto), live oak, or a mixture of the two species. Common species in therelatively open understory will include saw palmetto (Serenoa repens), wax myrtle (Myrica cerifera), stoppers (Eugenia spp.), marlberry (Ardisia escallonioides), and various epiphytes. Soils may include a thick leaf layer underlain by mixed sands and organic material deposited over a limestone substrate. At St. Sebastian River Preserve prairie mesic hammock will be allowed to burn on the same frequency as the adjacent fire type community, allowing fires to naturally burn across ecotones. On organic substrates, fires will be appropriately planned to avoid high intensity ground fires resulting in the upper soil level being completely consumed.

Description and Assessment: This community is located primarily on the southern half of the park. Prairie hammocks remaining within existing natural communities appear to be in very good condition, with minimal invasion of exotic plants. Hammocks occurring within disturbed areas typically have some Brazilian pepper (Schinus terebinthifolius), Caesarweed (Urena lobate), and other exotic plant species. Several prairie hammocks occur within the existing cattle lease. These hammocks, exhibit trails and browse lines from regular cattle use. Feral pigs (Sus scrofa) also frequent prairie hammocks, particularly when acorns are dropping. Invasion of exotic plants and animal species is the biggest threat to this community. Exotic plant species invade individual hammocks and replace the native understory vegetation; exotic animals such as feral pigs root up and destroy ground cover vegetation.

General Management Measures: Continued treatment of the non-native plant and animal species discussed above as well as increased fire frequency of the surrounding natural communities are the most important management actions that need to be implemented in order to achieve the desired future conditions.

#### Xeric Hammock

Desired Future Condition: Xeric hammock is characterized as an evergreen forest growing on well-drained sandy soils. At St. Sebastian River Preserve, xeric hammock is considered a late successional stage of scrub or sandhill that occurs in small isolated patches on excessively well drained soils. The primary vegetation of this community will consist of a low, closed canopy dominated by sand live oak (Quercus geminata) which provides shady conditions for other plant species. Other overstory plant species will include Chapman's oak (Quercus chapmanii), and laurel oak (Q. laurifolia). Sand pine (Pinus clausa), South Florida slash pine (P. elliottii var. densa), and longleaf pine (P. palustris) will also be present as a minor overstory component. Understory species found in this community will include saw palmetto, fetterbush (Lyonia lucida), rusty fetterbush (L. ferruginea), myrtle oak (Quercus myrtifolia), yaupon holly (Ilex vomitoria), Hercules' club (Zanthoxylum clava-herculis), and Florida rosemary (Ceratiola ericoides). A sparse groundcover layer of wiregrass (Aristida stricta var. beyrichiana) and other herbaceous species may exist but will typically be absent. A continuous leaf litter layer may also be present.

Description and Assessment: This community type occurs in narrow strips along the St. Sebastian River where it is protected from intense fires. Xeric hammock occurs adjacent to oak scrub and scrubby flatwoods communities, and probably represents an advanced successional stage of these communities.

Epiphytes, including the Florida butterfly orchid (*Encyclia tampensis*) and several species of airplants (*Tillandsia spp.*) are abundant.

General Management Measures: This community is in good condition and no special management actions are proposed.

#### Sandhill

Desired Future Condition: Sandhill communities are characterized by a canopy of widely spaced pine trees with a sparse midstory of deciduous oaks. A moderate to dense groundcover of grasses, herbs, and low shrubs is also typically present. At St. Sebastian River Preserve the dominant pine of sandhill will be longleaf (Pinus palustris). Herbaceous cover will be very dense, containing large quantities of wiregrass, and generally low in stature. Much of the plant diversity in this community is contained within the herbaceous layer and will include other three-awn grasses (Aristida spp.), pineywoods dropseed (Sporobolus junceus), lopsided indiangrass (Sorghastrum secundum), and bluestems (Andropogon spp.). In addition to groundcover and pines, scattered individual tree species such as turkey oak (Quercus laevis), and sand live oak (Quercus geminata) will be present. In old growth conditions, some turkey oaks will be over 100 years old. The Optimal Fire Return Interval for this community will be 1-3 years.

Description and Assessment: This community occurs in the central-eastern portion of the park adjacent to the C-54 Canal. Small patches of sandhill are found on both the north and south sides of the canal. This distribution generally corresponds with deposits of Pomello sand on well-drained ridges that occurred along the old West Prong of the St. Sebastian River. This represents one of the southernmost occurrences of this community type in the region. Protected wildlife species that are observed in the sandhill include the Florida gopher frog (Rana capito), eastern indigo snake and gopher tortoise (Gopherus polyphemus). This community is in excellent condition. However, African Jewelfish (Hemichromis letourneuxi) has been recently discovered in the nearby depression marshes which support gopher frog breeding. This exotic fish is known to eat tadpoles and no gopher frog tadpoles were discovered in the most recent surveys of the depression marshes surrounding the sandhill where they once occurred. This exotic fish could greatly impact the future of the gopher frog.

General Management Measures: The community is in excellent condition because several restoration projects have occurred over the last decade within this habitat in order to achieve the desired future conditions. Although it is currently in excellent condition, it will need to continued prescribed fire application every 18-24 months preferably in the growing season to remain in that condition. The sandhill sites serve as some of the most productive red-cockaded woodpecker habitats on the park and continued low-intensity, high-frequency fire will ensure that their current and future cavity trees will flourish.

## <u>Scrub</u>

Desired Future Condition: Within scrub habitats, the dominant plant species will include scrub oak (*Quercus inopina*), sand live oak, myrtle oak, Chapman's oak, saw palmetto, and rusty staggerbush (*Lyonia ferruginea*). Optimally there will be a mix of short and medium height scrub 4-5 feet tall and no tall scrub greater than 5 feet with abundant open sandy areas that support many imperiled and/or endemic plant species including large-flowered rosemary (*Conradina grandiflora*); these species will be regularly flowering and replenishing their seed banks. In addition, sand pine (*Pinus clausa*), where present, will usually not be dominant in abundance, percent cover, or height. Some areas of mature sand pine may occur because due to fire management and providing mosaic, it is impossible to have more than 70 percent of scrub in optimal condition at one point in time. The Optimal Fire Return Interval for this community is difficult to define and is more dependent upon continued observations of scrub height and structure rather than a defined period. The goal will be to attain optimal scrub height with open sandy patches and a mosaic of burned and unburned areas.

Description and Assessment: Scrub occurs in several locations along the eastern edge of the park on sandy ridges adjacent to the St. Sebastian River known as the Atlantic Coastal Ridge and along a sand ridge on the Carson Platt and Corrigan parcels known as the Ten Mile Ridge. Several listed species occur in scrub in the park including large-flowered rosemary (*Conradina grandiflora*), Curtiss' milkweed

(Asclepias curtissii), and Florida scrub-jays (Aphelocoma coerulescens). The scrub in the park is in a variety of conditions ranging from poor to excellent. Major efforts have been put into restoring this community type for the benefit of the Florida scrub-jay since St. Sebastian River Preserve comprises the largest portion of the south Brevard-Indian River-St. Lucie metapopulation, which is the fourth largest metapopulation in the state. Over the past 2 decades grants to improve scrub have been provided by the USFWS, FWC, and TNC.

General Management Measures: Scrub is the most difficult natural community to manage at St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park. Scrub is one of those natural communities that most likely would have burned and been maintained by fires that occurred under extreme weather conditions including very low humidity, very high temperatures, long term droughts, and/or very high winds. These conditions cannot be reproduced or imitated under prescribed fire conditions due to St. Sebastian's proximity to urban interface such as Interstate 95, schools, airports, neighborhoods, etc. Prior to burning a particular zone containing scrub, the vegetation within the scrub must be mechanically treated. Vegetation treatments allow the fuels to die and dry out as well as change the compaction of the fuels to make it easier to achieve desired prescribed fire outcomes under moderate weather conditions

## Wet Flatwoods

Desired Future Condition: Wet flatwood are pine forests characterized by a sparse or absent midstory and a dense groundcover of water-loving (hyrdrophytic) grasses, herbs, and low shrubs. At St. Sebastian River Preserve dominant pine species will be longleaf (*Pinus palustris*) and South Florida slash (*Pinus elliottii* var. densa). Pond cypress (*Taxodium ascendens*) will reach canopy height in some locations of the park. The canopy will be open, with pines being widely scattered and of variable age classes. Native herbaceous cover will include hooded pitcherplants (*Sarracenia minor*) and other plants such as terrestrial orchids will be present and abundant in some areas. Common shrubs will include fetterbush (*Lyonia lucida*), gallberry (*Ilex glabra*), and wax myrtle. The Optimal Fire Return Interval for this community will be 2-4 years.

Description and Assessment: Wet flatwoods in the park are in fair to good condition, depending on the level of hydrological disturbance. In areas with minimal disturbance, the community is intact. In areas with adjacent drainage canals, the wet flatwoods community is transitioning to mesic flatwoods.

General Management Measures: Continued back filling of drainage ditches is needed to protect and restore this community. Continued treatment of invasive plants and a more aggressive fire return interval are also needed.

#### Mesic Flatwoods:

Desired Future Condition: Mesic flatwoods are characterized by an open canopy of tall pines and a dense, low ground layer of low shrubs, grasses and forbs. This community has minimal topographic relief and the soils contain a hardpan layer within a few feet of the surface which impedes percolation of water. Due to these factors, water can saturate the sandy surface soils for extended periods during the

wet season but lengthy droughts also commonly occur during the dry season. At St. Sebastian River Preserve longleaf and South Florida slash will be the dominant pine species. Shrub species found in this community will include saw palmetto, gallberry (*Ilex glabra*), fetterbush (*Lyonia lucida*), coastalplain staggerbush (*Lyonia fruticosa*), dwarf live oak (*Quercus minima*), shiny blueberry (*Vaccinium myrsinites*), and dwarf huckleberry (*Gaylussacia dumosa*). The herbaceous layer will consist primarily of grasses including wiregrass, pineywoods dropseed (*Sporobolus junceus*), and broomsedge (*Andropogon* spp.). The Optimal Fire Return Interval for this community will be 1-3 years.

Description and Assessment: This is the most widely represented natural community in the park. Mesic flatwoods have been impacted by a number of disturbances including ditching, timbering, stumping, the construction of roads and utility easements, and conversion of native ground cover to improved pasture. These disturbances have resulted in localized changes in species composition, diversity and abundance, and have provided sites for invasion of exotic plant species. Changes in hydrology resulting from the ditch network and the prior conversion of native ground cover to improved pasture are the most problematic of these disturbances and will require significant restoration efforts.

Despite these perturbations, the majority of the mesic flatwoods on the northern portion of the park are in good to excellent condition. In fact, flatwoods on the northeast section of the park have been touted as some of the best examples of flatwoods in the state of Florida. This is due to an ongoing collaborative project between the USFWS Coastal Program, Tall Timber's Upland Ecosystem Restoration Project and the St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park. The goal of the project is to increase application of prescribed fire and mechanical treatments (roller chopping) to benefit imperiled and declining fire-dependent wildlife species and the natural communities they depend upon. A majority of the flatwoods on the northeast quadrant have been rollerchopped in the spring, mainly March and April, and then immediately burned 4-8 weeks later in May or June. This has resulted in a drastic transition of a mostly saw palmetto dominated understory to a diverse grass dominated understory. The zones that have received this treatment have then been placed on an 18-24-month fire return interval. As mentioned earlier almost all of the flatwoods on the northeast guadrant have received this treatment. When that section of the park is completed, additional grant funding will be sought to continue the project within the mesic flatwoods on the northwest quadrant of the park.

In general, upon state acquisition, the north side of the park contained much higher species diversity and much more open character of the land which can be attributed to the former owners' fire management program and much lower cattle stocking rate than the south side of the park. Much of the mesic flatwoods on the southern half of the park have not been burned as frequently and generally exhibit much heavier fuel loads.

General Management Measures: The mesic flatwoods located on the northeast quadrant require diligent effort to keep those zones on an 18-24-month fire return interval in order to preserve the very diverse low stature grass understory. On the

northwest section of the park the same strategy discussed above that has been implemented by the collaboration between the USFWS, UERP and SSRPSP will need to be initiated and completed. Some of the flatwoods on the south side of the park will need extensive timbering before a prescribed fire can be initiated. Some of the flatwoods have not been burned since state acquisition due to their extremely high fuel loading that was inherited from previous management. In order to implement prescribed fire, these zones will have to be timbered and chopped. All flatwoods on the park are at risk of Cogon grass (*Imperata cylindrica*) and Jaragua grass (*Hyparrhenia rufa*) infestations. Park staff and contractors have done a good job treating infestations within mesic flatwoods, but efforts will need to be increased.

# Scrubby flatwoods

Desired Future Condition: Scrubby flatwoods are characterized by having an open canopy of widely spaced pine trees and a low, shrubby understory dominated by scrub oaks and saw palmetto. At St. Sebastian River Preserve the dominant tree species of the interior portions of scrubby flatwoods will be longleaf pine (Pinus palustris) and South Florida slash pine. Mature sand pines will typically not be present. There will be a diverse shrubby understory often with patches of bare white sand scattered throughout. A scrub-type oak "canopy" will contain a variety of oak age classes/heights across the landscape. Dominant shrubs will include sand live oak, myrtle oak, Chapman's oak, saw palmetto, rusty staggerbush (Lyonia ferruginea), and tarflower (Bejaria racemosa). Cover by herbaceous species will often be low to moderately dense. At St. Sebastian, common herbaceous species of scrubby flatwoods will include wiregrass, chalky bluestem (Andropogon virginicus var. glaucus), broomsedge bluestem (Andropogon virginicus var. virginicus), dwarf huckleberry (Gaylussacia dumosa), gopher apple (Licania michauxii), and shiny blueberry (Vaccinium myrsinites). Rare plants found in this community will include pine pinweed (Lechea divaricata) and nodding pinweed (Lechea cernua). The Optimal Fire Return Interval for this community will be 4-6 years, with management goals of maintaining suitable habitat for the Florida scrub- jay (Aphelocoma coerulescens) and creating a mosaic of burned and unburned areas.

Description and Assessment: Scrubby flatwoods are situated along north to south oriented sandy ridges on the east side of I-95 and along the South Prong of the St. Sebastian River. Its distribution corresponds with deposits of Eau Gallie sand and Electra sand 0-5 percent slopes. Scrubby flatwoods typically occur in a mosaic with mesic flatwoods and scrub.

This community is characterized by an open canopy of longleaf pine and a diverse mix of mesic flatwoods and scrub species in the understory. The presence of myrtle oak and Chapman's oak are key indicators of this community type. The ground cover includes a mix of wiregrass, gopher apple, running oak (*Q. pumila*), narrowleaf silkgrass (*Pityopsis graminifolia*), and various other grasses and herbs. Wildlife found in scrubby flatwoods includes gopher frogs, gopher tortoises, eastern indigo snakes and Florida scrub-jays. Scrubby flatwoods are utilized extensively by scrub-jays.

The condition of this community varies considerably throughout the park. Patches burned at regular intervals (every 4-6 years) are in very good condition. Most scrubby flatwoods patches in the northern half of the unit are in very good condition because of regular prescribed burning. Scrubby flatwoods on the southern half of the park were in poor to fair quality before state acquisition due to lack of regular fire. However, much like the scrub habitat mentioned earlier, they have received much management attention since state acquisition and exhibit measurable habitat improvements.

General Management Measures: As with scrub, prescribed burning overgrown scrubby flatwoods can be very difficult due to the lack of fine fuels available to carry fire into the oak canopy. As with scrub, mechanical techniques such as roller chopping speed up the restoration process by immediately reducing the stature of the oak canopy and providing fuels to carry fire. Roller chopping in conjunction with prescribed burning also creates open patches that are important for scrub-jays.

## Seepage Slope

Desired Future Condition: Seepage slope is an open, grass-sedge dominated community kept continuously moist by groundwater seepage. This community typically occurs in fragmented topography with large (30 to 50 ft.) variations in elevation and is usually bordered by well-drained sandhill or upland pine habitat. At St. Sebastian River Preserve dominant herbaceous species of seepage slope communities will include wiregrass (drier portions), toothache grass (Ctenium aromaticum), plumed beaksedge (Rhynchospora plumosa), hooded pitcherplant (Sarracenia minor), and sundews (Drosera spp.). Scattered shrubs will include gallberry (Ilex glabra) and coastalplain St. John's-wort (Hypericum brachyphyllum). The Optimal Fire Return Interval for this community will be 1-3 years.

Description and Assessment: The seepage slope community is found in one area on the south-central portion of the park. This community type is situated between two sandy ridges. The seepage slope is vegetated by a dense growth of fetterbush and gallberry with no overstory and minimal ground cover that includes both cutthroat grass and hooded pitcher plants. This seepage area transitions upslope into mesic flatwoods and scrub. This community appears to be in good condition.

General Management Measures: Although this community is in good condition, it nevertheless experiences disturbed hydrology by the series of 13 east/west ditches that traverse the Carson Platt property. These ditches are currently within the Fellsmere Water Control District Easements and cannot be restored at this time. However, the park should continue to communicate with Fellsmere Water Control District in case there is a time in which these ditches can be filled and restored. Also, a 1-3 year fire return interval needs to be achieved within the seepage slopes and Old World climbing fern (*Lygodium microphyllum*), that oftentimes establishes in this community, should continue to be treated.

#### Wet Prairie

Desired Future Condition: Wet prairie is an herbaceous community found on wet soils on somewhat flat or gentle slopes located between lower-lying depression

marshes, shrub bogs, or dome swamps and slightly higher wet or mesic flatwoods, or dry prairie. At St. Sebastian River Preserve trees will be few or absent in wet prairie communities. Groundcover will be dense and will include wiregrass, blue maidencane (*Amphicarpum muhlenbergianum*) and various sedges (*Carex* spp.). Flowering herbs found in wet prairie will include purple false foxglove (*Agalinis purpurea*), pipeworts (*Eriocaulon* spp.), milkworts (*Polygala* spp.), meadowbeauties (*Rhexia* spp.), rosegentians (*Sabatia* spp.), yellow-eyed grass (*Xyris spp.*), white-top sedge (*Rhynchosporo latifolia*), and numerous composite species from a variety of genera. Carnivorous species in wetter areas will include hooded pitcher plants (*Sarracenia minor*), sundews (*Drosera* spp.), butterworts (*Pinguicula* spp.), and bladderworts (*Utricularia spp.*). The Optimal Fire Return Interval for this community will be 2-3 years.

Description and Assessment: Wet prairie is scattered throughout the park. This community generally occurs in association with mesic flatwoods, dome and basin swamp communities. It is characterized by irregularly shaped, seasonally flooded drainages or depressions vegetated by a diversity of grasses, sedges, rushes, pipeworts, and other herbaceous species with sandweed and scattered slash pine and wax myrtle.

Wet prairie is extremely sensitive to hydrologic alterations; almost the entire historic wet prairie on the park has been heavily impacted. The construction of I-95, internal roads and utility easements, and interior drainage ditches altered historic flow patterns and decreased the frequency and duration of inundation. This has resulted in the invasion of woody shrub species and pine trees into an herbaceous species dominated community. On portions of the site, fire exclusion has also contributed to the invasion of woody species onto wet prairie.

General Management Measures: Restoration of wet prairie will require continued backfilling or plugging of ditches to eliminate or reduce drainage and re-establish historic drainage patterns by installing culverts through roads and berms. Restoring hydrological conditions couples with prescribed fire should recover the wet prairie community. In areas where heavy encroachment of woody species has occurred, which is most obvious on the northwest quadrant of the park, mechanical techniques such as roller chopping may be utilized to speed up or improve the efficacy of the restoration process.

## Depression Marsh

Desired Future Condition: Depression marsh is characterized as a shallow, usually rounded, depression in sand substrate with herbaceous vegetation or small shrubs. Depression marsh typically occurs in landscapes occupied by fire-dominated communities such as mesic flatwoods, dry prairie, or sandhill. At St. Sebastian River Preserve trees will be few and, if present, will occur primarily in the deeper portions of this natural community. Dominant vegetation will include maidencane (Panicum hemitomon), panic grasses (Panicum spp.), common reed (Phragmites australis), pickerelweed (Pontederia cordata), arrowheads (Sagittaria spp.), common buttonbush (Cephalanthus occidentalis), peelbark St. John's wort (Hypericum fasciculatum), and Carolina willow (Salix caroliniana). The Optimal Fire

Return Interval for this community will be 2-10 years and is dependent on the fire frequency of adjacent communities.

Description and Assessment: The depression marsh community is characterized by seasonally wet ponds scattered throughout the matrix of other communities found in the park. Vegetation in the community type includes a diverse mixture of grasses, sedges, rushes, and aquatic emergent species, organized in concentric bands based on tolerances to the level and duration of inundation. Small tree or shrub islands periodically occur within depression marshes. These wetlands are important breeding grounds for a number of reptiles and amphibians, as well as sandhill cranes (*Grus canadensis*). The quality of depression marshes in the park ranges from excellent to poor.

General Management Measures: Undisturbed depression marshes on this unit are in very good condition and require no special management actions. A number of marshes have been impacted by drainage ditches, roads and firelines. Marshes impacted by drainage ditches exhibit characteristic signs of encroachment by mesic species and a reduction in size due to a reduction in the level and duration of inundation. These ditches need to be filled to recover these wetlands. Some roads and firelines pass through or around the perimeter of several marshes. Where possible, these roads and firelines will be rerouted. The invasive exotic aquatic species, African Jewelfish (Hemichromis letournexi) was recently documented in several depression marshes. Surveys have shown that gopher frog tadpoles have disappeared from these marshes since the appearance of this exotic fish. Staff is currently working with FWC fisheries biologists to determine a course of action for eliminating the African Jewelfish from the marshes, but currently no reasonable method exists.

## Basin Marsh

Desired Future Condition: Basin marshes are typically inundated freshwater herbaceous wetlands that may occur in a variety of situations. In contrast to depression marshes, basin marshes are not small or shallow inclusions found within fire-dominated communities. Species composition in basin marshes can generally be divided into submersed, floating-leaved, emergent, and grassy zones depending on water depth. At St. Sebastian River Preserve trees will be few and, if present, will occur primarily in the deeper portions of this natural community. There will be little accumulation of dead grassy fuels due to frequent burning; one should be able to see the soil surface through the vegetation when the community is not inundated with water. Dominant vegetation of basin marsh will include maidencane (Panicum hemitomon), common reed (Phragmites australis), pickerelweed (Pontederia cordata), arrowheads (Sagittaria spp.), common buttonbush (Cephalanthus occidentalis), peelbark St. John's wort (Hypericum fasciculatum), and Carolina willow. The Optimal Fire Return Interval for this community will be 2-10 years and is dependent on the fire frequency of adjacent communities.

Description: Basin marsh occurs only in one area adjacent to I-95 on the southwest quadrant of the park and just below one of the many borrow pits that occurs in the park that were constructed by FDOT to help with drainage of I-95. Currently this

community has a higher than desirable shrub layer and excess fuel buildup. It also contains several invasive plant species most notably, Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebithifolis*) and Wright's nutrush (*Sclera lacustris*). Due to the presence of extensive wetland communities to the south and east, as well as the series of large ditches that surround this general area of the park, it is often very difficult if not impossible to reliably access this portion of the park. In addition to these complications, the community is adjacent to I-95 which makes this area very difficult to burn on the desired fire return interval. Therefore, this community is only in fair condition.

General Management Measures: The improvement of this community is dependent upon a hydrological assessment that can determine if more culverts are needed and practical under I-95 or if ditches surrounding this community can be filled in without causing off-site impacts. Access to this area needs to be improved without impacting the hydrology any further so that weedy invasive plant species can be treated and maintained. Once access is improved, fire can be applied more reliably, however, this community is adjacent to I-95 and therefore complicates fire application.

## Floodplain Marsh

Desired Future Condition: Floodplain marsh is a wetland community that occurs in river floodplains and is dominated by herbaceous and/or shrubby vegetation. At St. Sebastian River Preserve trees will be few and, if present, will occur primarily in the deeper portions of this natural community. There will be little accumulation of dead grassy fuels due to frequent burning; one should be able to see the soil surface through the vegetation when the community is not inundated with water. Dominant vegetation in floodplain marsh will include sand cordgrass (Spartina bakeri), sawgrass (Cladium jamaicense), maidencane, panicgrasses (Panicum spp.), common reed (Phragmites australis), pickerelweed, arrowheads (Sagittaria spp.), common buttonbush (Cephalanthus occidentalis), peelbark St. John's wort (Hypericum fasciculatum), and Carolina willow. The Optimal Fire Return Interval for this community will be 2-10 years and is dependent on the fire frequency of adjacent communities.

Description and Assessment: Floodplain marsh occurs in several small patches along the south prong of the St. Sebastian River. This community is maintained by periodic flooding of the river. Floodplain marsh is vegetated primarily by sand cordgrass (*Spartina bakeri*), giant leather fern (*Acrostichum danaeifolium*), and string-lily (*Crinum americanum*). Common buttonsbush and pond apple (Annona glabra) also occur sporadically. Floodplain marsh on this unit is generally in fair to good condition. Some areas have been invaded by Brazilian pepper, wild taro (Colocasia esculenta), and Old World Climbing Fern.

General Management Measures: The only special management action proposed for this community is the continued treatment of invading exotic plants.

#### Dome Swamp

Desired Future Condition: Dome swamp is an isolated, forested, depression wetland

that occurs within fire maintained communities such as mesic flatwoods. Although these swamps are typically small in size, some may be large and shallow. The characteristic dome appearance is created by smaller trees that grow on the outer edge of the swamp (water is shallower and there is less peat in the soils) and larger trees that grow in the interior. At St. Sebastian River Preserve, pond cypress will typically dominate this community, but swamp tupelo (Nyssa sylvatica var. biflora) may also form a pure stand or occur as a co-dominant species. Other subcanopy species will include red maple (Acer rubrum), dahoon holly (Ilex cassine), swamp bay (Persea palustris), and loblolly bay (Gordonia lasianthus). Shrubs will be absent to moderate, depending on fire frequency, and will include Virginia willow (Itea virginica), fetterbush (Lyonia lucida), common buttonbush, and wax myrtle. Herbaceous species will range from absent to dense within this community and will include various ferns, maidencane, sawgrass (Cladium jamaicense), sedges (Carex spp.), lizard's tail (Saururus cernuus), and sphagnum moss (Sphagnum spp.). Vines and epiphytes will also be commonly found. Because maintaining the appropriate hydrology and fire frequency is crucial to preserving the structure and species composition of this natural community, the dome swamps at St. Sebastian River Preserve will be allowed to burn on the same frequency as the adjacent fire type community, thus allowing fires to naturally burn across ecotones.

Description and Assessment: Domes occur in shallow depressions within mesic flatwoods and wet prairie communities. Domes are typically vegetated by pond cypress, which are frequently covered in bromeliads, with a mixed understory of hydrophytic shrubs such as wax myrtle, sandweed, and common buttonbush. Ground cover vegetation is variable. In more open cypress domes, a vigorous carpet of maidencane or pickerelweed may occur; in domes with denser canopies, the ground cover may be limited to a few ferns.

Domes within the park are in excellent to poor condition, depending upon the level of disturbance. Undisturbed domes whose ecotones have received frequent fire and whose hydrology has been maintained typically have a very open understory with few shrubs and encroaching mesic species. Domes that are disturbed have typically had their hydrology disrupted and contain significant numbers of encroaching mesic species like slash pine, presence of invasive exotic plant species, and evidence of intense fires.

General Management Measures: Management activities for domes that are in good to excellent condition include maintenance of the appropriate hydroperiod, continued low intensity burning at the appropriate fire return interval of the surrounding fire dependent communities, and protection of bromeliads from collectors. Domes that have been drained by ditches and are in fair to poor condition will require hydrological restoration by the backfilling of ditches and continued survey and treatment of invasive exotic plant species. Feral hog often take refuge in wet shady domes and can cause catastrophic ground disturbance in these systems. An aggressive feral hog management program must be adopted and maintained for the protection of this natural community.

## Basin Swamp

Desired Future Condition: Basin swamps are forested basin wetlands that are highly variable in size, shape, and species composition that can withstand an extended hydroperiod. While mixed species canopies are common within this community, the dominant trees of basin swamps at St. Sebastian River Preserve will be pond cypress and swamp tupelo. Other canopy species will include South Florida slash pine, red maple, dahoon holly, and loblolly bay. Shrub species will include a variety of species including Virginia willow (Itea virginica), swamp dogwood (Cornus foemina), and wax myrtle. The herbaceous component will be variable and may include a wide variety of species such as maidencane, ferns, arrowheads (Sagittaria spp.), lizard's tail (Saururus cernuus), and sphagnum moss (Sphagnum spp.). At St. Sebastian River Preserve fire intervals in this community will vary and will be dependent on factors such as dominant vegetation, fire exposure, and drought.

Description and Assessment: Basin swamp occurs in several locations on the northern half of the park adjacent to Herndon Swamp. This community type occurs in shallow depressions of EauGallie, Wabasso and Felda sands. Basin swamps are characterized by irregularly shaped, seasonally flooded depressions surrounded by mesic flatwoods and wet prairie. Vegetation includes and overstory of pond-cypress with scattered slash pine and other hydrophytic trees. The understory and ground cover is comprised of a diverse mix of small woody shrubs, grasses, sedges, rushes, pipeworts (Eriocaulon spp.), and other herbaceous species. Most basin swamps have been impacted by increased drainage through the network of ditches constructed prior to purchase by the State. This has altered the hydroperiod of the swamps resulting in encroachment of mesic and weedy pioneer species as well as some invasive plant species. As a result, this community is in fair to poor condition.

General Management Measures: The filling of some of the ditches impacting this natural community has already occurred since state acquisition and drastically improved the hydrologic conditions within. Additional ditch filling should be implemented when feasible.

## Strand Swamp

Desired Future Conditions: Strand swamps are shallow, forested, and typically elongated depressions or channels that are situated in a trough within a flat limestone plain. Soils in this community are composed of peat and sand, often of varying depths, situated over limestone. The normal hydroperiod typically ranges from 100 to 300 days and the water is deepest and remains for a longer time near the center of the strand. At St. Sebastian River Preserve the dominant canopy species will be bald cypress but pond cypress will occasionally be found in abundance as well. Understory plant species will include red maple, pond apple, laurel oak, cabbage palm, strangler fig (Ficus aurea), swamp bay, wax myrtle, and common buttonbush. Common herbaceous species will include swamplily (Crinum americanum), giant leather fern (Acrostichum danaeifolium), swamp fern (Blechnum serrulatum), royal fern (Osmunda regalis), sawgrass (Cladium jamaicense), and waterhyssops (Bacopa spp.). A variety of vines and epiphytes will also be found in this community. Although fire occurs rarely in strand swamps, fires from surrounding pine-dominated communities will often burn into the outer edges.

This is a common occurrence at St. Sebastian River Preserve due to the size of Herndon Swamp and will be managed as appropriate for existing environmental conditions.

Description and Assessment: This community occurs in Herndon Swamp. It occurs primarily on seasonal flooded Floridana, Chobee and Felda soils. Herndon Swamp flows to the northeast and eventually empties into the North Prong of the St. Sebastian River. Herndon Swamp is characterized by a seasonally inundated linear depression vegetated by a diverse overstory of bald cypress, pond cypress, red maple, water hickory, and other hydrophytic trees. Sabal palm, dahoon holly, wax myrtle, and other small trees and shrubs occur in the understory. The ground cover includes a diverse mix of ferns, woodsgrass (Oplismenus hirtellus) and other hydrophytic species.

Herndon Swamp has suffered a number of disturbances. Cypress was harvested from the strand swamp in the 1920's. A large canal on the Egan Tract was used to drain the southwest end of the swamp; the canal was partially filled in through a mitigation project and the remainder was filled in 2003 through a FDEP restoration project. A second canal along the northern boundary of the park was used to divert water from the northeast end of the swamp. However, in 2006-2007 SJRWMD repaired the blow outs into this north canal, so now Herndon Swamp no longer excessively drains into this canal. This action led to increase in the population of rare Hand Ferns that occurs in this portion of the park that were heavily stressed prior to the restoration. SJRWMD also acquired land to the north east and is currently developing it as a restoration site, stormwater park, and recreation area, to restore the historic flow of Herndon Swamp through Alligator Branch and into the North Prong of the St. Sebastian River.

Several utility corridors, I-95, and two old logging roads also impede the natural flow of water through the system. In addition to the increased drainage problems, these disturbances have resulted in the encroachment of exotic or ruderal species and an overall reduction in the size of the swamp.

Feral hogs seek refuge in these shaded, cypress dominated wetland systems and Herndon Swamp is no exception. There are several areas that exhibit signs of complete ground cover and midstory loss due to the presence of feral hogs. They continue to be a major threat to plant diversity within these systems and the cause of the spread of invasive exotic plants within these highly-disturbed soils.

Herndon Swamp is a large feature that traverses much of the entire north portion of the park. Conditions within the swamp range from excellent to poor.

General Management Measures: Management activities required to improve conditions in Herndon Swamp include the elimination of drainage ditches, installation of culverts through roads or berms impeding flow, the removal of exotic plant and animal species, the completion of the SJRWMD Wheeler Park, and the continued surveying of rare and endangered plants such as Hand Fern which are

good indicators that appropriate microclimates are being achieved within this community.

## Floodplain Swamp

Desired Future Conditions: Floodplain swamp is a frequently or permanently flooded community found in low lying areas along streams and rivers. Soils typically consist of a mixture of sand, organics, and alluvial materials. At St. Sebastian River Preserve the closed canopy will be dominated by bald cypress but will also include swamp tupelo as well as water hickory (Carya aquatica), red maple, American elm (Ulmus americana), and swamp laurel oak (Quercus laurifolia). Understory and groundcover will typically be sparse in this community and it is generally too wet to support fire.

Description and Assessment: Floodplain swamp also occurs in several locations along the South Prong of the St. Sebastian River. Vegetation includes a divers overstory of red maple, bald cypress, laurel oak, water hickory, and other hydrophytic trees with a sparse understory including wax myrtle, common buttonbush, Carolina willow, and dahoon holly. The ground cover includes a patchy assemblage of ferns and aquatic emergent species. Exotics such as Brazilian pepper, date palm, and Old World Climbing Fern occur sporadically.

General Management Measures: This community is in fair to good condition and no special management actions other than exotic species control are proposed.

## Baygall

Desired Future Conditions: Baygall is an evergreen, forested, peat-filled wetland community situated in a depression or at the base of slope. Seepage from adjacent upland areas will typically maintain saturated conditions in this natural community. At St. Sebastian River Preserve canopy trees will consist of loblolly bay (Gordonia lasianthus) and swamp bay (Persea palustris). Occasionally sparse pines (Pinus spp.) will also be present. A thick understory consisting of gallberry (Ilex glabra), fetterbush (Lyonia lucida), dahoon holly (Ilex cassine), and red maple will be present with climbing vines such as greenbriar (Smilax spp.) and muscadine grape (Vitis spp.) also found in abundance. The dominant baygall species are typically fire intolerant, indicating an infrequent Optimal Fire Return Interval of 25-100 years. At St. Sebastian River Preserve fires from adjacent communities will be allowed to enter baygall ecotone using careful management techniques to avoid hazards associated with peat fires.

Description and Assessment: Baygall occurs in several seepage-maintained depressions adjacent to Herndon Swamp. The largest representative of this community type occurs in the north-central portion of the park on the west side of I-95; it is maintained by seepage from a large sandy ridge to the north.

Baygall is vegetated by dense stands of loblolly bay with fetterbush, wax myrtle, dahoon holly (*I. cassine*), and other hydrophytic shrubs and small trees in the understory. Ground cover vegetation includes toothed mid-sorus fern (*Blechnum* 

serrulatum), netted chain fern (Woodwardia areolate), cinnamon fern (Osmunda cinnamomea), and other herbaceous species like lizard's tail (Saururus cernuus).

As with most other wetland communities on site, baygall has been impacted by drainage ditches that reduced the hydroperiod and allowed encroachment of mesic species. Increased drainage also allowed more intense fires to encroach, killing canopy trees and setting the community back to an earlier successional stage. While this is a natural part of the life cycle of baygalls, repeated intense fires could eliminate the baygall community altogether. Overall the baygall community is in poor condition.

General Management Measures: Continued ditch restoration, low to moderately intense prescribed fire application, and treatment of encroaching invasive exotic species is required to achieve desired future conditions.

## Hydric Hammock

Desired Future Conditions: Hydric hammock is characterized as an evergreen hardwood and/or palm forest with a closed canopy and variable understory dominated by palms, with sparse to moderate ground cover of grasses and ferns. Soils of this community type are typically moist with limestone very near the surface. At St. Sebastian River Preserve canopy species will include laurel oak, cabbage palm, live oak, swamp tupelo, American elm, red maple and other hydrophytic tree species. Soils will be poorly drained but only occasionally flooded. Prescribed fire will be introduced into hydric hammock communities at St. Sebastian River Preserve by allowing fires to naturally burn across ecotones from fires originating in adjacent upland communities.

Description and Assessment: Hydric hammock occurs along the upper edges of other forested wetland communities and along several seasonal streams. These hammocks are generally vegetated by sabal palm, laurel oak and live oak, with little understory vegetation. Ferns are common in the ground cover. This community type also supports considerable numbers of epiphytes, including hand fern.

Hydric hammocks on site are in good to fair condition, depending on the level of disturbance resulting from drainage, adjacent land conversion, or feral hog activity. Drained areas typically exhibit some soil subsidence and increasing numbers of mesic species. Hammocks adjacent to lands cleared for pasture typically have been invaded by weedy pioneer species and invasive exotics such as Brazilian pepper.

General Management Measures: Recovering the disturbed hydric hammocks on site will require backfilling drainage ditches to restore hydrology and replanting adjacent cleared areas to reduce edge and eliminate seed sources of pioneer species. Invasive exotic plants will need to continue to be treated and maintained and aggressive feral hog management actions undertaken.

#### **Bottomland Forest**

Desired Future Conditions: Bottomland forest is characterized as a low lying, mesic to hydric community prone to periodic flooding. At St. Sebastian River Preserve vegetation will consist of a mature closed canopy of deciduous and evergreen trees. Overstory species will consist of loblolly bay, water oak, sugarberry, and American elm. Pine trees, red maple, and bald cypress may also be present in this community as well. The understory may be open or dense and will include species such as wax myrtle and swamp dogwood. Presence of groundcover will be variable and will consist of witchgrass (Dicanthelium spp.), slender woodoats (Chasmanthium laxum), and various sedges. Fire is typically not a significant factor in this community and is usually limited to random lightning strikes hitting individual trees.

Description and Assessment: Bottomland forest occurs in two locations in the northern half of the park, along the north prong of the St. Sebastian River and the eastern extension of Herndon Swamp. Bottomland forest is characterized by a dense canopy of live oak, water oak, red maple, water hickory, and pignut hickory with a dense subcanopy of sabal palms. A number of species occur in the understory and ground cover including wax myrtle, common buttonbush, twinberry (Myrcianthes fragrans), lizard's tail, toothed mid-sorus fern, netted chain fern, and royal fern. Hand fern, an endangered species, is one of the many species of epiphytes occurring in bottomland forest.

Along the eastern extension of Herndon Swamp, this community was significantly impacted by increased drainage through blow outs into a large ditch along the north boundary of the park known as North Canal; this reduced the quantity and frequency of water flowing through this extension to the north prong of the St. Sebastian River. This promoted the invasion of exotic, native ruderal, and mesic species into the community, and allowed fire to encroach into areas that typically would not burn. This increased drainage into North Canal also impacted epiphyte populations, particularly hand fern, which depends on high humidity levels and protection from frequent fire. This rendered the community in poor condition.

In 2006, just after the approval of the last unit management plan, SJRWMD restored this area so that the swamp no longer drained excessively into north canal. Since that time aggressive management actions were taken to extensively treat all of the invasive exotic plants that had encroached when water had been drained. Also, a steady increase in hand fern has been documented since the completion of this restoration project. As a result, the community has improved from its poor condition assessment in the last UMP to fair.

General Management Measures: Currently, the invasive exotic plants are in maintenance condition but will need annual treatments in order to remain in that condition. In order for the condition of this community to continue to improve aggressive management has to be dedicated to the eradication of feral hogs. Feral hogs seek refuge in the bottomland forest and have left the understory and midstory of this community in poor condition in several places throughout. Continued monitoring of hand fern populations is important to ensure that the

appropriate water levels and microclimates are being maintained within this community.

## Mangrove Swamp

Desired Future Conditions: Mangrove swamp is typically characterized as a dense forest occurring along relatively flat, low wave energy, marine and estuarine shorelines. Soils are generally anaerobic and are saturated with brackish water at all times, becoming inundated at periods of high tide. At St. Sebastian River Preserve the dominant overstory species of this community will include red mangrove (Rhizophora mangle), black mangrove (Avicennia germinans), white mangrove (Laguncularia racemosa), and buttonwood (Conocarpus erectus). These species will occur either in mixed stands or often in differentiated, monospecific zones based on varying degrees of tidal influence, levels of salinity, and type of substrate. Red mangroves will typically dominate the deepest water, followed by black mangrove in the intermediate zone, and white mangroves and buttonwood in the highest, least tidally influenced zone. In general, mangroves will typically occur in dense stands with little to no understory but may also be sparse, particularly in the upper tidal reaches where salt marsh species dominate. When present, shrub species will include seaside oxeye (Borrichia frutescens), and vines including coinvine (Dalbergia ecastaphyllum) and rubbervine (Rhabdadenia biflora), and herbaceous species such as saltwort (Batis maritime), shoregrass (Monanthocloe littoralis), perennial glasswort (Sarcocornia perennis), and giant leather fern (Acrostichum danaeifolium). Mangrove swamp communities are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts such as rising sea levels and the increasing frequency and severity of tropical weather systems.

Description and Assessment: Mangrove swamp covers the perimeter of the peninsula that projects into the South Prong of the St. Sebastian River. Vegetation in this community consists primarily of red mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle*), black mangrove (*Avicennia germinanas*), white mangrove (*Laguncularia racemose*), giant leather fern and string-lily. This community was being overtaken by date palms, Brazilian pepper, and rosary pea, but was recently treated for all category I and II invasive plant species. Currently this community is in good condition.

General Management Measures: At this point the continued maintenance of invasive exotic plant species is the only management activity proposed.

#### Blackwater Stream

Desired Future Conditions: Blackwater stream communities can be characterized as perennial or intermittent watercourses originating in lowlands where extensive wetlands with organic soils collect rainfall and runoff, discharging it slowly into the stream. The stained waters of these communities are typically laden with tannins, particulates, and dissolved organic matter derived from drainage through adjacent swamps. Emergent and floating vegetation may occur along the shallower and slower-moving sections of blackwater streams, but is often limited by steep banks and dramatic seasonal fluctuations in water levels. At St. Sebastian River Preserve species of this community will include goldenclub (*Orontium aquaticum*), dotted smartweed (*Polygonum punctatum*), and various grasses (*Poaceae spp.*) and

sedges (*Cyperus spp.*). Desired conditions will also include minimizing disturbance and alterations and preserving adjacent natural communities.

Description and Assessment: This community type is represented by the upper reaches of the St. Sebastian River and several unnamed tributaries of the river.

The St. Sebastian River drains a watershed of approximately 78 square miles, onethird of which is contained within the park. Significant alterations in past years have dramatically changed the St. Sebastian River. The construction of the Fellsmere Canal (1916) and the C-54 Canal (1968) eliminated the historic West Prong of the river and facilitated the discharge of the large volumes of freshwater and nutrientladen runoff from agricultural lands west of the park into the estuarine system. The upper reaches of the North Prong were canalized and most the associated wetlands north of the park were developed for residential uses or converted to agricultural lands. Residential and agricultural development has occurred along most of the South Prong. Drainage from the surrounding development discharges into the river through canals. All the unnamed tributaries in the park are characterized as seasonal, sand bottom, blackwater streams. Narrow linear wetland corridors are associated with the streams. Most of the historic stream channels remain intact; however, drainage ditches constructed in previous years to drain the park were connected to the streams. Some of the greatest Lygodium infestations occur within these blackwater streams as they provide the perfect microclimate needed for this fern.

General Management Measures: The ditches should be back filled; this will force the water into depressional wetlands that would gradually drain into the streams through interconnected wetlands or as sheetflow. The streams need to be surveyed and treated for invasive plant species, especially Lygodium on an annual basis.

## **Altered Landcover Types**

## Abandoned Field/Abandoned Pasture

Desired Future Condition: A matrix of wet prairie, mesic flatwoods, prairie hammocks, and depression marshes. Please see descriptions for these natural communities above.

Description and Assessment: Several areas of abandoned fields and pastures are present from the previous land use prior to state acquisition. Most of these abandoned pastures are located on the southeast quadrant and are adjacent or near the current maintained cattle lease. Others are located on the northwest quadrant near the park's visitor center and adjacent to Interstate I-95. The abandoned pasture on the south side of the park is dominated by a matrix of native species and the exotic limpo grass (Hemarthria altissima). The abandoned pastures on the north side of the park have a larger percentage of natives, but still have the presence of exotic Bahia grass.

General Management Measures: Several restoration techniques will be used to drive the abandoned fields and pastures to their desired future conditions. In areas where native ground cover dominates over invasive ground cover, continued removal of invasive grasses and the continued application of fire may be the main tools used. On the south side where limpo grass is the dominant ground cover, the park may need to experiment with controlled restoration grazing, prior to implementation of other restoration techniques.

## Pasture/Improved

Desired Future Condition: A matrix of wet prairie, mesic flatwoods, prairie hammocks, and depression marshes. Please see descriptions for these natural communities above.

Description and Assessment: The park maintains an active cattle lease of approximately 1,016 acres. When the state acquired the land, this area was in active cattle and was already improved. The state decided to maintain this as an active cattle lease to serve as an interim management tool. At some point in the future, when all other restoration needs have been met, the park will consider renegotiating the lease to begin a phased restoration approach to these pasture sites which were originally a matrix of wet prairie, mesic flatwoods, prairie hammocks and depression marshes. The current planned restoration needs for the park will take greater than a 10-year period so it is estimated that consideration of restoration of the improved pasture will not occur during the 10-year period of this management plan.

General Management Measures: Since this is currently in active cattle lease, restoration activities will take place only after the lease is terminated. Several restoration tactics including invasive plant removal, prescribed fire, full scale ground cover restoration, possible grazing for the purpose of restoration, and ditch filling where necessary will be some of the activities required to drive this community to its desired future condition.

## Artificial pond

The park contains 6 FDOT managed borrow pits that are used to help divert surface water for I-95. These borrow pits are permanent features.

## Canal/ditch

Two large parallel canals, the C-54 and Fellsmere Canals divide the park into north and south sections. The SJRWMD manages the C-54 canal and the adjacent levee and road. The Fellsmere Water Control District owns and manages the Fellsmere Canal and adjacent road. The park has over 80 miles of ditches. Ten of these miles have already been filled in through mitigation projects ranging from 2000-2005. Sixty miles still need to be evaluated for potential ditch filling and the remaining ten miles are not considered for filling or plugging since they are either associated with utility easements or are essential to park operations.

#### Developed

The park has a visitor center and associated parking area, an administration building and associated parking area, 2 shop compounds, a north and south camphost area, and 4 resident sites. The park also maintains 6 primitive camping

sites including just fire rings and benches and areas to place tents with relatively small parking lots. The park also has 2 equestrian day use areas with stalls and small open fields for trailer parking.

## Invasive exotic monoculture

The significant invasive exotic monocultures on the park are contained within the discussion of improved pasture and abandoned pasture/fields above. The groundcover consists mainly of several types of exotic pasture grasses.

## Spoil Area

The park has a spoil area located at the northern property line of the southeast quadrant up against the C-54 canal. The spoil site remains from the dredging of the C-54 canal. Spoil from this area is often used for continued park road improvement and maintenance.

## **Utility Corridor**

Several easements exist on the park. Florida Power and Light Corporation maintains an above ground powerline that traverses the entire western portion of the park and runs south to north. A second powerline is located on the northwest quadrant of the park near the north property line. The FDOT maintains Interstate 95 (I-95) that bisects the property into east and west halves. Florida Gas Transmission has two underground gas lines. One lies on the west side of the I-95 corridor and basically follows the highway corridor through the entire park, and the other lies east of I-95, running north/northwest to south/southeast through the northeast quadrant and directly north to south through the southwest quadrant.

# **Imperiled Species**

Imperiled species are those that are (1) tracked by FNAI as critically imperiled (G1, S1) or imperiled (G2, S2); or (2) listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) or the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) as endangered, threatened or of special concern.

Overall, management activities on the park will be based on an ecosystem management approach. Listed species are declining statewide and/or nationally and often require special management attention to ensure their continued survival. Parks usually encompass only a fragment of a species' original habitat, and habitat on adjacent lands can be lost to development. Development and land conversion has restricted movement within many species' ranges to small, disjunct fragments. For many listed species, government-managed lands offer the best hope for survival. The designated species found in the park will benefit from the large scale natural systems management approach that will be used.

A top management priority for the park is to maintain or increase existing populations of listed species of plants and animals occurring on site. Species that are more common will also be managed and inventories of all plants and animals found within the park will be maintained.

There are currently 74 designated species that have been observed at the SSRPSP: 28 plants and 46 animals. There are a number of these species for which a recovery plan has been developed. These include the Florida manatee, crested caracara, bald eagle, Florida scrub-jay, snail kite, wood stork, and the eastern indigo snake (USFWS 1999); the revised red-cockaded woodpecker plan was released in 2003. Management activities will be based on recommendations for the recovery of each of these species.

Due to the substantial number of protected species using the SSRPSP, management will consider temporary and/or seasonal closure of selected areas to allow sensitive habitat and species to recover from human induced impacts.

The welfare of designated species is an important concern of the Division. In many cases, these species will benefit most from proper management of their natural communities. At times, however, additional management measures are needed because of the poor condition of some communities, or because of unusual circumstances that aggravate the problems of a species. To avoid duplication of efforts and conserve staff resources, the Division will consult and coordinate with appropriate federal, state and local agencies for management of designated species. Specifically, data collected by the FWC and USFWS as part of their ongoing research and monitoring programs will be reviewed periodically to inform management of decisions that may have an impact on designated species at the park.

Virtually all the designated species of plants and animals within the SSRPSP were listed because of habitat destruction. Although the major resource management action for designated species is habitat management, additional actions are warranted for several species. All management actions taken will be in accordance with approved USFWS recovery plans (i.e., U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1999). Staff will coordinate with the USFWS and FWC on any required permits related to management activities that affect designated species. A number of projects directed at designated species are ongoing and should be continued. Discussion of several designated species and management needs are discussed below.

**Florida Manatee.** Although Florida manatee is a marine mammal and does not occur within the uplands that are managed by the Division as the St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park. They are important to note since this species was one of the main drivers in the acquisition of this parcel originally as a buffer preserve.

The Florida manatee, an herbivorous marine mammal, is confined with rare exceptions to peninsular Florida and coastal Georgia. The behavior of manatees is distinguished by seasonal cold-induced migration and aggregations in warm-water refugia. Manatees are generalist herbivores and feed on all forms of fresh and brackish water aquatic vegetation, including immersed, floating and submerged varieties, and some overhanging and shoreline terrestrial plants (Hartman 1971; Husar 1978; and Hurst and Beck, 1988).

Two-day winter synoptic aerial surveys are used to estimate a minimum population of manatees. The highest two-day count occurred in January/February 2017, with an estimated minimum of 3488 manatees in the Atlantic Coast Region of Florida, and an estimated 6620 manatees statewide (FFWCC, Manatee Synoptic Surveys 2017).

Brevard County, Florida is utilized by large proportion of the Atlantic Coast population of manatees. Manatees utilize the Indian River Lagoon, Banana River and the St. Sebastian River year-round. The region supports essential habitat and offers shelter, fresh water, feeding, resting, mating and calving areas. The St. Sebastian River is an important stop-over point and moderate winter warm-water aggregation site for manatees in migration along the East Coast. Data collected from aerial and ground surveys, and telemetry studies, demonstrate that greater than 150 manatees may occupy the St. Sebastian River area in winter and up to 100 in other seasons. In winter, manatees aggregate near the spillway structure, in North Prong, and C-54 Canal. Manatees are concentrated along the C-54 Canal near the Fellsmere Canal outfall and a freshwater seep on the southern bank of the canal across from the east end of the northern berm. Telemetry studies revealed these manatees often travel daily from the St. Sebastian River to the Indian River Lagoon to feed on seagrass beds. State and Federal wildlife managers expect numbers of over-wintering manatees to increase in the St. Sebastian River as nearby power plants with warm water effluents are phased-out over time.

The Florida Manatee Sanctuary Act of 1978 established motorboat speed regulation for manatee protection to regions of critical concern around the state. The surface waters surrounding the St. Sebastian Preserve State Park are regulated for manatee protection. The South Prong and the eastern portion of the C-54, St. Sebastian River have been designated as "Slow Speed" zones. "Idle Speed" zones

designated west from the north prong in C-54 and extend into the entire North Prong. A Motor Boats Prohibited one extends 2,500 feet east of the S-157 spillway structure.

Fish as well as manatees aggregate under the spillway structure and in C-54 during cold spells. Recreational fishing has become increasingly popular from shore following public ownership. Researchers have documented that manatees in the C-54 Canal are being impacted by increased boat traffic, disturbance at resting and drinking areas, and are being hooked and entangled in fishing tackle. Increased pressure from recreational fishing is predicted, if additional access is provided to the southern banks of the C-54 from shore. As recommended in the 2001, Florida Manatee Recovery Plan, Task 1.7.2, (minimize manatee injuries and deaths caused by fisheries and entanglement), a seasonal "No Entry" zone is recommended along the southern bank of the C-54 and at the spillway structure.

Furthermore, enforcement of speed zones is crucial to ensure protection of manatees with the St. Sebastian River system. Enforcement of the prohibition on

feeding manatees is also important. Continued coordination with the Aquatic Preserve Program and FWC is critical.

**Fox Squirrel** (*Sciurus niger shermani*). This mammal historically occurred in sandhill and pine flatwoods communities in the park; however, they have not been seen on the property for the last 30-40 years and are considered extirpated. As discussed earlier, many restoration efforts have been accomplished in our sandhill and flatwoods communities in the park. If reintroduction programs become available, St. Sebastian should be evaluated as a potential site since site conditions are in excellent condition.

**Bachman's Sparrow** (Aimophila aestivalis). Due to the large acreage of well managed and restored flatwoods habitat, this species is flourishing. Continued implementation of mostly growing season prescribed fire should continue to benefit this species. In collaboration with the Tall Timber's Upland Ecosystem Restoration Program and the U.S.F.W.S Coastal Grants Program, this species is currently being monitored.

**Florida Scrub-Jay.** Florida scrub-jays are listed as a threatened species by both state and federal authorities. The Florida scrub-jay is the only species of bird unique to Florida and is vulnerable to extinction because of habitat destruction, degradation and fragmentation (Breininger 2004). Scrub-jays occur primarily in patches of scrubby flatwoods and oak scrub. Jays also frequently utilize pastures and other open disturbed areas when they occur adjacent to oak scrub or scrubby flatwoods.

Using new data, the south Brevard-Indian River-St. Lucie metapopulation meets the criteria that once defined core populations; core status will be designated in the new draft recovery plan soon to be released. The Florida scrub-jay recovery plan is likely to recommend a population increase at the St. Sebastian River Preserve. The large amount of scrub and flatwoods at the park probably make it the most important area for Florida scrub-jay recovery along the mainland of Florida's Atlantic Coast (Breininger 2004).

In 1997, a scrub-jay study in the park began north of C-54 Canal with funding from the USFWS. The study expanded into the Coraci and Carson Platt Tracts. Although USFWS funding expired in 2002, most territory clusters within the park continue to be studied by a combination of park volunteers, park staff, and the original principal investigator. The number of territories ranged from 13 in 1997 to its highest of 58 in 2003 to 38 in 2017. The increase occurred as the large tracts of Coraci and Carson Platt were acquired and added to the original preserve. The 2005 population size was 42 territories which represented a 24 percent decline from 2004. Given that the population appeared stable for seven years, the decline is probably temporary with an uncertain cause (Breininger, 2005). It has been proposed that the active 2004 hurricane season greatly affected food supply and reproduction. It is also important to note that the much of the jay habitat in the surrounding areas was being lost to development in the late 90's and early 2000's and St. Sebastian provided some of the only refugia in the area which may have also contributed to

the higher numbers reported in 2003. From 2005-2017, population numbers have lingered around the 40-territory mark without any significant decreases or increases in a ten-year period.

Although under absolute ideal circumstances, the estimated potential population size at the SSRPSP is 105 territories, it is nearly impossible due to the nature of fire management to keep all of these in optimal condition at any given time. Therefore, realistically it is estimated that St. Sebastian could support up to 75-85 territories.

Since state acquisition many restoration activities have occurred on hundreds of acres of scrub-jay habitat and continues to occur. Scrub-jay habitat across the park would benefit by continued timbering and mechanical treatment of scrub that was degraded prior to state acquisition. The bulk of the data is currently collected by a small group of dedicated and skilled volunteers. While volunteer programs are very beneficial, a more secure funding source to support the scrub-jay demographic study should be sought especially since St. Sebastian is such a critical area to the state- wide survival of this species which is declining state wide. The information collected and recommendations made will be used to improve management of scrub-jay habitat. Continued fire management should be combined with mechanical treatments when necessary to recover scrub-jay habitat in poor condition and manage higher quality habitat patches. Fine-tuning the existing fire management program by introducing additional summer burns once fuel loads have been reduced should further benefit scrub-jays. Care will be taken to avoid extensively burning occupied habitat during nesting season and patchy mosaic fires will be the main resource management goal within occupied habitat.

Florida Sandhill Crane (Grus canadensis pratensis). This subspecies resides in Florida year-round and should not be confused with the migrant subspecies from the mid-west that visits Florida in the late fall and winter. The park offers an abundance of excellent crane habitat. Sandhill cranes nest January through June, in the seasonal ponds surrounded by open pine flatwoods. When vegetation grows too tall, cranes cannot adequately view predators and they will nest elsewhere. The active fire management program in the park benefits cranes by maintaining the open vegetation structure they prefer. The park also has pastures and open flatwoods for insect foraging and supports many favored crane food plants. No special management activities beyond continuing the fire management program are needed to maintain sandhill cranes.

**Bald Eagle.** The bald eagle is listed as a threatened species by both state and federal authorities. Since state acquisition there have been between four and six documented active eagle nests. In 2015, there were six active nests. Special management activities for eagles include site preparation of nest trees prior to prescribed burning, burning zones with nest trees during the non-breeding season, and restricting human activity within the Primary Eagle Protection Zone during the active nesting season (October 15 to May 15, or from when adults return to the nest until young fledge). The primary zone extends 750 feet around the tree. These activities are consistent with the USFWS Southern Bald Eagle Management

Guidelines. We also utilize staff and volunteers to submit data to the Audubon's citizens science Eagle Watch program.

**Wood Stork** (*Mycteria americana*). Large numbers of wood storks use the park during optimal feeding conditions when fluctuating water levels concentrate large numbers of fish in a limited area. At these times groups of eighty or more storks have been observed. The wading bird pond northeast of I-95 also provides good shallow water habitat for storks and other wading birds. The park also offers good resting habitat for storks. No special management activities are needed for wood storks.

**Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*). Ospreys nest within the park and fish within the St. Sebastian River and C-54 Canal. Other than protecting nesting sites, no special management actions are required for this species.

**Wading Birds**. A number of listed wading bird species use the park for feeding and resting. No special attention is needed for these species except to continue the fire management program, improve or increase habitat through hydrological restoration, and continue to treat invasive exotic plant and animal species that disrupt their habitat.

**Raptors.** Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) and northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) are winter residents in Florida and do not breed here. They favor wet prairies and marshes, dry prairies, and agricultural environments. They do not require any special management attention.

Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Red-cockaded woodpeckers (RCW) are listed as endangered by the USFWS and as a species of special concern by FWC. This species requires old-growth pine forests where nest cavities are excavated in living trees infected with red heart disease which generally does not occur until the tree is at least 70 years of age. The woodpeckers flake off bark to create a smooth surface on the tree, and peck resin wells around the cavity to drip sap and repel egg-eating snakes. Red-cockaded woodpeckers are cooperative breeders that forage, nest and roost together as a family unit. The non-breeding young stay with the parents to assist in raising the next group of young. Each member of the family maintains its own active cavity tree, and the breeding male's cavity tree is usually used for nesting. Adults also work to create new cavity trees throughout the year, as it takes six months to two years to create a suitable cavity.

From early population surveys, staff concluded that RCWs occurred on the park in low numbers and were not using all available habitats. In 1997, the SJRWMD funded a two-year study of the population at the park to obtain more information to ensure the survival of the species over the long-term. The study was designed to determine the population biology, evaluate habitat characteristics and provide management recommendations. During the study, nine active cluster sites were identified and monitored. However, after the study it was determined that with aggressive management, the park had the potential to support 25 clusters on about 5,000 acres of available RCW habitat. This number may be an overestimation since

the study only considered the welfare of RCW's and did not consider the critical importance that St. Sebastian plays in the survival of Florida scrub-jays. In the next version of the Recovery plan, the potential may only be 20-23 clusters. The RCW population at the park is listed as a Central Support Population in the USFWS Recovery Plan. State and Federal lands are considered designated as central support populations if they have the capacity to harbor ten or more active clusters.

Since this initial two year study and in collaboration with other agencies, the following actions have been taken to ensure the survival of the RCW population at the park; (1) an aggressive management program utilizing prescribed fire was implemented; (2) critical RCW habitat was targeted for restoration; (3) continued monitoring tracked trends in population size, reproductive success, and survivorship of RCWs (4) new cluster sites were created and several artificial cavities were placed within existing clusters; (5) all cavities within clusters were cleaned, maintained and/or replaced when necessary; (6) SSRPSP became a member of the South-Central Florida RCW Recovery Unit and aggressively participated in the translocation program; (7) Protected all cavity trees from potential wildfire or prescribed fire impacts.

In 2004-2005, this area suffered from extremely active hurricane seasons. Overall, half of the cavity trees died from snapping or falling over due to high winds produced by Hurricanes Jean, Francis and Wilma. Several birds were found dead inside their cavities after the hurricane. These cavity trees broke at the cavity and apparently trapped and killed the RCW simultaneously. Because of these devastating storms, the park was left with just a few birds spread throughout only three clusters. Aggressive measures such as an emergency post hurricane habitat assessment and translocation were implemented in efforts to help an already small and vulnerable population.

Since that time, the management actions already mentioned above have continued and the park is well on its way to reaching its recovery goals with 14 active clusters recorded during the 2017 breeding season.

**Crested Caracara**. Crested caracaras (*Caracara cheriway*) have been documented using the park. This species is listed as threatened by the FWC and the USFWS. All observations have been of individuals foraging in open pasture areas. No pairs or nesting activity has been documented. No specific management actions are planned at this time.

**Gopher Tortoise.** Considering the abundance of available habitat, the excellent burn program, and the lack of past hunting, gopher tortoises should be in abundance. However, no formal data is available at this time. General observations have been made since state acquisition and seem to indicate a good presence of large adults but low numbers of juveniles. More formal surveys are needed to determine the population size of gopher tortoises. Information gathered will be used to evaluate habitat occupancy, provide demographic information on the tortoise population and evaluate the efficacy of habitat management activities.

Eastern Indigo Snake. The eastern indigo snake is listed by both the USFWS and FWC as a threatened species. Populations are declining due to habitat destruction and excessive collection for the pet trade. It is estimated that this large snake has a home range of approximately 125 to 250 acres. Seven adult eastern indigo snakes were radio-tracked between 1998 and 2004 on the park as part of a larger study of habitat use and survival in central Florida. The study was funded by the Bailey Wildlife Foundation, USFWS and Avon Park Bombing Range. The sample size was too small to characterize home range size and survival on SSRPSP alone. Habitatspecific survival information and home range sizes will be available after data analyses near completion. The first published product of the study is cited in Addendum 2. The results of this population viability analyses regarding SSRPSP were very uncertain because there was little data on recruitment and survival of several life history stages. It seemed that extinction risk on SSRPSP was high without further land acquisition adjacent to the park, but such risk declined rapidly if proposed acquisitions were completed. Within the current boundaries of the SSRPSP the eastern indigo snake should benefit from the existing habitat management program and does not need special protection except enforcement of rules protecting all plants and animals and prohibiting collection.

Florida Gopher Frog. The Florida gopher frog is mostly a nocturnal species that utilizes ephemeral wetlands within the scrub and sandhill and is known to occupy gopher tortoise burrows. During breeding season, from early spring to late autumn, gopher frogs travel relatively great distances and congregate in shallow grassy ponds to breed. In 2012 FWC surveyed and found gopher frog tadpoles in eight ponds on all four quadrants of the park. Although gopher frogs have been observed and even photographed on the park in the past, these were the first documented breeding in ponds. In early 2016 FWC returned to install a frog logger audio recorder in one of these documented ponds as well as resurvey the eight original ponds for the maintained presence of gopher frog tadpoles. So far only five of the original ponds have been surveyed. No gopher frog tadpoles were documented in the five ponds surveyed to date. In fact, almost no tadpoles of any species were documented. However, they did document the presence of the exotic African Jewelfish which is known to devastate local amphibian populations. SSRPSP is currently working with FWC fisheries staff to determine the next course of action. At this time however, there is no logical and effective way to eradicate African jewelfish from these ponds without causing unintended impacts to all species utilizing the ponds.

**Fishes.** A comprehensive survey to inventory and monitor the distribution and abundance of fishes and selected invertebrates of the St. Sebastian River was conducted in 1999-2000 (Paperno and Brodie 2000). Three notable species slashcheek goby (*Gobionellus pseudofasciatus*), opossum pipefish (*Oostethus brachyurus lineatus*), and bigmouth sleeper (*Gobiomorus dormitor*)) were found in the St. Sebastian River. They are among the few examples of euryhaline tropical freshwater species found in North America. The St. Sebastian River is thought to provide the only suitable habitat north of the Caribbean and Central America for these species because water temperatures are higher than in other freshwater tributaries of peninsular Florida. None of the above are protected species. Park staff

will continue coordination with FWC and the Aquatic Preserve program to protect, manage, and monitor this crucial and rare habitat.

All plants and animals within the park are protected. Enforcement against collection and destruction will be an important part of conserving these rare species. Environmental education programs at the park will include information about rare plants and their conservation needs, as well as reasons why the public should not collect plants or animals from natural areas. For the most part, protection from collection, continuation of the existing fire management program, continued hydrological restoration, and the treatment of invasive exotic plant and animal species are the only steps available to protect rare plant species.

Two species of wild pine, cardinal airplant (*Tillandsia fasciculata*) and giant air plant (*T. utriculata*) occur in moist hammocks, cypress domes and swamps in the park. Bromeliads in Florida suffer from two threats: harvest by collectors and destruction by the exotic metamasius weevil (*Metamasius callizona*). The weevil was imported along with bromeliads in the early 1990s. Since 2003, researchers from the University of Florida have been researching the effects of the metamasius weevil at the park; in several areas, the weevil caused devastation to the local population but several years later the populations have recovered.

The celestial lily (*Nemastylis floridana*) is endemic to Florida but only occurs in a few eastern counties. This perennial herb benefits from the fire management program, which maintains the required open habitat. Additional surveys will better document the occurrence of this species in the Park.

Catesby's lily (*Lilium catesbaei*), also known as pine lily, is found in well-managed flatwoods. Other listed species found in pine flatwoods include garberia (*Garberia heterophylla*) and Florida beargrass (*Nolina atopocarpa*).

The hand fern (*Ophioglossum palmatum*) occurs in the boots of cabbage palms. Hand ferns can be killed by frost, fire, and increased drainage of their wetland habitat. Hand ferns will re-grow following infrequent low intensity fires, as long as the cabbage palm boots do not burn away. However, increased drainage of hand fern habitat allows higher intensity fires to encroach into the wetlands. This frequently burns off the boots of the cabbage palms and eliminates the substrate they grow on. In addition, increased drainage alters the moist microclimate hand ferns require. Increasing the hydroperiod of hand fern habitat should greatly benefit this protected species as well as implementing prescribed fire techniques that would prevent fire from slamming into these communities. Hand fern have been surveyed in the park since state acquisition. Recent surveys indicate an increase in hand fern in the northeast portion of Herndon Swamp adjacent to the restoration project on North Canal conducted in 2006 that was discussed extensively in the natural communities section in relation to bottomland forest.

The butterfly orchid (*Encyclia tampensis*) is an epiphytic orchid growing in swamps and wet hammocks in the park. Terrestrial orchid species including grass pink (*Calopogon multiflorus*) and several species of ladies-tresses (*Spiranthes spp.*) have

been observed blooming in mesic flatwoods, particularly following prescribed burns. Orchids are extremely vulnerable to harvest by collectors.

Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*) and cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*) are considered to be commercially exploited. Both grow in wet woods and swamps, and can be found in forested wetlands. Nodding clubmoss (*Lycopodium cernuum*), another commercially exploited species, occurs in wet pinelands and prairies.

Spoon-leaved sundew (*Drosera intermedia*), blue butterwort (*Pinguicula caerulea*), and yellow butterwort (*Pinguicula lutea*) are all small herbaceous plants found in pine flatwoods and wet prairie communities throughout the park. Protection of these species is dependent on maintaining the hydrologic and pyrogenic characteristics of their preferred habitats.

The hooded pitcher plant (*Sarracenia minor*) occurs in several locations in the park and has been documented on the southeast and southwest quadrants. Some of the bigger occurrences are located around a digressional wetland next to the powerlines on the north side of the property and in seepage areas along the Ten Mile Ridge in the Carson Platt Tract. This carnivorous plant has flourished under the active fire management program. However, feral hogs favor this habitat for rooting. Increasing efforts to eradicate feral hogs will benefit hooded pitcher plants.

Large-flowered rosemary (*Conradina grandiflora*) occurs in scrub and scrubby flatwoods throughout the park. It favors open sandy areas and is most abundant along fire lines, roads, and fence lines.

Curtiss' milkweed (*Asclepias curtissi*) occurs in a small area of scrub on the southern half of the park. This endangered species favors open sandy patches in

scrub and is generally most abundant along roads or fire lines. Nodding pinweed (*Lechea cernua*), a threatened species, also prefers open sandy areas in scrub. Both species depend on periodic fires to maintain openings.

Prickly-pear cactus (*Opuntia stricta*) occurs only on one spoil mound at the intersection of C-54 Canal and the South Prong. The presence of this species on site is an artifact of disturbance. No special management actions are required.

Twinberry (*Myrcianthes fragrans*) occurs in hammocks, primarily adjacent to the North and South Prongs. Twinberry is abundant in several areas. No special management actions are required for this species.

Table 2 contains a list of all known imperiled species in the park and identifies their status as defined by various entities. It also identifies the types of management actions that are currently being taken by DRP staff or others, and identifies the current level of monitoring effort. The codes used under the column headings for management actions and monitoring level are defined following the table. Explanations for federal and state status as well as FNAI global and state rank are provided in Addendum 6.

Table 2: Imperiled Species Inventory								
Common and Scientific Name		Imperiled	Management Actions	Monitoring Level				
	FWC	USFWS	FDACS	FNAI	A <sub>C</sub>	Ĕ		
PLANTS								
Curtiss' milkweed Asclepias curtissii			E		1, 2	1		
Manyflowered grasspink Calopogon multiflorus			Е		1, 2	1		
Large-flowering false rosemary Conradina grandiflora			Т	G3,S3	1, 2, 13, 7	1		
Spoonleaf sundew <i>Drosera</i> intermedia			Т	G5,S3	1, 2	1		
Florida butterfly orchid Encyclia tampensis			CE		2	1		
Garberia Garberia heterophylla			Т		1, 2	1		
Snowy orchid Habenaria nivea			Т		1, 2	1		
Nodding pinweed <i>Lechea cernua</i>			Т	G3,S3	1, 2	1		
Drysand pinweed <i>Lechea</i> <i>divaricata</i>			E	G2,S2	1, 2	1		
Catesby's lily Lilium catesbaei			Т		1, 2, 13	1		

Table 2: Imperiled Species Inventory								
Common and Scientific Name		Imperiled		s Status	Management Actions	Monitoring Level		
	FWC	USFWS	FDACS	FNAI	PΩ	Š		
Nodding club- moss <i>Lycopodiella</i> <i>cernua</i>			CE		1, 2	1		
Florida milkwine <i>Matelea</i> <i>floridana</i>			E	G2,S2	1, 2	1		
Twinberry <i>Myrcianthes</i> <i>fragrans</i>			Т		2	1		
Celestial lily Nemastylis floridana			E	G2,S2	1, 2	1		
Florida beargrass <i>Nolina</i> atopocarpa			Т	G3,S3	1, 2	1		
Hand fern Ophioglossum palmatum			E	G4,S2	2, 4, 13	3		
Erect pricklypear <i>Opuntia stricta</i>			Т		1, 2	1		
Cinnamon fern Osmunda cinnamomea			CE		2	1		
Royal fern Osmunda regalis var. spectabilis			CE		2	1		
Blueflower butterwort <i>Pinguicula</i> <i>caerulea</i>			Т		1, 2	1		
Yellow butterwort <i>Pinguicula lutea</i>			Т		1, 2	1		

Table 2: Imperiled Species Inventory							
Common and Scientific Name	FWC	I mperiled	Management Actions	Monitoring Level			
Giant orchid Pteroglossaspis ecristata			Т	G2,S2	1, 2	1	
Leafless beaked orchid Sacoila lanceolata			Т		2	1	
Hooded pitcherplant Sarracenia minor			Т		1, 2, 10, 13	3	
Lacelip ladiestresses Spiranthes laciniata			Т		2	1	
Cardinal airplant Tillandsia fasciculata var. densispica			Е		2, 13	2	
Giant airplant <u>Tillandsia</u> <u>utriculata</u>			Е		2, 13	2	
Red-margin zephyr-lily Zephyranthes simpsonii FISH			Т	G2,G3,S3	1, 2	1	
Bigmouth sleeper Gobiomorus dormitor				G4,S2	N/A	N/A	
Slashcheek goby Gobinellus pseudofasciatus				G3,G5,S1	N/A	N/A	

	Table 2: Imperiled Species Inventory								
Common and Scientific Name	- FWO	Imperiled	Management Actions	Monitoring Level					
Onoccum	FWC	USFWS	FDACS	FNAI	≥∢	Σ			
Opossum pipefish <i>Microphus</i> <i>brachyurus</i>				G4,G5,S2	N/A	N/A			
AMPHIBIANS									
Florida gopher frog Rana capito	SSC			G3,G4,S3	1, 2, 4, 7	2			
American alligator Alligator mississippiensis	FT (S/A)	T(S/A)		G5, S4	2, 4	1			
Eastern diamondback rattlesnake <i>Crotalus</i> adamanteus				G4,S3	1, 2, 6, 13	1			
Eastern indigo snake Drymarchon corais cooperi	FT	LT		G4,T3,S3	1, 2, 7,13	1			
Gopher tortoise Gopherus polyphemus	FT			G3,S3	1, 2, 6, 7,13	2			
Florida pine snake Pituophis melanoleucus mugitus	SSC			G4,T3?,S3	1, 2, 13	1			
BIRDS									
Cooper's hawk Accipiter cooperii				G5,S3?	1, 2	1			

Table 2: Imperiled Species Inventory							
Common and Scientific Name	FWC	I mperiled	Management Actions	Monitoring Level			
Bachman's	FVVC	USFWS	FDACS	FNAI	≥ ∢	2	
sparrow Aimophila aestivalis				G3,S3	1, 2, 7	3	
Roseate spoonbill <i>Platalea ajaja</i>	SSC			G5,S2	2	1	
Florida scrub- jay <i>Apheloma</i> <i>coerulescens</i>	FT	Т		G2,S2	1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 10,13	4	
Limpkin Aramus guarauna	SSC			G5,S3	2	1	
Burrowing owl Athene cunicularia	SSC			G4 T3, S3	1, 2, 7	1	
Crested caracara Caracara cheriway	FT	Т		G5,S2	1, 2, 13	1	
Little blue heron Egretta caerulea	SSC			G5,S4	2	1	
Snowy egret Egretta thula	SSC			G5,S3	2	1	
Tricolored heron <i>Egretta tricolor</i>	SSC			G5,S4	2	1	
Swallow-tailed kite Elanoides forficatus				G5,S2	2	1	
White ibis Eudocimus albus	SSC			G5, S4	2	1	

	Table 2: Imperiled Species Inventory								
Common and Scientific Name	FWC	I mperiled	Management Actions	Monitoring Level					
Merlin	FVVC	USFVVS	FDACS	FNAI	2 4				
Falco columbarius				G5, S2	1, 2	1			
Peregrine falcon Falco peregrinus				G4,S2	1, 2	1			
Magnificent frigatebird Fregata magnificens				G5, S1	2	1			
Florida sandhill crane Grus canadensis pratensis	FT			G5T2T3,S2S3	1, 2, 13	1			
American oystercatcher <i>Haematopus</i> <i>palliatus</i>	SSC			G5,S2	2, 4	1			
Bald eagle Haliaeetus Ieucocephalus		LT		G4,S3	1, 2, 6, 7, 10	3			
Worm-eating warbler <i>Helmitheros</i> <i>vermivorus</i>				G5,S1	1, 2	1			
Least bittern Ixobrychus exilis				G5,S4	2	1			
Wood stork <i>Mycteria americana</i>	FT	LE		G4,S2	2	1			
Yellow-crowned night-heron <i>Nyctanassa</i> <i>violacea</i>				G5,S3	2	1			

Table 2: Imperiled Species Inventory								
Common and Scientific Name	FWC	Imperiled USFWS	Management Actions	Monitoring Level				
Black-crowned night-heron Nycticorax nycticorax			FDACS	G5,S3	2	1		
Osprey Pandion haliaetus				G5,S3S4	2	1		
Painted bunting Passerina ciris				G5,S3	2	1		
Brown pelican Pelecanus occidentalis	SSC			G4,S3	2	1		
Red-cockaded woodpecker <i>Picoides</i> borealis	FE	LE		G3, S2	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 13	4		
Hairy woodpecker <i>Picoides</i> <i>villosus</i>				G5, S3	1, 2, 6, 7	1		
Florida clapper rail Rallus longirostris scottii				G5TS?, S3?	2	1		
Snail kite Rostrhamus sociabilis plumbeus	FE	E		G4G5,T2	2	1		
Black skimmer Rhynchops niger	SSC			G5, S3	2	1		
Louisiana waterthrush Seiurus motacilla				G5, S2	2	1		

Table 2: Imperiled Species Inventory							
Common and Scientific Name		Imperile	Management Actions	Monitoring Level			
	FWC	USFWS	FDACS	FNAI	Ma	Ĕ	
American redstart Setophaga ruticilla ruticilla				G5, S2	2	1	
Least tern Sterna antillarum	FT			G4, S3	2	1	
Caspian tern Sterna caspia				G5, S2	2	1	
Royal tern Sterna maxima				G5, S3	2	1	
MAMMALS							
Florida manatee <i>Trichechus</i> <i>manatus</i> <i>latirostris</i>	FE	E		G2, S2	10, 13	3	

## **Management Actions:**

- 1. Prescribed Fire
- 2. Exotic Plant Removal
- 3. Population Translocation/Augmentation/Restocking
- 4. Hydrological Maintenance/Restoration
- 5. Nest Boxes/Artificial Cavities
- 6. Hardwood Removal
- 7. Mechanical Treatment
- 8. Predator Control
- 9. Erosion Control
- $10. \ \ Protection \ from \ visitor \ impacts \ (establish \ buffers)/law \ enforcement$
- 11. Decoys (shorebirds)
- 12. Vegetation planting
- 13. Outreach and Education
- 14. Other

## **Monitoring Level:**

- Tier 1. Non-Targeted Observation/Documentation: includes documentation of species presence through casual/passive observation during routine park activities (i.e. not conducting species-specific searches). Documentation may be in the form of Wildlife Observation Forms, or other district specific methods used to communicate observations.
- Tier 2. Targeted Presence/Absence: includes monitoring methods/activities that are specifically intended to document presence/absence of a particular species or suite of species.

- Tier 3. Population Estimate/Index: an approximation of the true population size or population index based on a widely-accepted method of sampling.
- Tier 4. Population Census: A complete count of an entire population with demographic analysis, including mortality, reproduction, emigration, and immigration.
- Tier 5. Other: may include habitat assessments for a particular species or suite of species or any other specific methods used as indicators to gather information about a particular species.

Detailed management goals, objectives and actions for imperiled species in this park are discussed in the Resource Management Program section of this component and the Implementation Component of this plan.

# **Exotic and Nuisance Species**

Exotic species are plants or animals not native to Florida. Invasive exotic species are able to out-compete, displace or destroy native species and their habitats, often because they have been released from the natural controls of their native range, such as diseases, predatory insects, etc. If left unchecked, invasive exotic plants and animals alter the character, productivity and conservation values of the natural areas they invade.

Exotic animal species include non-native wildlife species, free ranging domesticated pets or livestock, and feral animals. Because of the negative impacts to natural systems attributed to exotic animals, the DRP actively removes exotic animals from state parks, with priority being given to those species causing the greatest ecological damage.

In some cases, native wildlife may also pose management problems or nuisances within state parks. A nuisance animal is an individual native animal whose presence or activities create special management problems. Examples of animal species from which nuisance cases may arise include venomous snakes or raccoons and alligators that are in public areas. Nuisance animals are dealt with on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the DRP's Nuisance and Exotic Animal Removal Standard.

Detailed management goals, objectives and actions for management of invasive exotic plants and exotic animals are discussed in the Resource Management Program section of this component.

#### **Plants**

As the private lands surrounding the park become more developed, the park faces urban interface issues and the borders are exponentially susceptible to encroachment of invasive/exotic plants. This area experienced a development boom from 2001-2004 and is once again experiencing a boom. Greater development pressure around the park means less control over the species that can enter the park by wind, water, rhizome, or carried by wildlife since there are few to no laws regulating private lands and non-native plants.

Prior to state acquisition, the property was in private ownership. While the state has done a very good job managing this park, there are inherit differences between private and state management strategies. As a state managing agency, the FPS relies on a host of outside agencies, contractors, and volunteers to help accomplish our resource management goals.

St. Sebastian is essentially broken up into four disjunct quadrants and is bisected by Interstate I-95 splitting the park into east and west segments and the C-54 and Fellsmere Canals splitting it into north and south segments. These canal levees are disturbed areas that require frequent mowing and maintenance. While the SJRWMD manages the levees in cooperation with the Army Corps they utilize contractors that can change on an annual basis to mow and cut the levees. These contractors may also be bringing non-native seed on to the park. The same applies to the Fellsmere Canal which is managed by the Fellsmere Water Control District. Interstate 95 right of way is maintained by the FDOT. While they do conduct invasive species management from time to time, these corridors are still a significant seed source of nonnative plants. St. Sebastian also contains two large powerline and gas line easements that traverse the property. These easements are also maintained by Florida Power and Light and Florida Gas Transmission and their associated contractors. These easements, canals, and roads traversing the park provide large open expanses of areas where invasive plants can establish and where offsite equipment can repetitively spread them greatly complicating the park's invasive exotic plant treatment program.

As discussed earlier in this plan, the park has experienced more than a century of hydrological disturbances. These ditches, canals, raised roadbeds, I-95, and utility easements have significantly disrupted the hydro-period of most wetland communities in the park and have directly led to the encroachment of weedy invasive plants within these areas. While efforts have been taken, and will continue to be taken to restore the hydrology to the greatest extent practical, some of these disturbances are permanent and cannot be restored. This contributes to the complications of the invasive exotic plant program.

- St. Sebastian provides almost 70 miles of multi-use trails for hikers, bikers, and equestrian users. Concentrations of invasive exotics grasses have been documented along trails and near campsites and day use areas likely caused by the activities of some trail users.
- St. Sebastian is approximately 22,000 acres and contains almost 3,000 infested acres of non-native invasive plants distributed throughout. While about one third of these infested acres are contained within the active cattle lease that was planted with exotic forage grasses such as Bahia and Hemarthria, nearly 2,000 infested acres remain. Since state acquisition a variety of efforts and approaches have been implemented to combat this problem. AmeriCorps FLCC program, periodic OPS herbicide tech funding, FTE staff, and the use of the FWC Invasive Plant contractor program and herbicide bank have all been critical components in our multi-pronged approach to this problem. The integrity of St. Sebastian, its ecosystems, diversity, and protected species would be at a much greater risk if it were not for the efforts

of all these agencies and groups. Table 3 summarizes these efforts over the last decade.

Table 3. Exotic Invasive Plant Removal Completed					
Fiscal Year	Infested Acres	Total Infested	Infested Acres	Infested Acres	Gross Areas
		Acres Treated	Treated In-House	Treated FWC-IPM Contractor	Worked
2005-06		3.075			
2006-07		86.816			
2007-08		27.560			
2008-09		41.750			
2009-10		609.675			
2010-11		465.500			
2011-12	2755.200	90.666	42.906	47.760	1099.500
2012-13	2755.200	95.312	95.312	0	2104.250
2013-14	2755.200	134.918	103.424	31.495	2667.500
2014-15	2751.400	212.903	152.028	60.875	3135.450
2015-16	2993.8	328.4			3580.3

St. Sebastian currently has 33 FLEPPC Category I and 18 Category II exotic plant species, but the most problematic species are briefly discussed below.

Cogongrass (*Imperata cylindrica*) is found throughout the entirety of the park and has been by far our most invasive and problematic species this past decade. This species is especially aggressive as it can spread by both seed and rhizome. This is often a plant that is brought in by off-site equipment and can be observed in abundance in both surrounding counties. Treatment of the plant is further complicated because the most effective herbicide is soil active and kills everything surrounding it and because of the deep rhizomes it is difficult to kill often requiring several treatments and monitoring. Cogon grass is also especially vicious because it has adapted to hydric conditions, mesic conditions, and xeric conditions and can be found in almost all natural communities at the park.

Old World Climbing Fern (*Lygodium microphyllum*) is an aggressive invader of wet areas and has been found on all four quadrants of the park. It is especially common in cypress strands and swamps and can grow to the tops of trees and from dense mats which shade the tree and the epiphytes growing on them. It also crowds out native ferns and other groundcover. The major concentrations are within the cypress domes of the Egan and Corrigan Tracts, the north prong of the Sebastian River, the seasonal creeks leading to the south prong, as well as the 13 linear ditches on the Platt Tract. Japanese climbing fern (*Lygodium japonicum*) has also been found on the park and is less abundant although considered a similar threat to Old world and will be treated the same.

Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebenthifolius*) occurs primarily along the C-54 and Fellsmere Canals, the South prong of the St. Sebastian River, the various ditches, North Canal, and within Herndon swamp and its associated wetlands. Smaller scattered clumps and individuals are located all over the park. Park resources have been used to treat the smaller scattered clumps and FWC contractor resources have been used to treat the larger infestations located within Herndon Swamp. Cooperative agreements and grant funding will need to be sought in order to tackle the large infestations located on the eastern end of the C-54 canal, along the Fellsmere canals and our north property line.

Rosary Pea (*Abrus precatorius*) occurs in disturbed areas and shows an affinity for dry sites such as scrub, sandhill, and spoil. It is extremely difficult to eradicate due to very high seed production and high germination rate. Larger infestations occur north of the park's south residences, on the peninsula, and near the north shop area. Smaller infestations occur throughout the park.

Strawberry guava (*Psidium Cattleianum*) and Common guava (*Psidium guajava*) occur mainly within the management zones located on western side of our southwest quadrant, along the Fellsmere Canal and around most of the cultural homesteads in the park. Some of the Platt Tract used to be in active agriculture prior to state acquisition and contains several disturbed sites where a variety of exotics can get established. The park's western property boundary is adjacent to several 1, 5 and 10-acre ranchettes that intentionally planted guava as a desirable fruit bearing tree. This is also the case with most of the homestead cultural sites. Guava can be difficult to treat because it can form extremely dense stands of smaller stems that can form guava thicket forests that are difficult to navigate. FWC contractors have been utilized for initial treatments of these areas and AmeriCorps FLCC members have maintained the sites in the years following the initial treatments.

Melaleuca (*Melaleuca quinquinervia*) was initially found in about 70 scattered locations throughout the park in the late 1990s just after state acquisition. Most of the sites had only 50 trees and only four were more than an acre. Melaleuca was originally given top priority in invasive plant management and was under maintenance control. However, recent periods of extended water inundation have resulted in the emergence of many seedlings in these once maintained areas. Park resources have been recently directed back to the eradication of this species before it becomes a big problem once again.

Torpedo grass (*Panicum repens*) invades open wetland areas, displacing the native vegetative cover. It is mostly confined to disturbed areas such as wet roads through woods, road shoulders, ponds in pastures, and in the ditches that were filled through various mitigation projects. Although there is an abundance of torpedo grass at St. Sebastian, it seems to stay within these wetter disturbed areas and therefore priority has not been given to this species. The species will continue to be monitored to see if it does start to invade un-disturbed adjacent natural communities.

Limpo grass (Hemarthria altissima) occurs on the southeast quadrant of the park. It was intentionally planted as forage for cattle prior to state acquisition. Some of the limpo grass occurs within the existing active cattle lease but much of it occurs outside of the lease. The areas are extensive and cover hundreds of acres. Limpo grass is not treated at this time since a large comprehensive groundcover restoration plan would need to be funded and implemented in order to eradicate this exotic pasture grass.

Several other grasses including Natal grass (*Melinis repens*), Guinea grass (Panicum maximum), Jaragua (Hyparrhenia rufa), and Para grass (*Urochloa mutica*) are in scattered locations throughout the park. Grasses common for horse hay feed are often in abundance near equestrian use facilities and along trails. Priority is given to grasses that are invading restored and good quality natural communities or those occurring along fire lines so they are not spread during fire line prep work.

Table 3 contains a list of the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC) Category I and II invasive, exotic plant species found within the park (FLEPPC 2016). The table also identifies relative distribution for each species and the management zones in which they are known to occur. An explanation of the codes is provided following the table. For an inventory of all exotic species found within the park, see Addendum 5.

Table 4: Inventory of FLEPPC Category I and II Exotic Plant Species					
Common and Scientific Name	FLEPPC Category	Distribution	Management Zone (s)		
PLANTS					
Abrus precatorius - Rosary pea	I	2	SSR-001s, SSR- 002, SSR-006, SSR-020e, SSR-020w, SSR- 036, SSR-040s, SSR-063n, SSR-071, SSR- 073w, SSR-078w, SSR-083e, SSR-090s, SSR-092		
		3	SSR-058e, SSR- 072, SSR-130		
Alternanthera philoxeroides - Alligatorweed	П	2	SSR-68		
Casuarina cunninghamiana - River she oak	П	2	SSR-005s		
Casuarina equisetifolia - Australian-pine	I	1	SSR-109, SSR-125		
Cinnamomum camphora - Camphor-tree	I	2	SSR-037, SSR- 083e, SSR-106se, SSR-109, SSR-131		

Table 4: Inventory of FLEPPC Category I and II Exotic Plant Species					
Common and Scientific Name	FLEPPC Category	Distribution	Management Zone (s)		
Colocasia esculenta - Wild taro	l	2	SSR-110, SSR-125		
Cupaniopsis anacardioides - Carrotwood	I	2	SSR-011n		
Dactyloctenium aegyptium – Durban crowfootgrass	П	2	SSR-43, SSR 99		
Dioscorea bulbifera - Air- potato	I	2	SSR-001n, SSR- 001s, SSR-002, SSR-052e, SSR-055c, SSR- 055n, SSR-055s, SSR-110, SSR-126		
		3	SSR-125		
Epipremnum pinnatum – Golden pothos	П	2	SSR-44, SSR-45		
Eugenia uniflora - Surinam cherry	I	2	SSR-036		
Hemarthria altissima - Limpo grass	П	2	SSR-116		
		3	SSR-060n, SSR- 060w, SSR-064n, SSR-115, SSR-117, SSR-120		
		4	SSR-060s, SSR- 060se, SSR-063s, SSR-064e		
<i>Hydrilla verticillata -</i> Waterthyme	I	3	SSR-76, SSR-79, SSR-80		
Hyparrhenia rufa - Jaragua	П	2	SSR-006		
Imperata cylindrica - Cogon grass	I	1	SSR-077		

Table 4: Inventory of FLEPPC Category I and II Exotic Plant Species				
Common and	FLEPPC		Management	
Scientific Name	Category	Distribution	Zone (s)	
		2	SSR-003n, SSR- 005s, SSR-006, SSR-007, SSR-008w, SSR- 012, SSR-013, SSR-014, SSR-016n, SSR- 016s, SSR-017, SSR-018, SSR-020w, SSR- 021e, SSR-025, SSR-036, SSR-039c, SSR- 044, SSR-045, SSR-047ne, SSR-047ne, SSR-047se, SSR- 047w, SSR-048, SSR-060e, SSR-062s, SSR- 063n, SSR-064n, SSR-062s, SSR- 063n, SSR-064n, SSR-0670, SSR- 071, SSR-072, SSR-074, SSR-076, SSR- 078w, SSR-079, SSR-088, SSR-089, SSR-089, SSR-089, SSR-089, SSR-089, SSR-089n, SSR-089s, SSR-089n, SSR-089s, SSR-090s, SSR- 093, SSR-094w, SSR-105e, SSR-106ne, SSR- 109, SSR-111, SSR-111, SSR-111, SSR-1115, SSR-116, SSR-117, SSR- 118, SSR-119, SSR-120, SSR-124, SSR-128,	
		3	SSR-130,SSR-131 SSR-015, SSR-041, SSR-042, SSR-043, SSR-052w	
Jasminum fluminense -	1	2	SSR-131	
Brazilian jasmine				
		3	SSR-083w	
Lantana camara - Lantana	1	1	SSR-129	

Table 4: Inventory of FLEPPC Category I and II Exotic Plant Species					
Common and Scientific Name	FLEPPC Category	Distribution	Management Zone (s)		
		2	SSR-036, SSR-043, SSR-052e, SSR-057, SSR-061, SSR- 073e, SSR- 094w, SSR- 101e, SSR-130		
Leucaena leucocephala - Lead tree	Ш	2	SSR-043		
Ligustrum lucidum – Glossy privet	I	2	SSR-36		
<i>Ludwigia peruviana</i> – Peruvian primrosewillow	I	3	SSR-83E		
Luziola subintegra - Tropical american water grass	Ι	2	SSR-120		
Lygodium japonicum - Japanese climbing fern	1	2	SSR-083w, SSR- 084, SSR-087		
Lygodium microphyllum - Old world climbing fern	I	1	SSR-004		
		2	SSR-001s, SSR-002, SSR-003n, SSR-005n, SSR-008e, SSR-009, SSR-011s, SSR-029w, SSR-030, SSR-034, SSR-036, SSR-044, SSR-046, SSR-046, SSR-055n, SSR-055n, SSR-056s, SSR-081, SSR-081, SSR-085, SSR-087, SSR-087, SSR-090s, SSR-094w, SSR-109		

Table 4: Inventory of FLEPPC Category I and II Exotic Plant Species					
Common and Scientific Name	FLEPPC Category	Distribution	Management Zone (s)		
		3	SSR-001n, SSR-029e, SSR-045, SSR-051, SSR-069, SSR-086		
<i>Macroptilium lathyroides</i> – Wild bushbean	II	2	SSR-60E, SSR-119, SSR-117		
Melaleuca quinquenervia - Melaleuca	I	1	SSR-003n, SSR-004, SSR-008e, SSR-010, SSR-037, SSR- 102, SSR-107		
		2	SSR-005n, SSR- 009		
<i>Melia azerdarach –</i> Chinaberry	П	2	SSR-35S, SSR- 39C, SSR-39N		
<i>Melinis repens</i> - Natal grass	I	2	SSR-059se		
Momordica charantia - Balsampear	П	2	SSR-47E, SSR- 40S		
Nephrolepis cordifolia - Tuberous sword fern	I	2	SSR-036, SSR- 083w, SSR-106se		
Neyraudia reynaudiana - Burma reed	I	2	SSR-044, SSR- 073w, SSR-125		
Panicum maximum - Guinea grass	П	2	SSR-036, SSR- 038, SSR-083w		
Panicum repens - Torpedo grass		2	SSR-003n, SSR-004, SSR-005n, SSR-008e, SSR-009, SSR- 020w, SSR- 021e, SSR- 031, SSR-032, SSR-033, SSR-036, SSR-037, SSR-038, SSR- 040s, SSR- 047ne, SSR- 047w, SSR-083e, SSR- 131		

Table 4: Inventory of FLEPPC Category I and II Exotic Plant Species				
Common and Scientific Name	FLEPPC Category	Distribution	Management Zone (s)	
		3	SSR-030, SSR- 034, SSR-042, SSR-	
Pennisetum purpureum - Elephantgrass	I	2	SSR-11N, SSR-23E2	
Phoenix reclinata - Senegal date palm	II	2	SSR-036, SSR- 073e, SSR- 083w, SSR- 084, SSR-109	
Pistia stratiotes – Water- lettuce	I	3	SSR-62N	
Psidium cattleianum - Strawberry guava	I	1	SSR-071	
3 5		2	SSR-036, SSR-083w, SSR-084, SSR-087, SSR-109, SSR-134	
<i>Psidium guajava</i> - Guava	I	1	SSR-038, SSR- 062n	
		2	SSR-012, SSR- 083e, SSR- 083w, SSR- 090s, SSR-102, SSR-134	
Rhynchelytrum repens – Rose natalgrass	I	2	SSR-60N, SSR-76, SSR-80, SSR- 101W	
Ricinus communis - Castor bean	Ш	1	SSR-037, SSR- 070	
Sansevieria hyacinthoides - Bowstring hemp	П	2	SSR-038	
Sapium sebiferum - Chinese tallow tree	I	1	SSR-038	
		2	SSR-131, SSR- 134	
Schefflera actinophylla - Schefflera	I	1	SSR-071	
		2	SSR-083w, SSR-131	
Schinus terebinthifolius - Brazilian pepper	I	2	SSR-005s, SSR-007, SSR- 011n, SSR- 014,	

0.11		_	CCD 005- 005
Schinus terebinthifolius -	I	2	SSR-005s, SSR-
Brazilian pepper			007, SSR-011n,
2. azman poppo.			SSR-014,
			SSR-014A, SSR-
			015, SSR-016n,
			SSR-016s,
			SSR-017,
			SSR-018,
			SSR-019,
			SSR-025,
			-
			SSR-026,
			SSR-030,
			SSR-032,
			SSR-036,
			SSR-037, SSR-
			039s, SSR-040s,
			SSR-043,
			SSR-044, SSR-
			046, SSR-
			047e, SSR-
			047e, 661e
			SSR-048, SSR-
			053, SSR-
			054c, SSR-
			054n,
			SSR-054s, SSR-
			055n, SSR-056s,
			SSR-057,
			SSR-059n, SSR-
			062n, SSR-063n,
			SSR-064n,
			SSR-064s,
			SSR-067, SSR-
			068, SSR-072,
			SSR-073e,
			SSR-076, SSR-
			077, SSR-079,
			SSR-080,
			SSR-085,
			SSR-086,
			SSR-087,
			SSR-089n, SSR-
			089s, SSR-090s,
			SSR-092,
			SSR-102, SSR-
			104, SSR-
			105e, SSR-
			106ne,
			SSR-107,
			SSR-111,
			SSR-112,
			SSR-114,
			SSR-115,
			SSR-116,
			SSR-117,
			SSR-118,
			SSR-119, SSR-120,
	1		SSR-124

Table 4: Inventory of FLEPPC Category I and II Exotic Plant Species					
Common and	FLEPPC	Distribution	Management		
Scientific Name	Category		Zone (s)		
		3	SSR-001n, SSR- 001s, SSR-002, SSR-012, SSR-031, SSR-041, SSR-042, SSR-042A, SSR-047, SSR- 047w, SSR-052e, SSR-055c, SSR-055s, SSR- 058e, SSR-065s, SSR-070, SSR-071, SSR- 073w, SSR-078w, SSR-093, SSR- 094e, SSR-101e, SSR-101w, SSR-103, SSR- 106se, SSR-108, SSR-110, SSR-110, SSR-113, SSR-125, SSR-126, SSR-127, SSR-128, SSR-130, SSR-134		
		4	SSR-084, SSR- 094w, SSR-109		
Sesbania punicea - Purple sesban	П	2	SSR-057		
Solanum diphyllum – Twoleaf nightshade	П	2	SSR-55S		
Solanum viarum - Tropical soda apple	I	1	SSR-115		
		3	SSR-111, SSR-112, SSR-113, SSR-114, SSR-117, SSR- 118, SSR-119 SSR-047ne		
Sphagneticola trilobata -	Ш	2	SSR-073e		
Wedelia  Tradescantia spathacea - Oysterplant	II	2	SSR-28W		

Table 4: Inventory of FLEPPC Category I and II Exotic Plant Species					
Common and Scientific Name	FLEPPC Category	Distribution	Management Zone (s)		
Urena lobata - Caesar's weed	I	2	SSR-011n, SSR-012, SSR-014, SSR-026, SSR-036, SSR- 070, SSR-083w		
Urochloa mutica - Para grass	I	2	SSR-044, SSR- 089n, SSR-125		

### **Distribution Categories:**

- O No current infestation: All known sites have been treated and no plants are currently evident.
- 1 Single plant or clump: One individual plant or one small clump of a single species.
- 2 Scattered plants or clumps: Multiple individual plants or small clumps of a single species scattered within the gross area infested.
- 3 Scattered dense patches: Dense patches of a single species scattered within the gross area infested.
- Dominant cover: Multiple plants or clumps of a single species that occupy a majority of the gross area infested.
- Dense monoculture: Generally, a dense stand of a single dominant species that not only occupies more than a majority of the gross area infested, but also covers/excludes other plants.
- 6 Linearly scattered: Plants or clumps of a single species generally scattered along a linear feature, such as a road, trail, property line, ditch, ridge, slough, etc. within the gross area infested.

#### **Exotic Animals**

Feral hogs (*Sus scrofa*) are the most serious exotic animal problem on the park. They occur throughout and can cause significant ecological damage unless their numbers are kept low. Hogs were introduced to Florida by Spanish explorers in the early 1500s. They are voracious predators of ground nesting birds, snakes, and have been known to eat new born deer. They are omnivorous and dig up large patches of earth looking for tubers and roots. They create patches of disturbed soil throughout the park, which in turn provide perfect habitat for a number of undesirable exotic plant species. Wild hogs in Florida are known to carry 47 different parasitic and infectious diseases, including pseudorabies and brucellosis. (Forrester 1992).

In this part of Florida feral hogs breed year-round, and a sow can produce four to twelve piglets per litter. Eradication has been attempted in natural areas throughout the state, but has never been achieved. It is difficult to remove every pig on a property, and even if removal is successful, more pigs immigrate from neighboring properties. The best that can be hoped for is to keep population levels low.

At St. Sebastian, the ground cover of several wetland systems has been completely destroyed and a hooded pitcher plant site was almost lost due to the destructive habits of feral hogs.

In efforts to diminish feral hog populations the park uses three strategies; approved contractors, park staff, and a volunteer trapping program. Table 5 reflects park efforts over the last decade to reduce feral hogs at the park is below. In this past decade, the park has removed 4,161 feral hogs. While this has certainly helped, more efforts are needed to combat the problem.

Table 5. Feral Hog Removal				
Fiscal Year	Feral Hogs (Total #)			
2005-06	82			
2006-07	339			
2007-08	592			
2008-09	480			
2009-10	413			
2010-11	430			
2011-12	573			
2012-13	641			
2013-14	416			
2014-15	195			
2015-16	250			

Other exotic animal species inhabiting the park include Coyote, Cuban Tree Frog, and several freshwater/brackish water fish including, African Jewelfish (*Hemichromis letourneuxi*), Tilapia (*Oreochromis sp.*), Armored catfish (*Loricariidae sp.*), and walking catfish (*Clarias batrachus*). Park staff does not actively pursue coyote but if seen passively they are eliminated. Exotic fish species are extremely difficult to eradicate as they can easily transfer from one water body to the next during high water periods in the park. Staff works closely with FWC fisheries experts to become knowledgeable of any new efforts or methodologies to eliminate these aggressive exotic fish.

### **Special Natural Features**

The St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park is the largest upland property in public ownership in the Indian River/south Brevard County region. The site also contains excellent examples of scrub community type and the only undeveloped sandhill habitat in Brevard County. As mentioned earlier, the SSRP comprised the largest portion of the south Brevard-Indian River-St. Lucie metapopulation of Florida scrubjays which is the fourth largest metapopulation in the state. Due to extensive groundcover and mid-story restoration over the last decade, SSRPSP has been described as having some of the best examples of mesic flatwoods in the state.

As an interesting historical note, in 1889 the famous ornithologist Frank Chapman made a journey to the headwaters of the St. Sebastian River in search of Carolina parakeets. He found about 50 of these rapidly disappearing birds during the week. In a paper dated November 1, 1889, Frank Chapman described the St. Sebastian River – "The Sebastian is a beautiful river; no words of mine can adequately describe it. Half a mile wide at its mouth, it narrows rapidly, and three miles above

appears as a mere stream which at our camp, eight miles up, was not more than fifty feet in width and about fifteen in depth. Its course is exceedingly irregular and winding; the banks as we found them are high and for some distance from the water densely grown with palms and cypresses which, arching, meet overhead, forming most enchanting vistas, and in many places, there was wild profusion of blooming convolvulus [morning glory] and moon flower. Immediately back of this semi-tropical growth appeared the pines, which extended as far back as the eye could reach, with occasional openings termed 'prairies', varying in extent from two or three to as many as a hundred acres, where the trees were replaced by a species of tall grass growing scantily in the shallow water which flooded these meadows." (Chapman 1889)

### **Cultural Resources**

This section addresses the cultural resources present in the park that may include archaeological sites, historic buildings and structures, cultural landscapes and collections. The Florida Department of State (FDOS) maintains the master inventory of such resources through the Florida Master Site File (FMSF). State law requires that all state agencies locate, inventory and evaluate cultural resources that appear to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Addendum 7 contains the FDOS, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) management procedures for archaeological and historical sites and properties on state-owned or controlled properties; the criteria used for evaluating eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and the Secretary of Interior's definitions for the various preservation treatments (restoration, rehabilitation, stabilization and preservation). For the purposes of this plan, significant archaeological site, significant structure and significant landscape means those cultural resources listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The terms archaeological site, historic structure or historic landscape refer to all resources that will become 50 years old during the term of this plan.

### **Condition Assessment**

Evaluating the condition of cultural resources is accomplished using a three-part evaluation scale, expressed as good, fair and poor. These terms describe the present condition, rather than comparing what exists to the ideal condition. Good describes a condition of structural stability and physical wholeness, where no obvious deterioration other than normal occurs. Fair describes a condition in which there is a discernible decline in condition between inspections, and the wholeness or physical integrity is and continues to be threatened by factors other than normal wear. A fair assessment is usually a cause for concern. Poor describes an unstable condition where there is palpable, accelerating decline, and physical integrity is being compromised quickly. A resource in poor condition suffers obvious declines in physical integrity from year to year. A poor condition suggests immediate action is needed to reestablish physical stability.

### Level of Significance

Applying the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places involves the use of contexts as well as an evaluation of integrity of the site. A cultural resource's significance derives from its historical, architectural, ethnographic or archaeological context. Evaluation of cultural resources will result in a designation of NRL (National Register or National Landmark Listed or located in an NR district), NR (National Register eligible), NE (not evaluated) or NS (not significant) as indicated in the table at the end of this section.

There are no criteria for determining the significance of collections or archival material. Usually, significance of a collection is based on what or whom it may represent. For instance, a collection of furniture from a single family and a particular era in connection with a significant historic site would be considered highly significant. In the same way, a high-quality collection of artifacts from a significant archaeological site would be of important significance. A large herbarium collected from a specific park over many decades could be valuable to resource management efforts. Archival records are most significant as a research source. Any records depicting critical events in the park's history, including construction and resource management efforts, would all be significant.

The following is a summary of the FMSF inventory. In addition, this inventory contains the evaluation of significance.

### Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites

Desired future condition: All significant archaeological sites within the park that represent Florida's cultural periods or significant historic events or persons are preserved in good condition in perpetuity, protected from physical threats and interpreted to the public.

Description: There are currently 17 FMSF recognized archeological sites located within the boundaries of St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park. These sites include two archaeological trails and 15 archaeological sites containing prehistoric artifacts and shell middens, and turpentine camps and homesteads.

Condition Assessment: Of the sites at the park, nine are considered to be in poor condition. These assessments are based on a variety of factors including erosion, exotic plant and animal encroachment, and/or the lack of site evidence remaining on park property. The remaining sites are considered to be in fair or good condition and are currently being utilized by the park or have had no significant changes to the site since the last assessment in 2001.

General Management Measures: Park staff will continue to remove exotic invasive plant and animal species located within and encroaching on these sites. Monitoring efforts will include identifying erosion and other factors that may cause

deterioration and/or destabilization of these sites and taking corrective measures to reduce further deterioration.

*Description:* 8BR1780, the Herndon Homestead, was built around 1889 and burned in the early 1940s.

Condition Assessment: The site is only a surface scatter of debris and whatever underground features may exist, therefore the condition assessment is poor. Since it is a known historic house site, development should be sited elsewhere, to avoid the site (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8BR1780, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

Description: 8BR1781, Yates Homestead/Wilbur's Hammock, was originally planted in citrus, and currently exists as fencing debris, scrap, and a well point.

Condition Assessment: The condition assessment is poor (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8BR1781, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management Measures: Due to the site isolation and remoteness, this provides necessary protection from visitor impacts. For any future horseback / hiking trails, consider routing away from this site, or interpretive signage if trail passes.

Description: 8BR1782, the Graves Brothers Lumber/Turpentine Camp, is a 1930s-satellite camp for the Graves brothers' turpentine and logging operation. All that survives is a row of burnt posts, and piers from a small structure, now destroyed.

Condition Assessment: The condition assessment is poor. Staff should protect the remaining wooden posts and piers from additional burning during controlled burns by raking the site to reduce or remove the fuel load (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8BR1782, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management Measures: Measures will be taken to protect remaining post from fire under prescribed conditions.

Description: 8BR1783, the Survey Marker Midden, named for the 1964 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers survey marker located to the south of the site, is a dirt/bone/shell midden dating to the Malabar I culture.

Condition Assessment: The site does not appear to have been disturbed, and the condition assessment is good (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8BR1783, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management Measures: Monitor site for deterioration from river induced erosion.

Description: 8BR1785, the Hernandez-Capron Trail, was built by Brigadier General Joseph M. Hernandez, commander of the East Florida Militia, during the Second

Seminole War. The trail linked St. Augustine with Fort Pierce at St. Lucie. After the war, the new road allowed settlers to move into the Brevard/Indian River area, and ranchers used it to move cattle until the 1970s. Because of its importance as a major transportation route, especially during the Second Seminole War, and its association with Hernandez, the trail is probably eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Condition Assessment: The trail has become overgrown with vegetation within the park, and its condition assessment is good (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8BR1785, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management Measures: Identify and reduce vegetation, potential interpretation.

Description: 8BR1813, the Hardee Point Midden, is a Malabar I-II cultural period shell midden on a bluff on the west side of the St. Sebastian River.

Condition Assessment: The site is being eroded by the river, and because of that threat, the condition assessment is poor. Site stabilization is recommended (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8BR1813, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management Measures: Erosion activity for this site is ongoing due to location along river's edge. Site stabilization is recommended. Information regarding the quantification of the frequency and severity has not been maintained and as such was not available. Monitor site to determine exact impact to the site.

*Description:* 8BR1824, the Frank Hunter Homestead, originally comprised three to five houses, all of which had burned by the early 1950s. Today all that remains of the homesteads are the ruins of associated cow pens. Currently there is insufficient information to determine if the site is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Condition Assessment: The condition assessment is poor (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8BR1824, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

Description: 81R851, the Carlton House, was originally built in the neoclassical style at some point after 1895, by John B. Carlton. In the late 1930s or early 1940s his son, Chester Carlton, tore down the house and reduced it to standing wall sections and foundations.

Condition Assessment: The condition assessment is poor. The ruins should be protected, preserved and interpreted for park visitors. Currently there is not sufficient information to determine if the site is eligible for the National Register (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 81R851, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management Measures: Monitor site structure from human impact. Consider interpretive panel for visitor's education of this historical site.

Description: 8IR852, the River Bluff Shell Scatter, was recorded by David Dickel in 1992 as located on a bluff overlooking the St. Sebastian River. The 2001 CARL survey was unable to relocate this site, which perhaps has eroded away or been buried by shifting sand and vegetation. The condition assessment is unknown and perhaps destroyed (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8IR852, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

Condition Assessment: Site location unknown, therefore assessment is Unknown.

General Management Measures: Monitor site for erosion from the river bank due to wave action and fluctuations in water levels.

*Description:* 8IR987, Creek Crossing, is the remains of an early 20th century bridge that crossed an unnamed creek.

Condition Assessment: Two timbers are all that survive; therefore, the condition assessment is poor (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8IR987, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management Measures: Wooden bridge has a current impact with natural deterioration due to age and partial immersion in the creek. Human impact with hiking and horseback riders may cause further damage to this cultural site.

Description: 81R988, the Graves Brothers Tram Line, is the surviving roadbed of an early 20th century logging tram rail line.

Condition Assessment: Most of the rails were removed at the end of the logging lease. The condition assessment is poor (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 81R988, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management Measures: Identify extent of location, and ensure ground disturbance is avoided.

Description: 81R989, the Dinky Line or Trans-Florida Central Railway, is the surviving roadbed of an early to mid-20th century freight and passenger standard gauge rail line that ran across the park from Sebastian to Fellsmere and Broadmoor.

Condition Assessment: Most of the rails have been removed. There are two separate surviving sections of the roadbed, each section labeled with the same FMSF number. The condition assessment is good (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 81R989, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management Measures: Continue to remove vegetation of tram bed, ensure Interpretation of the site.

Description: 81R990, the Hernandez-Capron Trail, is a separate section of the same Hernandez-Capron Trail listed above as 8BR1785, and is likely eligible for the National Register.

Condition Assessment: The condition assessment is also good (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8IR990, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management Measures: Identify, and reduce encroachment.

*Description:* 8IR992, the Fire Break Structures, are a complex of early 20th century structural remains, made of poured concrete, of uncertain use.

Condition Assessment: The structures were damaged during the construction of a fire break, and the condition assessment is poor (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 91R992, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management Measures: Remove vegetation, and protect structure from tractor work.

Description: 81R993, the Frankie and Tony's Site, is a surface scatter and brick pile at the location of a house occupied by the two men named above, who farmed the site in the 1930s.

Condition Assessment: No ruins of the house survive, and the condition assessment is poor (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 81R993, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

Description: 81R994, the Sam Dale Site, is the general site of an early 20th century homestead and farm, the ruins of which have now vanished.

Condition Assessment: The condition assessment is poor (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 81R994, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

Description: 8IR995, the Yates 2 Site, is the general site of an early 20th century homestead and farm of William D. Yates, who cut and delivered firewood off the property.

Condition Assessment: No ruin of any structure survives, and the condition assessment is poor (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8IR995, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

### Historic Structures

Desired future condition: All significant historic structures and landscapes that represent Florida's cultural periods or significant historic events or persons are preserved in good condition in perpetuity, protected from physical threats and interpreted to the public.

*Description:* There are three historic structures on the park. These structures are remnants of the Circle F Ranch and are currently being utilized as shop building, bunkhouse and residence areas.

8BR1784, the Hanshaw/Widener House or L-House site, is the location of a 1920s homestead, now torn down, and the 1950s L-shaped ranch style house that replaced it on the same site. The horse barn dates to 1947, the dock to 1951 and a garage apartment east of the barn housed the construction workers building the L-House. The L-House itself was always used as a retreat by absentee landowners, but now is the residence of the park manager. Hardee Point Midden, a large Malabar I-II period site, is just to the north, and probably extends south onto the house site. There is not sufficient information on the site to determine if it is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Condition Assessment: The condition assessment is good (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8BR1784, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management Measures: There has been evidence of Powder post beetle activity at site. Actions have been taken to eliminate the infestation in the Garage house. Continue to monitor site for activity.

Description: 8IR991, the Pancoast-Moak Residence, is a frame vernacular structure built in 1948 as the foreman's residence and office for the cattle ranch. This facility has been renovated as the park's bunkhouse used for researchers, AmeriCorps program members, and fire personnel.

Condition Assessment: The condition assessment is good (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8IR991, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

*Description:* 8BR1827, the Circle F Shop, is a late 1940s ranch barn. Currently the park uses the facility for equipment storage and repair.

Condition Assessment: The condition assessment is good (Florida Department of State, Florida Master Site File: 8BR1827, Vojnovski et al. 2001).

General Management measures: The facilities are being utilized and maintained.

### Collections

Desired future condition: All historic, natural history and archaeological objects within the park that represent Florida's cultural periods, significant historic events or persons, or natural history specimens are preserved in good condition in perpetuity, protected from physical threats and interpreted to the public. Description: o6a.165.1.1 DHR Loaned Turpentine Cat face with nails and gutters, used for interpretation in the park's Visitor Center.

Condition Assessment: The loaned collection is stored in a climate controlled building protected by a collection case, therefore its condition is considered to be good.

General Management Measures: The collections are stored in locked case and climate controlled building. The protection and interpretation of this exhibit are the best way to ensure it stays in good condition.

Detailed management goals, objectives and actions for the management of cultural resources in this park are discussed in the Cultural Resource Management Program section of this component. Table 4 contains the name, reference number, culture or period, and brief description of all the cultural sites within the park that are listed in the Florida Master Site File. The table also summarizes each site's level of significance, existing condition and recommended management treatment. An explanation of the codes is provided following the table.

Table 6. Cultural Sites Listed in the Florida Master Site File					
Site Name and FMSF #	Culture/Period	Description	Significance	Condition	Treatment
8BR1780 Hearndon Homestead	Historic/Late 19 <sup>th</sup> - early 20 <sup>th</sup> century	Archaeological Site	NE	G	Р
8BR1781 Yates Homestead Wilbur's Hammock	Historic/Late 19 <sup>th</sup> – early 20 <sup>th</sup> century	Archaeological Site	NE	G	Р
8BR1782 Graves Brothers Lumber/Turp Camp	Historic/Early 20 <sup>th</sup> century – 1930's	Archaeological Site	NE	F	Р
8BR1783 Survey Marker Midden	Historic/Unspecified	Archaeological Site	NE	G	ST
8BR1784 Hanshaw/Widener House	Historic/ 1920's- 1950's	Historic Structure	NE	G	Р
8BR1785 Hernandez Capron Trail Brevard County	Historic/Unspecified	Archaeological Trail	NE	G	Р
8BR1813 Hardee Point Midden	Historic/Unspecified	Archaeological Site	NE	Р	ST
8BR1824 Frank Hunter Homestead	Historic/19 <sup>th</sup> Century- 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	Archaeological Site	NE	Р	Р
8IR851 Carlton House	Historic/Early 1920's – 1940's	Archaeological Site	NE	F	Р
8IR852 River Bluff Shell Scatter	Prehistoric/Unspecified	Archaeological Site	NE	Р	ST
8IR987 Creek Crossing	Historic/Early to Mid- 19 <sup>th</sup> century	Archaeological Site	NE	Р	Р
8IR988 Graves Brothers Tram Railroad	Historic/Unspecified	Archaeological Site	NE	Р	Р

Table 6. Cultural Sites Listed in the Florida Master Site File					
Site Name and FMSF #	Culture/Period	Description	Significance	Condition	Treatment
81R989 Trans Florida Central Railroad	Historic/Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	Archaeological Site	NE	G	Р
81R990Hernendez Capron Trail Indian River County	Historic/Unspecified	Archaeological Trail	NE	G	Р
8IR991 Forman's Residence/Bunkhouse	Historic/1948	Historic Structure	NE	G	Р
81R992 Fire Break Structures	Historic/1910-1930's	Archaeological Site	NE	Р	Р
81R993 Frankie and Tony's Homestead	Historic/1930-1940's	Archaeological Site	NE	Р	Р
81R994 Sam Dale Homestead	Historic/1930's	Archaeological Site	NE	Р	Р
8IR995 Yates Homestead #2	Historic/Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	Archaeological Site	NE	Р	Р
8IR1827 Circle F Shop	Historic/Late 1940's	Historic Structure	NE	G	Р

### Significance:

NRL National Register listed NR National Register eligible

NE not evaluated NS not significant

### **Condition**

G Good F Fair P Poor

NA Not accessible NE Not evaluated

### **Recommended Treatment:**

RS Restoration
RH Rehabilitation
ST Stabilization
P Preservation
R Removal
N/A Not applicable

### **Resource Management Program**

### Management Goals, Objectives and Actions

Measurable objectives and actions have been identified for each of the DRP's management goals for St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park. Please refer to the Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates in the Implementation Component of this plan for a consolidated spreadsheet of the recommended actions, measures of progress, target year for completion and estimated costs to fulfill the management goals and objectives of this park.

While, the DRP utilizes the ten-year management plan to serve as the basic statement of policy and future direction for each park, a number of annual work plans provide more specific guidance for DRP staff to accomplish many of the resource management goals and objectives of the park. Where such detailed planning is appropriate to the character and scale of the park's natural resources, annual work plans are developed for prescribed fire management, exotic plant management and imperiled species management. Annual or longer- term work plans are developed for natural community restoration and hydrological restoration. The work plans provide the DRP with crucial flexibility in its efforts to generate and implement adaptive resource management practices in the state park system.

The work plans are reviewed and updated annually. Through this process, the DRP's resource management strategies are systematically evaluated to determine their effectiveness. The process and the information collected is used to refine techniques, methodologies and strategies, and ensures that each park's prescribed management actions are monitored and reported as required by Sections 253.034 and 259.037, Florida Statutes.

The goals, objectives and actions identified in this management plan will serve as the basis for developing annual work plans for the park. The ten-year management plan is based on conditions that exist at the time the plan is developed. The annual work plans provide the flexibility needed to adapt to future conditions as they change during the ten-year management planning cycle. As the park's annual work plans are implemented through the ten-year cycle, it may become necessary to adjust the management plan's priority schedules and cost estimates to reflect these changing conditions.

### **Natural Resource Management**

### **Hydrological Management**

Goal: Protect water quality and quantity in the park, restore hydrology to the extent feasible and maintain the restored condition.

The natural hydrology of most state parks has been impaired prior to acquisition to one degree or another. Florida's native habitats are precisely adapted to natural drainage patterns and seasonal water level fluctuations, and variations in these factors frequently determine the types of natural communities that occur on a particular site. Even minor changes to natural hydrology can result in the loss of plant and animal species from a landscape. Restoring state park lands to original natural conditions often depends on returning natural hydrological processes and conditions to the park. This is done primarily by filling or plugging ditches, removing obstructions to surface water "sheet flow," installing culverts or low-water crossings on roads, and installing water control structures to manage water levels.

### Objective A: Conduct/obtain an assessment of the park's hydrological restoration needs.

Action 1 Develop a comprehensive hydrological restoration plan for the entire park

Due to the complexity of the hydrological alterations that have occurred throughout the park's history, it is imperative that a park specific comprehensive hydrologic study and subsequent hydrological restoration plan be developed before any large-scale restoration takes place. Completion of a comprehensive hydrology study would help managers better assess potential off-site impacts and problems while affecting the greatest level of restoration possible. Although the park is broken up into 4 quadrants, it would be difficult to study each quadrant independently since they are connected via large box culverts under I-95. However, to reduce cost, it may be possible to first conduct a study of the north side, and then proceed with the south side independent of one another. Hopefully this study will be conducted as soon as possible since the information gleaned from the results will allow the park to proceed.

# Objective B: Restore natural hydrological conditions and functions to natural communities throughout park.

The acreage of hydrological restoration and the natural communities that will be impacted will be determined after the results of the study are acquired. Based on the results of the hydrological assessment, the following action items may take place wherever feasible:

Action 1 Continue to eliminate ditches by plugging and backfilling to restore wetland communities

Action 2	Evaluate raised roadbeds in the park that impede water flow.
	Reconnect or relocate roads
Action 3	Evaluate the potential to increase water conveyance through
	Herndon Swamp at gas line road
Action 4	Evaluate the potential to increase water conveyance through the
	powerline easement
Action 5	Evaluate the potential to increase water conveyance under I-95
Action 6	Rework the remaining south drains into the C-54 canal

The interior ditch system drains a number of isolated wetland communities and disrupts sheetflow through upland areas. Depending on the results of the comprehensive study, the ditches deemed able to be filled without offsite impacts need to be plugged and backfilled to restore the wetland communities and prevent further degradation of adjacent communities. Continued restoration of the interior ditch system throughout the park should be accomplished to the greatest extent practical. As of 2005, 9.2 miles of the interior ditch system have been restored with mitigation monies; 62.9 miles of interior ditch remain; and 10.7 miles are not proposed since they include roadside swales, gas line and powerline.

Raised roadbeds in the park impede water flow and alter historic drainage patterns. In several areas, the roads bisect and divide wetland communities. All raised roads will be evaluated for areas needing reconnection or possible relocation. Where necessary culverts and/or low water crossings will be installed and where practical roads may be relocated.

In the past, park staff have attempted to work with Florida Gas Company, Florida Power and Light Company, and FDOT to help facilitate water conveyance under their easements. We have not had success in accomplishing this goal. We will continue to work with these agencies in the future. Currently the few culverts that do exist under the gasline road through Herndon swamp are completely crushed. The culverts under the powerline easement through Herndon swamp and other wetland areas are not adequate.

Part of the hydrological study needs to evaluate the necessity of the drainage outlets that divert water from the north portion of the park into C-54 Canal. Those that are not needed should be plugged and backfilled and where necessary several should be relocated to areas that historically drained into the west prong of the St. Sebastian River.

# Objective C: Aid in the improvement of water quality in the St. Sebastian River and the Indian River Lagoon

Action 1	Ensure that cattle lessee is using Best Management Practices
	within lease area
Action 2	Assess impact of 2 drainage easements on the Coraci Tract and
	purchase easements if necessary

Action 3 Replace septic systems at the 2 south residences located directly on the river and convert to environmentally-friendly systems

Action 4 Continue interagency cooperative efforts to collect water quality and biological data in the St. Sebastian River and the Indian River Lagoon. Support aquatic preserve staff

Action 5 Continue to provide trash collection and monofilament recycling at any existing and proposed fishing and public use areas along the river

The cattle lease contract needs to be evaluated to include best management practices. The St. Sebastian River is the second largest tributary to the Indian River Lagoon which was once North America's most diverse estuary, but is now and imperiled waterbody. The park was originally purchased as a buffer preserve to protect the river and lagoon from negative impacts. Any actions conducted on the park need to benefit water quality and not degrade it further.

Two drainage easements on the south end of the park carry stormwater from an industrial park on the west boundary into tributaries of the South Prong of the St. Sebastian River. These drainage canals also bisect and drain several wetlands along their length within the park. Purchase of the easement along the canals should be investigated. The canals should ultimately be rerouted into a retention system that would limit direct discharge in to the St. Sebastian River system.

### Natural Communities Management

### Goal: Restore and maintain the natural communities/habitats of the park.

The DRP practices natural systems management. In most cases, this entails returning fire to its natural role in fire-dependent natural communities. Other methods to implement this goal include large-scale restoration projects as well as smaller scale natural communities' improvements. Following are the natural community management objectives and actions recommended for the state park.

Prescribed Fire Management: Prescribed fire is used to mimic natural lightning-set fires, which are one of the primary natural forces that shaped Florida's ecosystem. Prescribed burning increases the abundance and health of many wildlife species. A large number of Florida's imperiled species of plants and animals are dependent on periodic fire for their continued existence. Fire-dependent natural communities gradually accumulate flammable vegetation; therefore, prescribed fire reduces wildfire hazards by reducing these wild land fuels.

All prescribed burns in the Florida state park system are conducted with authorization from the FDACS and FFS. Wildfire suppression activities in the park are coordinated with the FFS.

## Objective A: Within 10 years, have 14,000 acres of the park maintained within the optimum fire return interval.

Action 1	Develop/update annual burn plan
Action 2	Manage fire dependent communities by burning between 4803 -
	12,952 acres annually
Action 3	Have all mesic flatwoods and sandhill located north of the canal
	on a 1.5 to 2.5 year fire return interval
Action 4	Initiate fire within 75 percent of the backlog zones that have
	never received fire since state acquisition and have no recorded
	fire history
Action 5	Continue relationship with UERP and USFWS to benefit fire
	adapted species
Action 6	Maintain at least 50 percent of scrub and scrubby flatwoods in
	optimal condition at any given time.

Table 7 contains a list of all fire-dependent natural communities found within the park, their associated acreage and optimal fire return interval, and the annual average target for acres to be burned.

Table 7: Prescribed Fire Management		
Natural Community	Acres	Optimal Fire Return Interval (Years)
Mesic Flatwoods	10,879.82	1-3
Sandhill	210.11	1-3
Seepage Slope	107.54	1-3
Wet Prairie	1,687.09	2-3
Depression Marsh	882.29	2-4
Wet Flatwoods	55.45	3-5
Basin Marsh	73.60	4-6
Scrubby Flatwoods	1,433.32	4-6
Scrub	298.16	4-12
Annual Target Acreage 4,803-12,952		

Prescribed fire is planned for each burn zone on the appropriate interval. The park's burn plan is updated annually because fire management is a dynamic process. To provide adaptive responses to changing conditions, fire management requires careful planning based on annual and very specific burn objectives. Each annual burn plan is developed to support and implement the broader objectives and actions outlined in this ten-year management plan.

The primary objectives of prescribed fire at SSRPSP are:

- 1. Restoration or preservation of fire-adapted natural communities.
- 2. Restoration or preservation of habitat for rare plant and animal species.
- **3.** Creation of a vegetation mosaic by varying intensity, frequency and season of burn within each maintained natural community.

- **4.** Promotion of diversity within natural communities.
- **5.** Stimulation of flowering in herbs, forbs, and other vascular plants.
- **6.** Reintroduction of lightning season fire regimes.
- **7.** Reduction of hazardous fuels through cool season burns.
- **8.** Maintenance of natural transition zones between vegetation types.
- **9.** Reduction of wildfires and resulting smoke management problems through management of fuel loads.

To accomplish these stated objectives using prescribed fire, the park was partitioned into 120 burn zones ranging in size from 53 to 548 acres. SSRPSP contains 22 natural communities. Nine of these natural communities including, mesic flatwoods, sandhill, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, basin marsh, depression marsh, seepage slope, wet flatwoods, and wet prairie are fire dependent. Three of the altered landcover types including abandoned field/pasture, pasture/improved, and pasture/semi-improved also require fire to drive them toward their desired future condition. SSRPSP has an annual ecological target burning acreage of approximately 4,803-12,952. Since the park is so large, SSRPSP has hundreds of miles of firebreaks of which a percentage needs to be maintained annually depending on the park's annual burn plan. Due to its large size, several burn zones are often combined for a single day burn event. SSRPSP utilizes natural fire breaks such as Herndon Swamp and the hydric hammocks where possible, but also had an extensive and well-established ditch and road system developed prior to state acquisition. The complexities of implementing a prescribed fire program at SSRPSP are enormous and land managers throughout the state have called this park one of the most challenging places to burn in the Florida. The combination of having a major highway. Interstate 95, bisecting the property as well as the proximity to the coast are just a few examples of the complexities.

SSRPSP uses several strategies to help mitigate the complexities of prescribed fire. One strategy includes cooperation with other state parks within the FPS system and other agencies and organizations such as TNC, Prescribed Fire Training Center (PFTC), SJRWMD, FWC, Kennedy Space Center (KSC), Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program (EELS), FFS, and several college fire programs that often help with day of burn operations and serve as crew or crew bosses. It is always challenging to meet the minimum crew requirements for any given burn. Other agency, organization, and state park support is critical to implementing our burn program. Another strategy to help mitigate prescribed fire complexity is the manipulation of fuels by reducing the structure which in turn allows the implementation of fire on multiple burn zones by making conditions safer and more efficient. The presence of I-95, other major roads, airports, schools, utility easements and all other urban interface complications make smoke management concerns especially critical at the park. Combining burn zones allows for fewer burn days and potential smoke management concerns in any given year. Furthermore, due to our proximity to the coast and the urban interface issues, appropriate weather parameters, under which the park can safely implement prescribed fire and accomplish our ecological goals, are few in any given year. Benefits must be maximized when appropriate weather conditions occur.

One of the most successful ways of manipulating fuel structure and composition is by establishing partnerships that help accomplish a variety of vegetation mechanical treatments such as roller-chopping, pine thinning, and brontosaurus work. The best example of such partnership is with the Tall Timbers Upland Ecosystem Restoration Program (UERP) and the USFWS Coastal Program to fund, research, and facilitate much needed vegetation management, and fire implementation on the focal area which includes the entire northeast guadrant of the park. The main goal of the partnership is to increase application of prescribed fire and mechanical treatments to benefit imperiled and declining fire-dependent wildlife species and the natural communities they depend upon. Over 100 species of upland plants and animals have been identified in Florida's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS) (FWC 2005) as species of greatest conservation need (SGCN). These include imperiled species such as red-cockaded woodpecker, grasshopper sparrow, loggerhead shrike, brown-headed nuthatch, Bachman's sparrow, eastern meadowlark and gopher tortoise, as well as other declining and once common species such as northern bobwhite (FWC 2005). These species depend on frequent fires to sustain the habitats they require. The relationship was established six years ago and by the end of 2016 all fire dependent natural communities on the northeast quadrant of the park will be in maintenance condition with a fire frequency of 1.5 - 2 years. The increases in fire dependent species mentioned above has been dramatic. Over the next ten years, the park plans to continue this relationship and continue to seek funding to accomplish the same outcome on the entirety of the northwest quadrant. Work for 2017 has already been funded in this area.

Lastly, a large part of maintaining scrub in optimal condition involves the application of prescribed fire. Optimal condition is defined as a mix of short and medium height scrub 3.5 to 5 feet tall and no tall scrub greater than 5 feet with abundant open sandy areas that support many imperiled and/or endemic plant species and animal species. It is impossible to maintain 100 percent of the scrubby habitats in optimal condition at any one time but it will be a goal to maintain 50 percent of it within optimal condition within 10 years.

In order to track fire management activities, the DRP maintains a statewide burn database. The database allows staff to track various aspects of each park's fire management program including individual burn zone histories and fire return intervals, staff training and experience, backlog, etc. The database is also used for annual burn planning which allows the DRP to document fire management goals and objectives on an annual basis. Each quarter the database is updated and reports are produced that track progress towards meeting annual burn objectives.

Table 8 presents a summary of prescribed fire management activities completed at SSRPSP from FY 2005-2006 to FY 2015-2016.

Table 8. Completed Prescribed Fire Management Activities							
Fiscal	Prescribed	Wildfire	Total	Fire-	Fire- Mechanical		
Year	Fire Acres	Acres	Acres	Type	Type	Treatment	
			Burned	Acres	Target	Acres	
					Acres		
2005-06	3,734	12	3,746	17,171	4116-	75	
					8358		
2006-07	342	1,114	1,456	17,171	4116-	12	
					8358		
2007-08	1,259	230	1,489	17,171	4116-	974	
					8358		
2008-09	2,988	226	3,214	17,171	4116-	571	
					8358		
2009-10	2,097	10	2,107	17,171	4116-	63	
					8358		
2010-11	665	41	706	17,171	4116-	181	
					8358		
2011-12	5,653	1,555	7,208	17,171	4116-	424	
					8358		
2012-13	3,509	4	3,513	17,171	4116-	572	
					8358		
2013-14	3,271	285	3,556	17,171	4116-	744	
					8358		
2014-15	5,788	18	5,806	17,171	4116-	417	
					8358		
2015-16	4,127	0	4,127	19,463	4725-	342	
					9541		

Natural Community Restoration: In some cases, the reintroduction and maintenance of natural processes is not enough to reach the desired future conditions for natural communities in the park, and active restoration programs are required. Restoration of altered natural communities to healthy, fully functioning natural landscapes often requires substantial efforts that may include mechanical treatment of vegetation or soils and reintroduction or augmentation of native plants and animals. For the purposes of this management plan, restoration is defined as the process of assisting the recovery and natural functioning of degraded natural communities to desired future condition, including the re-establishment of biodiversity, ecological processes, vegetation structure and physical characters.

Examples that would qualify as natural community restoration, requiring annual restoration plans, include large mitigation projects, large-scale hardwood removal and timbering activities, roller-chopping and other large-scale vegetative modifications. The key concept is that restoration projects will go beyond management activities routinely done as standard operating procedures such as routine mowing, the reintroduction of fire as a natural process, spot treatments of exotic plants, and small-scale vegetation management.

Following are the natural community/habitat restoration and maintenance actions recommended to create the desired future conditions in scrubby flatwoods, scrub, and the ruderal areas consisting of abandoned pasture and abandoned fields (See Desired Future Conditions Map).

## Objective B: Conduct habitat/natural community restoration activities on 100 acres of scrub and 700 acres of scrubby flatwoods

Action 1	Timber 700 acres of scrubby flatwoods and 100 acres of scrub
Action 2	Reduce hardwoods over five feet in height on the same acres
Action 3	Acquire appropriate equipment to reliably conduct repetitive
	restoration activities to maintain scrub habitats

Regarding Florida scrub-jay habitat, updated data shows that higher tree cover in optimal height territories has a detrimental influence on demography. Past reports indicated a less certain conclusion because higher tree cover was associated with areas burned infrequently and otherwise suboptimal anyway (Breininger 2005, Breininger et al. 2006). Tree cover appears to be an important variable in combination with many other habitat factors in determining territory densities based on preliminary results from a more complicated analysis involving a larger regional data set (Breininger, 2008). Therefore, removing pines from these systems will improve demography. A density of 1-2 pines per acre is recommended.

# Objective C: Conduct natural community/habitat restoration activities on 25 acres abandoned pasture.

Action 1	Develop a groundcover restoration plan with the use of
	mitigation funds or in partnership with a sister agency who
	specializes in ground cover restoration of abandoned pasture
Action 2	Initiate restoration on 25 acres of abandoned pasture or
	abandoned field that surrounds the active cattle lease.

The preserve is large and has many natural community improvements and prescribed fire to implement over the next decade. It is the intention of park staff to continue to make improvements within the natural communities considered the low hanging fruits before undertaking large scale groundcover restoration projects on the pasture/abandon fields areas. It is the intention during the life of this management plan to focus on all the other park wide improvements and maintain the current cattle lease area as an interim management strategy until all other improvements are accomplished and we are ready to take on such a large project. With any large-scale groundcover restoration, there is a learning curve and site-specific complications. To expedite the learning process, the park will initiate groundcover restoration on 25 acres of abandoned pasture/abandoned fields immediately adjacent to the active cattle lease that will help determine techniques and methodology for future restoration efforts on the expansive cattle lease.

Natural Community Improvement: Improvements are similar to restoration but on a smaller, less intense scale. This typically includes small-scale vegetative management activities or minor habitat manipulation. Following are the natural community/habitat improvement actions recommended for mesic flatwoods at the park.

## Objective D: Conduct habitat/natural community improvement activities on 4,000 acres of mesic flatwoods

Action 1	Continue partnership with UERP and USFWS and seek grant
	funding to rollerchop approximately 2,500 acres of mesic
	flatwoods on the northwest quadrant and apply a 1.5 to 2 year
	fire return interval

Action 2 Timber approximately 1,500 acres of dense pines located along I-95 on the southwest quadrant and located near urban interface areas along the western boundary of this quadrant

The UERP, USFWS, and SSRPSP collaborative relationship has been discussed previously. Specific land management activities on the northwest quadrant will include the frequent application of prescribed fire (mainly growing season, but dormant season where necessary) and roller chopping to facilitate prescribed fire. These techniques will be used to recover native plant diversity and increase populations of declining fire-dependent species. While prescribed fire and mechanical treatments have been utilized and tested, it is believed that frequent fire and combination treatments (fire & roller chopping), are essential management actions for restoring habitat for SGCN through reduction of shrub/palmetto coverage, decreased mid-story, and increased ground cover plant diversity and density. Since this relationship has been established with successful results and partial funding, this will be the first restoration priority.

SSRPSP has attempted to sell timber several times over the last decade without success. Hopefully, some pine stands can be thinned in the future. For many of the prescribed fire zones that have not received fire since state acquisition, they must undergo mechanical treatments, especially in the form of sustainable and ecological timbering, to safely apply fire that will render the desired ecological results.

### <u>Imperiled Species Management</u>

# Goal: Maintain, improve or restore imperiled species populations and habitats in the park.

The DRP strives to maintain and restore viable populations of imperiled plant and animal species primarily by implementing effective management of natural systems. Single species management is appropriate in state parks when the maintenance, recovery or restoration of a species or population is complicated due to constraints associated with long-term restoration efforts, unnaturally high mortality or insufficient habitat. Single species management should be compatible

with the maintenance and restoration of natural processes, and should not imperil other native species or seriously compromise park values.

In the preparation of this management plan, DRP staff consulted with staff of the FWC's Imperiled Species Management or that agency's Regional Biologist and other appropriate federal, state and local agencies for assistance in developing imperiled animal species management objectives and actions. Likewise, for imperiled plant species, DRP staff consulted with FDACS. Data collected by the USFWS, FWC, FDACS and FNAI as part of their ongoing research and monitoring programs will be reviewed by park staff periodically to inform management of decisions that may have an impact on imperiled species at the park.

Ongoing inventory and monitoring of imperiled species in the state park system is necessary to meet the DRP's mission. Long-term monitoring is also essential to ensure the effectiveness of resource management programs. Monitoring efforts must be prioritized so that the data collected provides information that can be used to improve or confirm the effectiveness of management actions on conservation priorities. Monitoring intensity must at least be at a level that provides the minimum data needed to make informed decisions to meet conservation goals. Not all imperiled species require intensive monitoring efforts on a regular interval. Priority must be given to those species that can provide valuable data to guide adaptive management practices. Those species selected for specific management action and those that will provide management guidance through regular monitoring are addressed in the objectives below.

# Objective A: Develop/Update baseline imperiled species occurrence inventory lists for plants and animals.

Action 1	Complete a bat/small mammal survey
Action 2	Conduct a comprehensive herpetological inventory
Action 3	Conduct a comprehensive invertebrate survey

Forming valuable partnerships with other agencies and organizations is a way to acquire important baseline imperiled species information.

## Objective B: Monitor and document 6 selected imperiled animal species in the park.

ACTION	Develop mornioring protocols for any rare and regionally
	important new species documented in the baseline surveys
	mentioned in Objective A for bats, small mammals, reptiles,
	amphibians, and invertebrates.
Action 2	Continue to implement monitoring programs for red-cockaded
	woodpeckers, bald eagles, Florida scrub-jays, Bachman's
	sparrow, gopher tortoises, and Florida gopher frogs for which
	protocols already exist and monitoring is underway

Red-cockaded woodpeckers and Florida scrub jays are currently being monitored at the Tier 4 level. Both have ongoing demographic studies since becoming a state park and nearly since state acquisition. It is imperative to continue monitoring both populations at this level because the information is a major driver of our management. Gopher tortoise, bald eagle, Bachman's sparrow, Florida gopher frog, and Florida manatee are monitored at a Tier 3 level. Bachman's sparrow is currently monitored through the efforts of our relationship with the UERP discussed earlier in the plan. That relationship is imperative to continue the monitoring of this species as well as other species of greatest conservation need particular to fire maintained flatwoods in the state of Florida. Florida gopher frogs are currently monitored by FWC staff by surveying ponds for tadpoles and installing frog logging audio recording devices at several breeding ponds. SSRPSP help with this effort. SSRPSP currently monitor gopher tortoises as part of post burn evaluation documentation since burrows are most easy to identify in recently burned areas. In conjunction with the efforts of FWC volunteers we also monitor bald eagles and Florida manatee.

# Objective C: Monitor and document 8 selected imperiled plant species in the park.

- Action 1 Update GIS mapping project for surveys originally conducted from 2000-2004 for Curtiss' milkweed, giant orchid, large-flowered false rosemary and snowy orchid.
- Action 2 Continue to implement monitoring programs for handfern, hooded pitcher plant, giant airplant and cardinal airplant for which protocols already exist and monitoring is underway

From 200-2004 Curtiss' milkweed, Giant orchid, Large flowered false rosemary and and snowy orchid were located and mapped using GIS on the park. Those species have not been mapped since. Partner with local native plant societies and seek volunteer help to continue the mapping project that was established over a decade ago.

Handfern and hooded pitcher plant are currently monitored by park staff and park volunteers every three years. Detailed locations are acquired, linked to the park's GIS, and shapefiles are analyzed for population growth or decline. In 2002-2004 University of Florida conducted surveys on several cypress domes within the park documenting the devastating impacts of the Mexican bromeliad weevil. Those same domes are still surveyed by park staff every 2 years

# Objective D: Continue participation in the RCW Southern Range Translocation Cooperative (SRTC)

Action 1 Attend annual SRTC meeting

Action 2 Continue to implement all management actions for RCW's outlined in the approved USFWS Recovery Plan and agreed upon

by the cooperative

The SRTC objectives are to translocate RCW subadults from large or stable populations to augment population size and growth of small vulnerable populations. This reduces the risk of extirpation to small populations while accelerating population growth and reducing the future time required to achieve population size, conservation, and recovery objectives. The SRTC tasks are to: (1) identify donor and recipient populations and their status, (2) list recipient population bird needs, (3) tally total number of birds available from donor populations, (4) pair suitable donor and recipient populations, (5) prioritize and approve new recipient populations, (6) allocate birds to recipient populations, and (7) determine a translocation schedule.

The RCW population at the park is listed as a Central Support Population in the USFWS Recovery Plan. The park will continue to monitor this population and translocate RCW's per the Recovery Plan's and the SRTC's recommendations. The park will also continue to implement management strategies such as installing artificial nest cavities, protecting trees from fire damage, installing predator protection for nests, and implementing prescribed fire on a 1.5-2 year fire return interval mainly in the growing season in RCW occupied areas.

## Objective E: Continue participation in the Brevard Adaptive Resource Management Model (ARM) and Working Group meetings for FSJ's

Action 1 Attend FSJ regional working group meeting and Brevard ARM meeting annually

While the management of FSJ's in the state of Florida at this point has nothing comparable to the well-oiled machine of the RCW SRTC, there are nonetheless smaller collectives that help inform managers. The current FSJ Recovery Plan is from 1990 and used limited data from the early 80's. An update to the current plan is in the process of being finalized. In the meantime, participation in regional working groups can sometimes be the only source of accurate updated information. FSJ managers in Brevard County benefit from some of the longest running studies in the state. The principal investigator, Dave Breininger, is still pursuing efforts to increase populations of FSJ's in the county and increase knowledge of FSJ ecology and management. The Brevard ARM is an effort to provide managers a model that helps land managers make decisions that help best benefit jays.

### **Exotic Species Management**

## Goal: Remove exotic and invasive plants and animals from the park and conduct needed maintenance control.

The DRP actively removes invasive exotic species from state parks, with priority being given to those causing the most ecological damage. Removal techniques may include mechanical treatment, herbicides or biocontrol agents.

### Objective A: Annually treat 150 infested acres of exotic plant species and 2,000 gross acres in the park.

Action 1	Annually develop/update exotic plant management work plan.
Action 2	Implement annual work plan
Action 3	Continue to apply for Invasive Plant Contractor funding through
	the FFWCC Upland Program/Mosquito Coast Working group
Action 4	Acquire Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) to assist with exotic
	plant surveys
Action 5	Continue to request and utilize AmeriCorps A.N.T. members at
	the park
Action 6	Continue to request OPS funding annually for invasive plant
	herbicide technicians
Action 7	Continue to plan and coordinate monthly staff invasive plant
	team days

It is critical to utilize every strategy possible to control exotic plants. The park is currently utilizing almost every strategy available and will continue to do so. Therefore, the park will continue to be involved with the FWC upland program, our local CISMA, request AmeriCorps and OPS personnel and implement staff team days.

The park currently contains almost 3,000 acres (2,964.6) of exotic plants. In order to efficiently assess the scope and scale of the invasive plant problem on a 22,000-acre park, it is imperative to utilize the best technologies available. Unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) technology is becoming widely available and very inexpensive. As discussed earlier, exotic plants can grow exponentially. Survey data from just a few years prior can become obsolete. Re-surveying 22,000 acres of difficult to navigate terrain by foot, UTV, or truck is simply impractical, impossible and inefficient, especially on a yearly basis. For these reasons, acquisition of a UAV, training in its function and maintenance, and its integration with current GIS system is critical.

### Objective B: Implement control measures on 1 exotic animal species in the park.

Action 1	Continue feral hog contract
Action 2	Seek a USDA contractor or funding from USDA
Action 3	Continue to train and equip staff and volunteers for removal using DRP standards
Action 4	Research new technology and methods for efficient removal
Action 5	Increase monitoring of effects and population of exotic animals
Action 6	Research control measures for exotic animals other than feral
	hogs

Moving forward with the exotic removal program the feral hog contractor is a crucial entity that provides consistent removal of feral hogs directly related to their population and density. The park should continue to pursue USDA funding and

ultimately a contractor to supplement this effort. In addition to the contractor's, additional training and equipment for park staff is needed to conform to DRP standards and will assist in the feral hog program. This can and will be added to by continuing to research, develop, and procure the latest technology like the jager pro traps or other complete sounder catch systems. The use of night vision and infrared technology will help determine population size and density as well as assist in the removal efforts. Ultimately, increased efforts are needed to evaluate the damages and effect on the park and to implement the eradication plan. This will enable the park to explore and research other control measures for exotic species posing a threat to the overall health of the park.

### **Cultural Resource Management**

Cultural resources are individually unique, and collectively, very challenging for the public land manager whose goal is to park and protect them in perpetuity. The DRP will implement the following goals, objectives and actions, as funding becomes available, to park the cultural resources found in St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park.

### Goal: Protect, preserve and maintain the cultural resources of the park.

The management of cultural resources is often complicated because these resources are irreplaceable and extremely vulnerable to disturbances. The advice of historical and archaeological experts is required in this effort. All activities related to land clearing, ground disturbing activities, major repairs or additions to historic structures listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places must be submitted to the FDOS, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) for review and comment prior to undertaking the proposed project. Recommendations may include, but are not limited to concurrence with the project as submitted, pretesting of the project site by a certified archaeological monitor, cultural resource assessment survey by a qualified professional archaeologist, modifications to the proposed project to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effect. In addition, any demolition or substantial alteration to any historic structure or resource must be submitted to the DHR for consultation and the DRP must demonstrate that there is no feasible alternative to removal and must provide a strategy for documentation or salvage of the resource. Florida law further requires that DRP consider the reuse of historic buildings in the park in lieu of new construction and must undertake a cost comparison of new development versus rehabilitation of a building before electing to construct a new or replacement building. This comparison must be accomplished with the assistance of the DHR.

### Objective A: Assess and evaluate 20 of 20 recorded cultural resources in the park.

Action 1 Complete 17 assessments/evaluations of archaeological sites.

Action 2 Complete 1 Historic Structures Reports (HSR's) for historic buildings and cultural landscape. Prioritize stabilization, restoration and rehabilitation projects.

Assessments were completed on 17 sites during 2014-2015, three sites are in need of further education and location determination; once determined an assessment of these sites should be completed. These sites are historically valuable and directly relate to our statement of interpretation for the park; the Hernandez Capron trail (Brevard and Indian River county), the Graves Brothers Tram, all need assessments. The Hardee point midden has monitoring of erosion and should be annually monitored for potential action needs. The remainder of the sites will be evaluated through staff protection during fire operations and resource management activities, and then assessments completed at the five-year mark of this plan in 2020. Sites with high visitor impact such as the Carlton house are annually treated with staff projects for visitor impact protection and vegetation control, these evaluations should continue to be done to prevent further degradation of the site.

The three historic structures identified are being utilized and maintained, these sites are continually evaluated and repaired as needed. The Hanshaw/widener house is composed of multiple structures including a concrete structure in the water. This site should be evaluated for significance and maintenance, structures have been treated for insects degrading the stability and should be monitored for retreatment by site residents.

### Objective B: Compile reliable documentation for all recorded historic and archaeological resources.

Action 1 Ensure all known sites are recorded or updated in the Florida Master Site File.

Action 2 Conduct oral history interviews.

Continue staff training for archeological monitoring and ability to update, and maintain the FMSF. This can be done with staff and volunteers; the assessments completed in 2015 have been through the work of skilled volunteers to "ground truth" current data and reflecting in the FMSF. An archaeological predictive model was completed in 2010. The model located high, medium, and low sensitivity areas as a tool for identifying archaeological sites within the park. Predictive models are only useful if staff are involved in actually identifying sites and then being able to interpret their significance and inclusion; this is also often very different than what is on the property dependent on prior history and use. Oral history has been completed with locals and recorded. Work will need to continue in this area to ensure additions are made and put into the statement for interpretation data. Staff has been crucial to the maintenance of these sites, this should continue to ensure all staff knows of these sites and the needs each individual site present, especially for sensitivity during resource operations, and simply for the interpretation of our park.

### Objective C: Bring 3 of 20 recorded cultural resources into good condition.

Action 1	Design and implement regular monitoring programs for cultural sites
Action 2	Create and implement a cyclical maintenance program for each cultural resource.
Action 3	Research significance on sites with limited information due to unknown location.
Action 4	Add Historical structure assessment to annual residence inspections for appropriate structures.

Continue staff involvement on continual awareness of sites locations, and condition. Sites should be visited regularly and on at least an annual basis, preferably as a staff project, or volunteer assignment. Structures should be inspected annually, sites, trails, and collections should be inspected every other year in addition to the continual monitoring needs during prescribed fires and resource management operations, knowledge of site location is crucial. Three of the ten sites are identified as poor are due to lack of prior knowledge and identification, and the inability to locate significant markers. 8IR992 fire break structures need to be controlled for vegetation management and identified for prep around during resource operations, this site can be brought to good condition, and interpreted with minor operational adjustments and research. 8BR1782 Graves Bothers Turpentine camp is in fair condition, staff knowledge of the location has led to degradation of the site, this site has now been identified and will be treated for vegetation control and prep during prescribed fire operations, this site can be brought into good condition and researched for connection of the tram and potentially additional site information. 8IR851 Carlton House is in poor condition based on vegetation management and high visitor impact, steps to reduce those impacts, and annually inspect and maintain this site, along with visitor interpretation, can bring this site into good condition and into a routinely maintained site.

### **Special Management Considerations**

### **Timber Management Analysis**

If the DRP determines that timber management does not conflict with the primary management objectives of the land, on all parcels larger than 1,000 acres, Florida Statutes - Chapters 253 and 259 require:

- 1) An analysis of the multiple-use potential of the parcel. Such analysis shall include the potential of the parcel to generate revenues to enhance the management of the parcel.
- 2) An assessment of the feasibility of managing timber resources for conservation and revenue generation purposes through a stewardship ethic that embraces sustainable forest management practices in land management plans.

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park (St. Sebastian) is designated as a single-use park. The feasibility of harvesting timber at St. Sebastian during the period covered by the UMP was considered pursuant to the DRP statutory responsibilities to analyze the park's resource needs and values.

The long-term management goal for forest communities in the state park system is to maintain or re-establish old-growth characteristics to the degree practicable, except in those forest communities specifically managed as early successional. Timber management is utilized to help restore or improve current habitat conditions and enhance the overall integrity of the natural community. Revenue generation from timber management is not the goal but rather, a by-product of taking such actions to help restore/improve target conditions of specific natural communities. In all situations, forest/stand/timber management activities undertaken will adhere to the current Florida Silvicultural Best Management Practices and Florida Forestry Wildlife Best Management Practices for State Imperiled Species.

Most natural communities evaluated at St. Sebastian had overstory pine stocking levels within or slightly below the range and hardwood overstory stocking levels above the upper limits identified for corresponding Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) Reference Sites. Overstory thinning is a management tool that may be utilized in areas which have overstocked conditions. Activities related to stand improvement, including palmetto and midstory reduction, are ongoing and still needed in many areas.

The Timber Management Analysis found in Addendum 8 provides additional details. The information contained within the timber assessment may be utilized by park management in furtherance of the overall management goals for St. Sebastian. However, the specific management goals and objectives for each natural community detailed in the Resource Management Component shall take precedence over any possible treatment listed in the timber assessment. In the case of imperiled species, the management of certain natural communities may differ from the standard treatments suggested in the timber assessment to provide optimum habitat conditions within the park.

### **Arthropod Control Plan**

All DRP lands are designated as "environmentally sensitive and biologically highly productive" in accordance with Ch. 388 and Ch. 388.4111 Florida Statutes. If a local mosquito control district proposes a treatment plan, the DRP works with the local mosquito control district to achieve consensus. By policy of FDEP since 1987, aerial adulticiding is not allowed, but larviciding and ground adulticiding (truck spraying in public use areas) is typically allowed. The DRP does not authorize new physical alterations of marshes through ditching or water control structures. Mosquito control plans temporarily may be set aside under declared threats to public or animal health, or during a Governor's Emergency Proclamation.

#### Sea Level Rise

Potential sea level rise is now under study and will be addressed by Florida's residents and governments in the future. The DRP will stay current on existing research and predictive models, in coordination with other FDEP programs and federal, state, and local agencies. The DRP will continue to observe and document the changes that occur to the park's shorelines, natural features, imperiled species populations, and cultural resources. This ongoing data collection and analysis will inform the Division's adaptive management response to future conditions, including the effects of sea level rise, as they develop.

### Resource Management Schedule

A priority schedule for conducting all management activities that is based on the purposes for which these lands were acquired, and to enhance the resource values, is located in the Implementation Component of this management plan.

### **Land Management Review**

Section 259.036, Florida Statutes, established land management review teams to determine whether conservation, preservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and in accordance with their approved land management plans. The considered recommendations of the land management review team and updated this plan accordingly.

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park was subject to a land management review on July 15, 2015. The review team made the following determinations:

- The land is being managed for the purpose for which it was acquired.
- The actual management practices, including public access, complied with the management plan for this site.

#### LAND USE COMPONENT

#### Introduction

Land use planning and park development decisions for the state park system are based on the dual responsibilities of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP). These responsibilities are to preserve representative examples of original natural Florida and its cultural resources, and to provide outdoor recreation opportunities for Florida's citizens and visitors.

The general planning and design process begins with an analysis of the natural and cultural resources of the unit, and then proceeds through the creation of a conceptual land use plan that culminates in the actual design and construction of park facilities. Input to the plan is provided by experts in environmental sciences, cultural resources, park operation and management. Additional input is received through public workshops, and through environmental and recreational-user groups. With this approach, the DRP objective is to provide quality development for resource-based recreation throughout the state with a high level of sensitivity to the natural and cultural resources at each park.

This component of the unit plan includes a brief inventory of the external conditions and the recreational potential of the unit. Existing uses, facilities, special conditions on use, and specific areas within the park that will be given special protection, are identified. The land use component then summarizes the current conceptual land use plan for the park, identifying the existing or proposed activities suited to the resource base of the park. Any new facilities needed to support the proposed activities are expressed in general terms.

### **External Conditions**

An assessment of the conditions that exist beyond the boundaries of the unit can identify any special development problems or opportunities that exist because of the unit's unique setting or environment. This also provides an opportunity to deal systematically with various planning issues such as location, regional demographics, adjacent land uses and park interaction with other facilities.

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park is located within Brevard and Indian River Counties, about 7 miles west of Wabasso Beach in the southeast part of the state. Approximately 500,000 people live within 30 miles of the park. According to U.S. Census data (2015), approximately 20% of residents in Brevard County identify as black, Hispanic or Latino, or another minority group. About 59% of the population is of working age, which is defined as being between 18 and 64 years old (U.S. Census 2015). Approximately 24% of residents in Indian River County as black, Hispanic or Latino, or another minority group. About 48% of the population is of working age, which is defined

as being between 18 and 64 years old (U.S. Census 2015). The per capita income in Brevard and Indian River Counties is \$27,571 and \$31,882, respectively. The statewide per capita income is \$28,930. (U.S. Census 2015).

The table below identifies significant resource-based recreation opportunities within 15 miles of St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park.

Table 9. Resource-Based Recreational Opportunities Near St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park									
Name	Biking	Hiking	Swim/ Beach Access	Boating/ Paddling	Fishing	Wildlife Viewing	Overnight Stay	Hunting	Equestrian Facilities
Blue Cypress Conservation Area (SJRWMD)	<b>✓</b>	✓		<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	
Fort Drum Marsh Conservation Area (SJRWMD)	✓	<b>√</b>		✓	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	<b>√</b>
Three Forks Marsh Conservation Area (SJRWMD)	~	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>√</b>	
T.M. Goodwin Waterfowl Management Area (FWC)	✓	<b>✓</b>		✓	<b>✓</b>	✓		<b>✓</b>	
Micco Scrub Sanctuary (Brevard County)	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>				✓			✓
Dale Wimbrow Park (Indian River County)		<b>✓</b>		✓	<b>✓</b>	✓			
Donald McDonald Park (Indian River County)				<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>		

The park is located in the Central East Vacation Region, which includes Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, Okeechobee, St. Lucie, and Martin Counties (Visit Florida 2016). According to the 2015 Florida Visitor Survey, approximately 7% of domestic visitors to Florida visited this region. Roughly 92% visitors to the region traveled to the Central East Region for leisure purposes. The top

activities for domestic visitors were beach/waterfront (59%) followed by visiting friends/relatives (41%). Spring (33%) was the most popular travel season, followed by summer at 26%. Most visitors traveled by non-air (77%), reporting an average of 4.8 nights and spending an average of \$111 per person per day including transportation (Visit Florida 2016).

Florida's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) indicates that the level of service in this region for freshwater fishing (non-boat), and tent camping is below the statewide median with demand for additional facilities increasing through 2020 (FDEP 2013).

### **Existing Use of Adjacent Lands**

The park is divided into quadrants by the north-south alignment of Interstate 95 and the east-west alignment of the C-54 drainage canal. Land uses surrounding the state park are a mix of suburban residential, agricultural and commercial uses. East of the park are predominantly single-family residential developments and the town of Fellsmere is located just south of the park boundary. North and west of the park are predominantly agricultural lands, including ranches, citrus groves and pine plantations.

### Planned Use of Adjacent Lands

Future residential development pressure is anticipated in the privately-owned areas surrounding the state park. Convenient access from Interstate 95 to Fellsmere Road along the southern park boundary will encourage the conversion of agricultural land in the area to suburban and related commercial development. Potential impacts to the park from future land use changes will include the possible degradation of surface water quality entering the park and complication of prescribed fire management activities in the park along the urban interface.

### Florida Greenways and Trails System

The Florida Greenways and Trails System (FGTS) is made up of existing, planned and conceptual non-motorized trails and ecological greenways that form a connected, integrated statewide network. The FGTS serves as a green infrastructure plan for Florida, tying together the greenways and trails plans and planning activities of communities, agencies and non-profit organizations throughout Florida. Trails include paddling, hiking, biking, multi-use and equestrian trails. The Office of Greenways and Trails maintains a priority trails map and gap analysis for the FGTS to focus attention and resources on closing key gaps in the system.

In some cases, existing or planned priority trails run through or are adjacent to state parks, or they may be in close proximity and can be connected by a spur trail. State parks can often serve as trailheads, points-of-interest, and offer

amenities such as camping, showers and laundry, providing valuable services for trail users while increasing state park visitation.

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park has a great potential for connection with planned ecological and recreational greenways envisioned by local governments, other state agencies and the SJRWMD, and adjacent landowners. The Division actively supports creation of greenway connections and plans state parks for integration with adjacent greenways wherever it is feasible, given the specific environmental, public safety, operational or other constraints of the individual park. Division staff will continue to work with County governments, other agencies and adjacent landowners to facilitate greenway connections to the preserve.

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park has been designated as part of the Florida Greenways and Trails (FGT) system. The park is approximately four miles to the west of the East Coast Greenway, part of the FGT Priority Trail Network.

### **Property Analysis**

Effective planning requires a thorough understanding of the unit's natural and cultural resources. This section describes the resource characteristics and existing uses of the property. The unit's recreation resource elements are examined to identify the opportunities and constraints they present for recreational development. Past and present uses are assessed for their effects on the property, compatibility with the site, and relation to the unit's classification.

### **Recreational Resource Elements**

This section assesses the park's recreational resource elements, those physical qualities that, either singly or in certain combinations, can support various resource-based recreation activities. Breaking down the property into such elements provides a means for measuring the property's capability to support potential recreational activities. This process also analyzes the existing spatial factors that either favor or limit the provision of each activity.

### Land Area

At nearly 22,000 acres, St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park provides a large expanse of natural resource land that is significant in both expanse and in quality. Twenty-one natural communities have been mapped on the park, providing a wide range of recreational and interpretive opportunities for visitors. Many of these communities are wetlands or seasonally wet by nature, and access by the public is limited during certain times of the year. Except for the maintenance road that runs parallel to the C-54 Canal and a park road extending from Fellsmere Road to a parking area near the South Prong of the St. Sebastian River, public vehicular access is limited to trailheads located at

various points around the periphery of the park. The potential of this state park to provide a variety of recreational trails is exceptional and over 60 miles of shared-use trails are in place, located along existing park service roads and firebreaks.

#### Water Area

The St. Sebastian River provides recreational opportunities for canoeing and kayaking, with a variety of wildlife viewing opportunities. During the cooler months, manatees frequent the river and the C-54 Canal in large numbers. Access to the river is available from Mullet Camp within the park, the Indian River County canoe launch just north of Fellsmere Road, and the county's Dale Wimbrow and Donald McDonald Parks. In addition, several private boat ramps and private docks provide access to the river. Motorized boat traffic is heavy, at times, along the South Prong of the river. The C-54 Canal is a popular shoreline fishing resource, and provides opportunities for viewing manatees from its confluence with the river westward for approximately 2.4 miles to a water control structure.

#### **Shoreline**

The St. Sebastian River is divided into the North Prong and the South Prong, the former being narrower and less accessible to powerboats than the latter. The river shoreline is a steep, sandy bank providing outstanding scenic vistas, but highly susceptible to erosion if the vegetative cover is disturbed by foot traffic. Two canoe/kayak landings are provided in the park, one at Mullet Camp on the South Prong and one just north of the C-54 Canal on the North Prong.

### **Natural Scenery**

Visual resources in the state park are outstanding. Natural communities such as wet prairie, prairie hammocks, sandhill and mesic flatwoods provide broad vistas and interesting patterns of vegetation. Herndon Swamp, a strand swamp community, offers a shady and enclosed visual environment, rich with epiphytic plants and other wetland vegetation. Scrub and scrubby flatwoods areas of the park are less attractive to the average visitor, excepting birders. Derelict agricultural fields and C-54 and I-95 corridors, while providing occasional interesting vistas, have the least potential for scenery appreciation in the park.

### Significant Habitat

The most outstanding interpretive and recreational resources of the state park are provided by the diverse wildlife that inhabit the natural communities and use the river and drainage canal. Forty-six listed animal species inhabit or visit the state park, most notably bird species such as red cockaded woodpecker, Florida scrub-jay, bald eagle, sandhill cranes and wood storks. Manatees are common in the St. Sebastian River and the C-54 canal during winter and spring. Wildlife sightings including listed and common species, such as white-tailed

deer and wild turkeys are the highlights of many visitors' park experiences. The variety of wildlife and habitats and, especially, the importance of the preserve as habitat for a number of important listed species, such as red-cockaded woodpeckers and Florida scrub jays, will be featured in the preserve's interpretive and education programs.

### **Archaeological and Historical Features**

With 20 cultural sites listed on the Florida Site File, the state park provides a broad view of the cultural history of this part of Florida. Prehistoric sites include evidence of Native American uses extending from Paleolithic through Seminole cultures. Interesting historic sites include pioneer homesteads, a turpentine camp, a ranch house, the remains of a Neo-classical house on the bank of the river (the Carlton House), a bridge site, a logging tram, a historic railway and a historic cattle trail known as the Hernandez-Capron Trail. Although few of the park's cultural sites will be suitable for public visits, the cultural landscape indicated by the array of resources should be prominently featured in the interpretive programs provided at the state park. Interpretive programs that feature the historic uses of the property for cattle ranching, timbering and turpentine harvesting will be incorporated both in the visitor center and at appropriate locations on the preserve.

### **Assessment of Use**

All legal boundaries, significant natural features, structures, facilities, roads and trails existing in the unit are delineated on the base map (see Base Map). Specific uses made of the unit are briefly described in the following sections.

#### **Past Uses**

The state park property has been used for cattle ranching, logging, turpentining and farming from the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century until it was acquired by public agencies. Public infrastructure development (I-95 and the C-54 Canal) and drainage canals to support the agricultural uses have created the greatest impacts to the property.

#### Other Uses

Public infrastructure development and maintenance along the C-54 Canal, I-95, a major powerline corridor and two gas line corridors extending through the park are the primary other uses that affect park management.

### **Future Land Use and Zoning**

The DRP works with local governments to establish designations that provide both consistency between comprehensive plans and zoning codes and permit typical state park uses and facilities necessary for the provision of resource-based recreation.

The Brevard County future land use designation for the park is Public Conservation (PUB-CONS). This designation is intended to accommodate lands and facilities which are managed by federal, state and local governments within unincorporated Brevard County for conservation or preservation uses. Activities that are conducted on Public Conservation lands that enhance, protect or manage such lands for nature-based recreation, conservation or preservation purposes for the benefit of the public shall be considered as consistent with this designation (Brevard County 2011).

The zoning designation is Government Managed Land – Parks and Conservation (GML-P). This designation includes active and passive recreational uses as well as permanent or temporary conservation uses (Brevard County 2009). The Indian River County future land use and zoning designation is Public Lands Conservation (C-1). These lands include publicly owned and publicly managed conservation lands. Most development is prohibited within these areas. Housing for conservation management is permitted (Indian River County Land Development Code 2017).

### **Current Recreational Use and Visitor Programs**

The existing forms of recreation at St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park include primitive camping, hiking, horseback riding, bicycling, picnicking, fishing, paddling, boating, and wildlife viewing. The park offers a variety of interpretive programs to provide information about the park's wildlife and natural habitats.

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park recorded 142,395 visitors in FY 2016/2017. By DRP estimates, the FY 2016/2017 visitors contributed \$13.5 million in direct economic impact, the equivalent of adding 216 jobs to the local economy (FDEP 2017).

### **Protected Zones**

A protected zone is an area of high sensitivity or outstanding character from which most types of development are excluded as a protective measure. Generally, facilities requiring extensive land alteration or resulting in intensive resource use, such as parking lots, camping areas, shops or maintenance areas, are not permitted in protected zones. Facilities with minimal resource impacts, such as trails, interpretive signs and boardwalks are generally allowed. All decisions involving the use of protected zones are made on a case-by-case basis after careful site planning and analysis.

At St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park, all wetland communities, wet flatwoods, wet prairies, sandhills, scrub, scrubby flatwoods communities have been designated as protected zones as delineated on the Conceptual Land Use Plan.

### **Existing Facilities**

A variety of public and support facilities were adapted or developed by the St. Sebastian River Buffer Preserve staff prior to the transfer of the property to the Division of Recreation and Parks. The public facilities are in generally good condition, providing an extensive network of trails, campsites and interpretive opportunities throughout the park property (see Base Map).

### **Recreation Facilities**

Trails (60 miles)

Primitive campsites (3)

Primitive group campsites (4)

Horse corrals (3)

Picnic shelters (2)

Canoe/kayak landings (2)

Trailheads (5)

Visitor center

Historic homesite

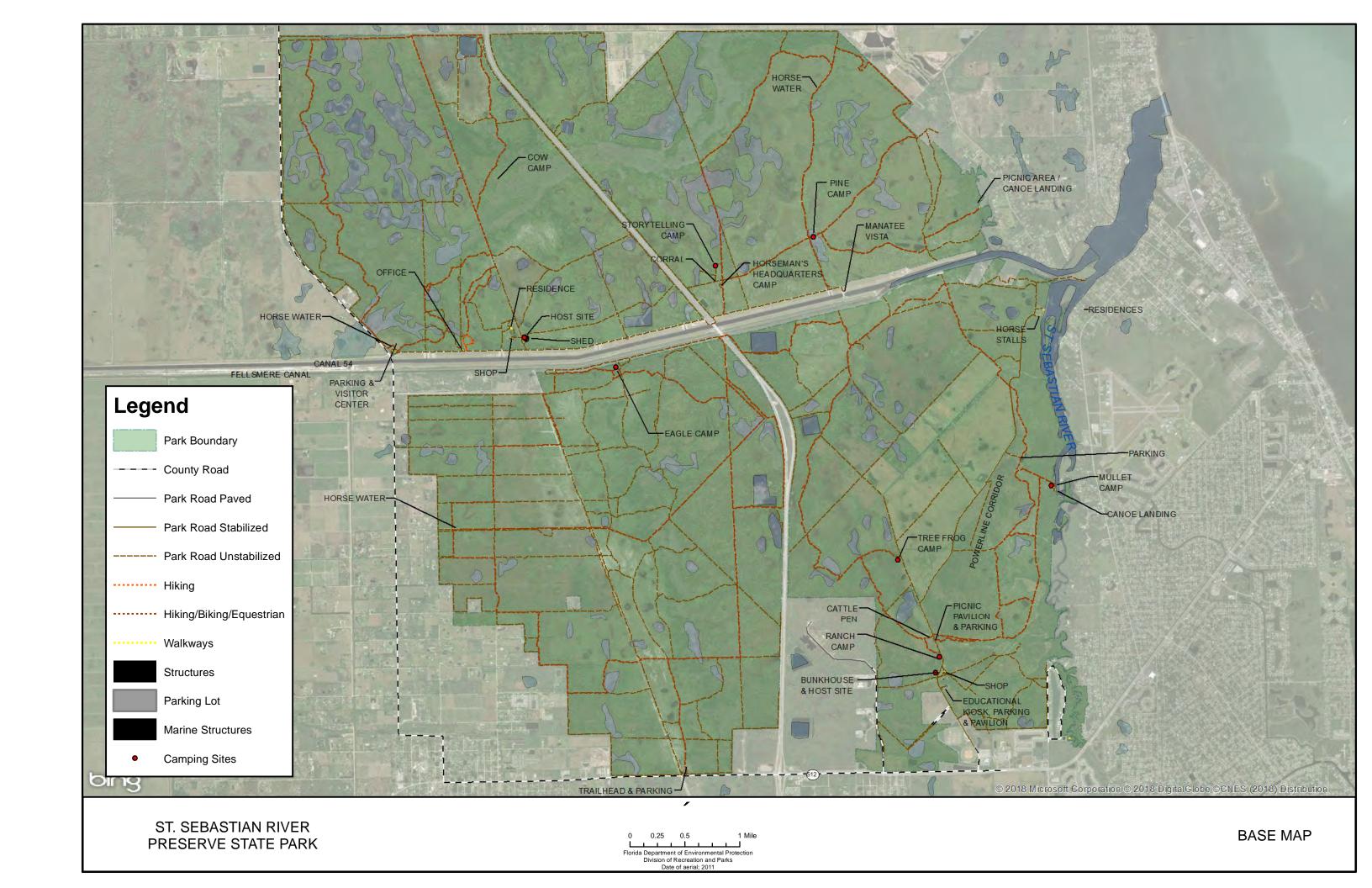
### **Support Facilities**

Administrative office

Shop and storage buildings

Residences (3)

Bunkhouse



### **Conceptual Land Use Plan**

The following narrative represents the current conceptual land use proposal for this park. The conceptual land use plan is the long-term, optimal development plan for the park, based on current conditions and knowledge of the park's resources, landscape and social setting (see Conceptual Land Use Plan). The conceptual land use plan is modified or amended, as new information becomes available regarding the park's natural and cultural resources or trends in recreational uses, in order to adapt to changing conditions. Additionally, the acquisition of new parkland may provide opportunities for alternative or expanded land uses. The DRP develops a detailed development plan for the park and a site plan for specific facilities based on this conceptual land use plan, as funding becomes available.

During the development of the conceptual land use plan, the DRP assessed the potential impact of proposed uses or development on the park resources and applied that analysis to determine the future physical plan of the park as well as the scale and character of proposed development. Potential resource impacts are also identified and assessed as part of the site planning process once funding is available for facility development. At that stage, design elements (such as existing topography and vegetation, sewage disposal and stormwater management) and design constraints (such as imperiled species or cultural site locations) are investigated in greater detail. Municipal sewer connections, advanced wastewater treatment or best available technology systems are applied for on-site sewage disposal. Creation of impervious surfaces is minimized to the greatest extent feasible in order to limit the need for stormwater management systems, and all facilities are designed and constructed using best management practices to limit and avoid resource impacts. Federal, state and local permit and regulatory requirements are addressed during facility development. This includes the design of all new park facilities consistent with the universal access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). After new facilities are constructed, park staff monitors conditions to ensure that impacts remain within acceptable levels.

### **Potential Uses**

### **Public Access and Recreational Opportunities**

Goal: Provide public access and recreational opportunities in the park.

The existing recreational activities and programs of this state park are appropriate to the natural and cultural resources contained in the park and should be continued. New and/or improved activities and programs are also recommended and discussed below.

### Objective: Maintain the park's current recreational carrying capacity of 852 users per day.

The park will continue to provide opportunities for primitive camping, hiking, horseback riding, bicycling, picnicking, fishing, paddling, boating, and wildlife viewing. Interpretive programs will continue to be offered.

### Objective: Expand the park's recreational carrying capacity by 120 users per day.

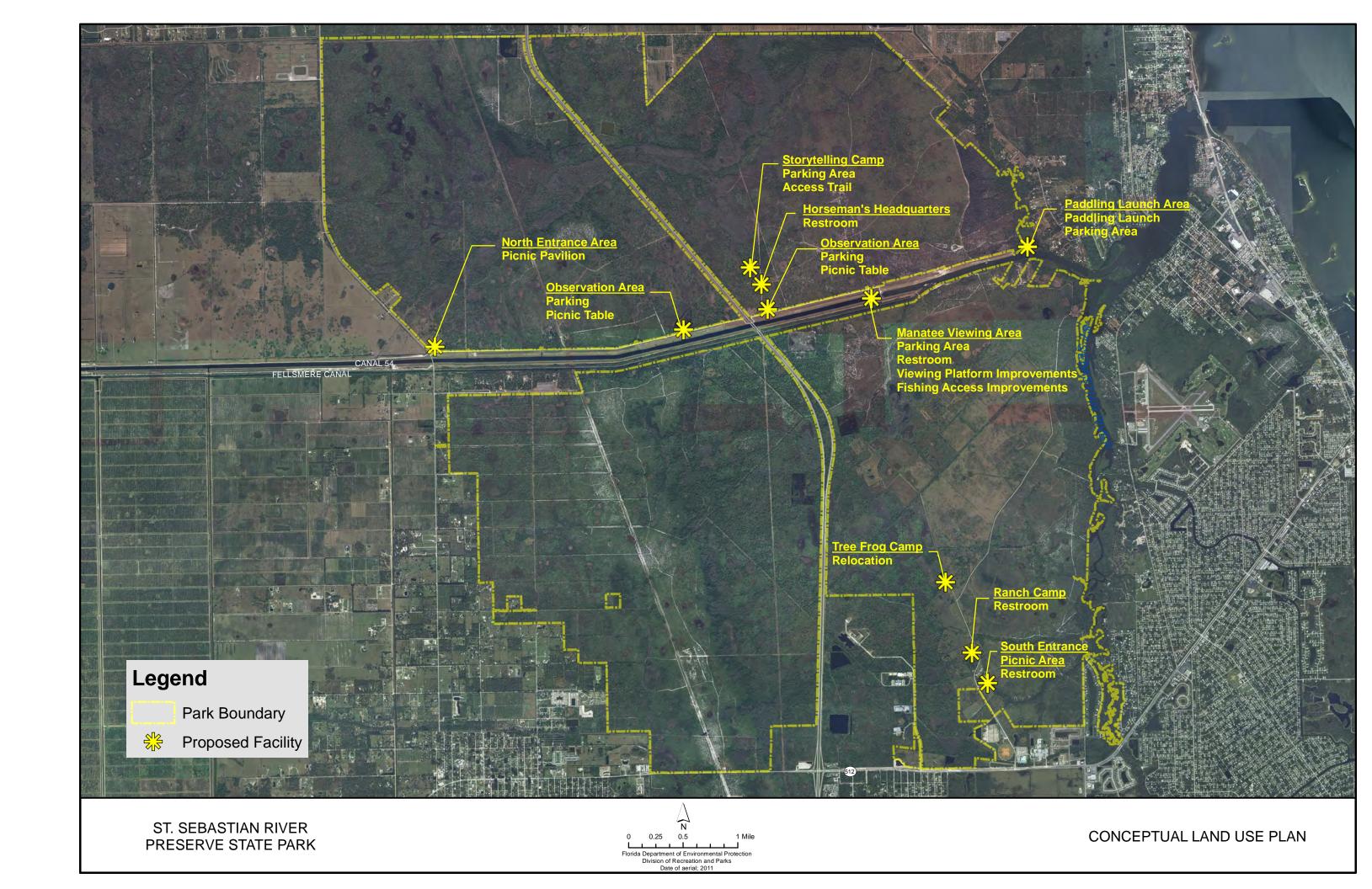
Picnicking opportunities will be expanded with the addition of a pavilion at the visitor center and tables at two proposed observation areas along the C-54 canal. Camping opportunities will be expanded with the addition of primitive campsites. Paddling opportunities will be expanded with the addition of a canoe/kayak launch on the north side of the C-54 canal near its confluence with the St. Sebastian River.

### Objective: Continue to provide the current repertoire of 5 interpretive, educational and recreational programs on a regular basis.

Five interpretive programs are currently offered to park visitors. These programs include a guided swamp hike led by staff upon request and ability. The hike visits the heart of the strand swamp and cypress dome showcasing the natural features as well as a cultural homestead deep inside. The park also offers a ranger tram tour upon request and ability. This tour is tailored to the group and typically focuses on historical landscapes and natural resource management. The park is also host to the space coast birding fest, and multiple resource management led tours focusing on professional land stewards and the positive results from best management practices utilized at the preserve. The park uses as much passive interpretation as possible as well, putting displays in the county library, and through our visitor's center and park kiosks.

### Objective: Develop 2 new interpretive, educational and recreational programs.

There is ability to expand on interpretive programs. Some being considered are campfire programs, and guided backpacking trips. Staffing for these will be seeking volunteer coverage to support implementation. Passive interpretation is the best way for this preserve to make sure the message is going out to the public. Kiosk materials will be updated. The expansion of school and scout programs is the next step. The park will continue to support of local events by providing interpretive materials.



### **Proposed Facilities**

### **Capital Facilities and Infrastructure**

Goal: Develop and maintain the capital facilities and infrastructure necessary to implement the recommendations of the management plan.

The existing facilities of this state park are appropriate to the natural and cultural resources contained in the park and should be maintained. New construction, as discussed further below, is recommended to improve the quality and safety of the recreational opportunities, to improve the protection of park resources, and to streamline the efficiency of park operations. The following is a summary of improved and new facilities needed to implement the conceptual land use plan for St. Sebastian River Preserve Park:

### Objective: Maintain all public and support facilities in the park.

All capital facilities, trails and roads within the park will be kept in proper condition through the daily or regular work of park staff and/or contracted help.

### Objective: Improve/repair 8 existing facilities and 1,700 feet of trail.

Major repair projects for park facilities may be accomplished within the ten-year term of this management plan, if funding is made available. These include the modification of existing park facilities to bring them into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (a top priority for all facilities maintained by DRP). The following discussion of other recommended improvements and repairs are organized by use area within the park.

**Visitor Center Area:** The addition of a large picnic pavilion is proposed for this area to enhance picnicking and other activities and programs that occur here.

Horsemen's Headquarters Equestrian Camping Area: The existing composting restroom in this area will be replaced with a permanent facility.

**Storytelling Camp:** To avoid potential conflicts between campers and equestrians at the Horseman's Headquarters Area, a new parking lot and access trail is proposed to provide campers access to this primitive group camp. The parking area location is a previously disturbed area just south of the new stormwater-holding facility adjacent to I-95.

Manatee Viewing Area: This facility is located on St. Johns Water Management District property and managed by the state park. Improvements proposed for this area include a designated parking area, permanent restroom, viewing platform and fishing access improvements.

The improvements will be implemented in partnership and collaboration with the water management district.

**Tree Frog Camp:** This primitive group camping area is in a low-lying area that frequently floods. As hydrological restoration projects go forward, the camp may need to be relocated to higher ground. A dry site on the banks of a small borrow pit pond just south of the existing camp was identified as the best alternate location.

**Trails:** Adjustments may have to be made to the trail system depending on the nature and extent of future restoration activities.

**Ranch Camp:** A permanent restroom will be provided in this area. The new restroom will service the primitive group camp, equestrian campground, equestrian day use area, and trailhead area just to the north.

**South Entrance Picnic Area**: The addition of a permanent restroom is proposed due to the increasing use of this area for special events.

Objective: Construct 3 new facilities.

Canal 54 Observation Areas: Two stopping points will be provided along the park drive where visitors can enjoy the expansive views along the C-54 canal and have access for wildlife observation and shoreline fishing. Each observation area will have a small parking area (up to four cars) and a picnic table. Locations identified are just east of the scrub-jay trail and near the intersection of the Horsemen's Headquarters access drive and the park drive.

**Primitive Campsites:** New primitive campsites may be created to accommodate additional use in the future. These will be sited by park staff in disturbed areas along the trail network. Up to two additional primitive campsites are proposed.

**Paddling Launch Area:** A paddling launch will be developed along the C-54 Canal to provide paddlers with convenient access to the North Prong and a downstream landing for South Prong paddlers. An old boat ramp area along the canal was identified as the best location. A small parking area is proposed for the site. The site is on water management district property and, as with the Manatee Viewing Area, the construction of a facility here would depend on a partnership and collaboration with the SJRWMD.

### Facilities Development

Preliminary cost estimates for these recommended facilities and improvements are provided in the Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates (Table 8) located in the Implementation Component of this plan. These cost estimates are based on the most cost-effective construction standards available at this time. The preliminary estimates are provided to assist DRP in budgeting future park improvements, and may be revised as more information is collected

through the planning and design processes. New facilities and improvements to existing facilities recommended by the plan include:

### **Recreation Facilities**

### Visitor Center Area

Picnic pavilion

### Horseman's Headquarters

Restroom

### Storytelling Camp

Parking area (10 spaces)

Access trail

### C-54 Observation Area (West)

Parking

Picnic table

### C-54 Observation Area (East)

Parking

Picnic table

### Manatee Viewing Area

Parking area

Restroom

Viewing platform improvements

Fishing access improvements

### Paddling Launch Area

Paddling launch

Parking area (10 spaces)

### Tree Frog Camp

Relocation

### Ranch Camp

Restroom

### South Entrance Picnic Area

Restroom

### Recreational Carrying Capacity

Carrying capacity is an estimate of the number of users a recreation resource or facility can accommodate and still provide a high quality recreational experience and preserve the natural values of the site. The carrying capacity of a unit is determined by identifying the land and water requirements for each recreation activity at the unit, and then applying these requirements to the unit's land and water base. Next, guidelines are applied which estimate the physical capacity of the unit's natural communities to withstand recreational uses without significant degradation. This analysis identifies a range within which the carrying capacity most appropriate to the specific activity, the activity site and the unit's classification is selected (see Table 6).

The recreational carrying capacity for this park is a preliminary estimate of the number of users the unit could accommodate after the current conceptual development program has been implemented. When developed, the proposed new facilities would approximately increase the unit's carrying capacity as shown in Table 10.

Table 10. Recreational Carrying Capacity

	Exis Capa	•	Proposed Additional Capacity		Estim Recrea Capa	tional
Activity/Facility	One Time	Daily	One Time	Daily	One Time	Daily
Trails						
Shared Use	180	360			180	360
Picnicking	64	128	32	64	96	192
Fishing						
Shoreline	20	40			20	40
Boating						
Canoe/Kayak			20	40	20	40
Camping						
Primitive	24	24	16	16	40	40
Group	100	100			100	100
Visitor Center	50	200			50	200
TOTAL	438	852	68	120	506	972

<sup>\*</sup>Existing capacity revised from approved plan according to DRP guide

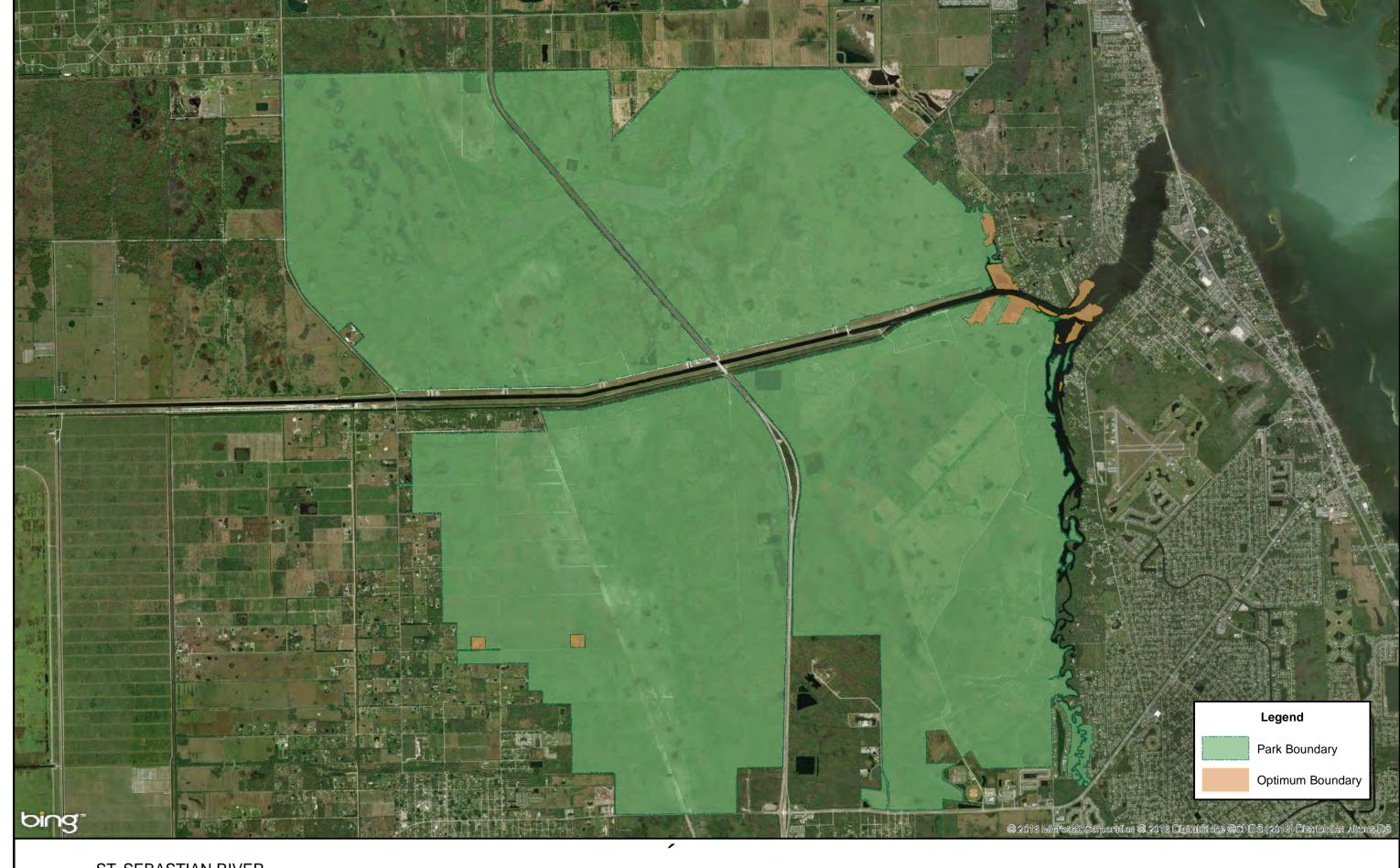
### **Optimum Boundary**

The optimum boundary map reflects lands considered desirable for direct management by the DRP as part of the state park. These parcels may include public or privately owned land that would improve the continuity of existing parklands, provide the most efficient boundary configuration, improve access to the park, provide additional natural and cultural resource protection or allow for future expansion of recreational activities. Parklands that are potentially surplus to the management needs of DRP are also identified. As additional needs are identified through park use, development, and research, and as land use changes on adjacent property, modification of the park's optimum boundary may be necessary.

Identification of parcels on the optimum boundary map is intended solely for planning purposes. It is not to be used in connection with any regulatory purposes. Any party or governmental entity should not use a property's identification on the optimum boundary map to reduce or restrict the lawful rights of private landowners. Identification on the map does not empower or suggest that any government entity should impose additional or more restrictive environmental land use or zoning regulations. Identification should not be used as the basis for permit denial or the imposition of permit conditions.

Properties identified for optimum boundary for the state park include parcels at the confluence of the North Prong and South Prong where they merge to form the main body of the St. Sebastian River. These properties, totaling approximately 150 acres, are intended to exclude the potential for development of land supporting relatively undisturbed natural communities and areas that will protect the watershed of the St. Sebastian River. At this time, no lands are considered surplus to the needs of the park.

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### IMPLEMENTATION COMPONENT

The resource management and land use components of this management plan provide a thorough inventory of the park's natural, cultural and recreational resources. They outline the park's management needs and problems, and recommend both short and long-term objectives and actions to meet those needs. The implementation component addresses the administrative goal for the park and reports on the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) progress toward achieving resource management, operational and capital improvement goals and objectives since approval of the previous management plan for this park. This component also compiles the management goals, objectives and actions expressed in the separate parts of this management plan for easy review. Estimated costs for the ten-year period of this plan are provided for each action and objective, and the costs are summarized under standard categories of land management activities.

### MANAGEMENT PROGRESS

Since the approval of the last management plan for Bald Point State Park in 2005, significant work has been accomplished and progress made towards meeting the DRP's management objectives for the park. These accomplishments fall within four of the five general categories that encompass the mission of the park and the DRP.

### Park Administration and Operations

• Increased volunteer base has allowed for the expansion of visitor center hours from two to four days per week.

### **Resource Management**

### **Natural Resources**

- Applied annual average of 2,000 5,000 in prescribed fire
- Treated an annual average of 200-400 infested acres of exotic invasive plants
- Removed annual average of 150-300 exotic animals
- Mechanically treated 400-600 acres leading to approximately 4,000 acres restored

### **Cultural Resources**

- Conducted ground truthing of all cultural site records
- All staff visited major sites annually
- Conducted site maintenance project days with the public

### **Recreation and Visitor Services**

Visitor center hours expanded from two to four days per week.

### **Park Facilities**

- A visitor center was constructed at the North Entrance.
- Improvements were made to the visitor center area since construction including rehabilitation of the laboratory, native landscaping, and development of a camp fire program area.

- Improvements to Horseman's Headquarters include fence removal and establishment of a tent site.
- Improvements to Storytelling Camp include removal of old deck and addition of benches and a sink.
- Improvements to the Manatee Viewing Area include the addition of an observation deck, enhanced access to the water, and fence replacement.
- New trailheads were established at Pine Camp, Tree Frog Camp, Ranch Camp, and the North Entrance.
- All trails were updated with uniform fencing, new wayfinding markers, and improved water crossings.
- Improvements to Ranch Camp include new fencing, and tent sites.
- New accessible walkways and grills were provided at the South Entrance Picnic Area.

### MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

This management plan is written for a timeframe of ten years, as required by Section 253.034 Florida Statutes. The Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates (Table 11) summarizes the management goals, objectives and actions that are recommended for implementation over this period, and beyond. Measures are identified for assessing progress toward completing each objective and action. A time frame for completing each objective and action is provided. Preliminary cost estimates for each action are provided and the estimated total costs to complete each objective are computed. Finally, all costs are consolidated under the following five standard land management categories: Resource Management, Administration and Support, Capital Improvements, Recreation Visitor Services and Law Enforcement.

Many of the actions identified in the plan can be implemented using existing staff and funding. However, several continuing activities and new activities with measurable quantity targets and projected completion dates are identified that cannot be completed during the life of this plan unless additional resources for these purposes are provided. The plan's recommended actions, time frames and cost estimates will guide the DRP's planning and budgeting activities over the period of this plan. It must be noted that these recommendations are based on the information that exists at the time the plan was prepared. A high degree of adaptability and flexibility must be built into this process to ensure that the DRP can adjust to changes in the availability of funds, improved understanding of the park's natural and cultural resources, and changes in statewide land management issues, priorities and policies.

Statewide priorities for all aspects of land management are evaluated each year as part of the process for developing the DRP's annual legislative budget requests. When preparing these annual requests, the DRP considers the needs and priorities of the entire state park system and the projected availability of funding from all sources during the upcoming fiscal year. In addition to annual legislative appropriations, the DRP pursues supplemental sources of funds and staff resources wherever possible, including grants, volunteers and partnerships with other entities. The DRP's ability to accomplish the specific actions identified in the plan will be

determined largely by the availability of funds and staff for these purposes, which may vary from year to year. Consequently, the target schedules and estimated costs identified in Table 11 may need to be adjusted during the ten-year management planning cycle.

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# Table 11 Park Name Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates Sheet 1 of 6

## NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES.

Goal I: Provid	le administrative support for all park functions.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)
Objective A	Continue day-to-day administrative support at current levels.	Administrative support ongoing	С	\$168,000
Objective B	Expand administrative support as new lands are acquired, new facilities are developed, or as other needs arise.	Administrative support expanded	С	\$24,000
	ct water quality and quantity in the park, restore hydrology to the extent feasible, and restored condition.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)
Objective A	Conduct/obtain an assessment of the park's hydrological needs.	Assessment conducted	UFN	\$200,000
Action 1	Develop a comprehensive hydrogogical restoration plan for the entire park	Plan developed	UFN	\$200,000
Objective B	Restore natural hydrological conditions and function to natural communitities throughout the park.	# Acres restored or with restoration underway	UFN	\$800,000
Action 1	Continue to eliminate ditches by plugging and backfilling to restore wetland communities	# Miles of ditches filled	UFN	\$300,000
Action 2	Evaluate raised roadbeds in the park that impede water flow. Reconnect or relocate roads.	# Crossings/culverts installed	UFN	\$75,000
Action 3	Evaluate the potential to increase water conveyance through Herndon Swamp at gas line road	Evaluation completed	UFN	\$50,000
Action 4	Evaluate the potential to increase water conveyance through the powerline easement.	Evaluation completed	UFN	\$75,000
Action 5	Evaluate the potential to increase water conveyance under I-95.	Evaluation completed	UFN	\$150,000
Action 6	Rework the remaining south drains into the C-54 canal.	# drains reworked	UFN	\$150,000
Objective C	Aid in the improvement of water quality in the St. Sebastian River and Indian River	Aid provided	LT	\$222,000
Action 1	Ensure cattle lessee is using BMP's within lease area.	BMPs implemented	ST	\$C
Action 2	Assess impact of 2 drainage ditches on Coraci Tract and purchase easements if necessary.	Assessment conducted	UFN	\$200,000
Action 3	Replace septic systems at the 2 south residences on the river and convert to environmentally-friendly systems.	Systems replaced	UFN	\$12,000
Action 4	Continue interagency cooperative efforts to collect water quality and biological data	Efforts continued	С	\$5,000
	Continue to provide trash collection and monofilament recylcling at use areas along the river	Actions continued	С	\$5,000

# Table 11 Park Name Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates Sheet 2 of 6

## NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES.

Goal III: Rest	ore and maintain the natural communities/habitats of the park.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)
Objective A	Within 10 years have 14,000 acres of the park maintained within optimal fire return	# Acres within fire return	LT	\$4,002,000
	interval.	interval target		
	Develop/update annual burn plan.	Plan updated	С	\$2,000
	Manage fire dependent communities for ecosystem function, structure and processes by burning between 4,803 - 12,952 acres annually, as identified by the annual burn plan.	Average # acres burned annually	С	\$4,000,000
	Have all mesic flatwoods and sandhill located north of the canal on a 1.5 - 2.5 year fire return interval	# Miles established	LT	\$0
Action 4	Initiate fire within 75 percent of the backlog zones that have no recorded fire history	Facilities maintained	LT	\$0
Action 5	Continue relationship with the UERP and USFWS to benefit fire adapted species	Relationship continued	С	\$0
	Maintain at least 50 percent of the scrub and scrubby flatwoods in optimal condition	# Acres maintained in optimal condition	LT	\$0
-	Conduct habitat/natural community restoration activities on 100 acres of scrub and 700 acres of scrubby flatwoods.	# Acres restored or with restoration underway	ST or LT	\$1,400,000
	Timber 700 acres of scrubby flatwoods and 100 acres of scrub	Plan developed/updated	LT	\$0
	Reduce hardwoods aover five feet in height on the same acres	# Acres with restoration underway	LT	\$200,000
Action 3	Acquire appropriate equipment to maintain scrub habitats	Equipment acquired	UFN	\$1,200,000
Objective C	Conduct natural community/habitat restoration activities on 25 acres of abandoned pasture	# Acres restored or with restoration underway	UFN	\$45,000
Action 1	Develop groundcover restoration plan	Plan developed	UFN	\$5,000
Action 2	Initiate groundcover restoration plan	Plan initiated	UFN	\$40,000
Objective D	Conduct habitat/natural community improvement activities on 4,000 acres of mesic flatwoods	# Acres improved or with improvements underway	LT	\$200,000
	Rollerchop approximately 2,500 acres of mesic flatwoods on northwest quadrant and apply a 1.5 to 2 year fire return interval	# Acres rollerchopped	UFN	\$200,000
	Timber approximately 1,500 acres of dense pine along I-95 in southwest quadrant	# Acres timbered	UFN	\$0

# Table 11 Park Name Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates Sheet 3 of 6

## NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES.

Goal IV: Mair	ntain, improve or restore imperiled species populations and habitats in the park.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)
Objective A	Update baseline imperiled species occurrence inventory lists for plants and animals	List updated	С	\$23,000
Action 1	Complete a bat/small mammal survey		UFN	\$5,000
Action 2	Conduct a comprehensive herpetological inventory		UFN	\$10,000
Action 3	Conduct a comprehensive invertebrate survey		UFN	\$8,000
Objective B	Monitor and document 6 selected imperiled animal species in the park	# Species monitored	С	\$200,000
Action 1	Develop monitoring protocols for any imperiled animal species including regionally important new species documented in Objective A	# Protocols developed	ST	\$0
Action 2	Continue to implement monitoring programs for red-cockaded woodpeckers, bald eagles, Florida scrub-jays, Bachman's sparrows, gopher tortoises, and Florida gopher frogs for which protocols already exist and monitoring is underway	# Species monitored	С	\$200,000
Objective C	Monitor and document 8 selected imperiled plant species in the park.	# Species monitored	С	\$25,000
	Update GIS mapping project for surveys originally conducted from 2000-2004 for Curtiss' milkweed, giant orchid, large-flowered false rosemary, and snowy orchid	Mapping project updated	ST	\$10,000
Action 2	Continue to implement monitoring programs for handfern, hooded pitcher plant, giant airplant, and cardinal airplant for which protocols already exist and monitoring is underway	# Species monitored	С	\$15,000
Objective D	Continue participation in the RCW Southern Range Translocation Cooperative (SRTC)	Participation continued	С	\$55,000
Action 1	Attend annual SRTC meeting	Meeting attended	С	\$5,000
Action 2	Continue to implement all management actions for RCW's outlined in the approved USFWS Recovery Plan and agreed upon by the cooperative	Management actions implemented	С	\$2,000
Objective E	Continue participation in the Brevard Adaptive Resource Management Model (ARM) and working group meetings for the Florida scrub-jay	Participation continued	С	\$2,000
Action 1	Attend FSJ regional working group meeting and Brevard ARM meeting annually	Meetings attended	С	\$2,000
	ove exotic and invasive plants and animals from the park and conduct needed maintenance		Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)
Objective A	Annually treat 150 infested acres and 2,000 gross acres of exotic plant species in the	# Acres treated	С	\$2,506,000
Action 1	Annually develop/update exotic plant management work plan.	Plan developed/updated	С	\$2,000
	Implement annual work plan	Plan implemented	С	\$2,500,000

\* 2015 Dollars

ST = actions within 2 years

LT = actions within 10 years

	E DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED			IS
	ENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES  Continue to apply for FWC invasive plant contractor funding	FOR THESE PURPOSE Funding applied for	<b>S.</b>   c	\$0
Action 4	Acquire unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) to assist with exotic plant surveys	Equipment acquired	UFN	\$0
Action 5	Continue to request and utilize AmeriCorps A.N.T. members at the park	AmeriCorp members requested/utilized	С	\$0
Action 6	Continue to request OPS funding (annually) for invasive plant herbicide technicians	Technicians requested	С	\$0
Action 7	Continue to plan and coordinate monthly staff invasive plant team days	Team days planned and coordinated	С	\$4,000
Objective B	Implement control measures on 1 exotic and nuisance animal species in the park.	# Species for which control measures	С	\$82,000
Action 1	Continue feral hog contract	Contract continued	С	\$10,000
Action 2	Seek USDA contractor of funding from USDA	Contractor/funding sought	С	\$0
Action 3	Continue to train and equip staff and volunteers for removal	Training continued	С	\$40,000
Action 4	Research new technology and methods for efficient removal	Research conducted	UFN	\$2,000
Action 5	Increase monitoring of effects and population of exotic animals	Monitoring increased	UFN	\$25,000
Action 6	Research control measures for exotic animals other than feral hogs	Research conducted	UFN	\$5,000
Goal VI: Prote	ect, preserve and maintain the cultural resources of the park.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)
Objective A	Assess and evaluate 20 of 20 recorded cultural resources in the park.	Documentation complete	LT	\$4,500
Action 1	Complete 20 assessments/evaluations of archaeological sites. Prioritize preservation and	Assessments complete	LT	\$4,000
Action 2	Complete 1 Historic Structures Reports (HSR's) for historic buildings and cultural landscape. Prioritize stabilization, restoration and rehabilitation projects.	Reports and priority lists completed	UFN	\$500
Objective B	Compile reliable documentation for all recorded historic and archaeological sites.	Documentation complete	LT	\$3,500
Action 1	Ensure all known sites are recorded or updated in the Florida Master Site File.	# Sites recorded or updated	ST	\$1,000
Action 2	Conduct oral history interviews	Interviews complete	LT	\$2,500
Objective C	Bring 3 of 20 recorded cultural resources into good condition.	# Sites in good condition	UFN	\$72,000
Action 1	Design and implement regular monitoring programs for cultural sites	Sites monitored	С	\$10,000
Action 2	Create and implement a cyclical maintenance program for each cultural resource.	Programs implemented	С	\$50,000

\* 2015 Dollars ST = actions within 2 years

LT = actions within 10 years

# Table 11 Park Name Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates Sheet 5 of 6

	E DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES FO	_		S
	Research significance on sites with limited information due to unknown location	Projects completed	LT	\$10,000
Action 4	Add historical structure assessment to annual residence inspections for appropriate structures	Historical structure assessment conducted	С	\$2,000
Goal VII: Pro	ovide public access and recreational opportunities in the park.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)
Objective A	Maintain the park's current recreational carrying capacity of 852 users per day.	# Recreation/visitor	С	\$168,000
Objective B	Expand the park's recreational carrying capacity by 120 users per day.	# Recreation/visitor	UFN	\$24,000
Objective C	Continue to provide the current repertoire of 5 interpretive, educational and recreational programs on a regular basis.	# Interpretive/education programs	С	\$25,000
Objective D	Develop 2 new interpretive, educational and recreational programs.	# Interpretive/education programs	ST	\$14,000
	evelop and maintain the capital facilities and infrastructure necessary to meet the goals es of this management plan.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)
Objective A	Maintain all public and support facilities in the park	Facilities maintained	С	\$2,514,000
Objective B	Continue to implement the park's transition plan to ensure facilities are accessible in accordance with the American with Disabilities Act of 1990.	Plan implemented	LT	\$200,000
Objective C	Improve and/or repair 8 existing facilities and 1,700 feet of trail	# Facilities/Miles of Trail	UFN	\$1,684,000
Objective D	Construct 3 new facilities	# Facilities	UFN	\$111,000
Objective E	Expand maintenance activities as existing facilities are improved and new facilities are developed.	Facilities maintained	UFN	\$500,000

# Table 11 Park Name Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates Sheet 6 of 6

NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES.				
Summary of Estimated Costs				
Management Categories	Total Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10-years)			
Resource Management	\$12,295,500			
Administration and Support	\$2,706,000			
Capital Improvements	\$1,995,000			
Recreation Visitor Services	\$731,000			
Edw Enforcement Activities	Note: Law enforcement activities in Florida State Parks are conducted by the FWC Division of Law Enforcement and by local law enforcement agencies.			



		LAND ACQUISITION H	STORY REPORT		
Park Name	St. Sebastian Riv	er Preserve State Park			
Date Updated	12/6/2016				
County		ian River counties	0.4440   T.   4000/		4207
Trustees Lease Number		rustees lease numbers; Lease N s than 100% interest	0. 4118-where Trustees has 100%; a	nd Lease No.	4397-where
Current Park Size	21,629.35 acres	s triair 100% interest			
Current Fark Size	21,023.33 acres				
Purpose of Acquisition		tees of the Internal Improvement ect West Indian Manatee and to I	Trust Fund of the State of Florida acqui imit development in the area.	red St. Sebastia	an River Preserve
Acquisition History					
Parcel Name or Parcel DM-ID	Date Acquired	Initial Seller	Initial Purchaser	Size in acres	Instrument Type
		Harb Condens III Food	Board of Trustees of the Internal		
DMID 313274	1/4/1995	Hugh Corrigan, III Family Limited Partnership	Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida (Trustees)	7,081.53	Warranty Deed
DIVIID 313274	1/4/1555	S. Thomas Hamilton, Jr., as	Trustees and the St. Johns River	7,001.55	Personal
		personal representative of the	Water Management District (Trustee		Representativ's
DMID 313274	11/17/1999	estate of Carson Platt, deceased	& SRWMD)	5,417.51	Deed
	0/46/:	D.S.C. of Newark Enterprices,	<b>-</b>		Manage Deci
DMID14483	2/16/1996	Inc.	Trusees	3,602.26	Warranty Deed
DMID14528	2/11/1996	Anthony A. Coraci	Trustees	3,508.99	Warranty Deed
	1	Betty P. Parrish			
DMID344043	11/16/1995	Jesse J. Parrish,III and Harry A. Jones	Trustees	1 527 00	Warranty Dood
DMID344043	11/10/1995	St. Johns River Water	Trustees	1,527.08	Warranty Deed Deed of
DMID 331261	7/12/2001	Management District (SJWMD)	Trustees	1,165.15	Conveyance
		Board of County Commissioners			•
DMID 327647	7/14/1999	of Brevard County, Florida	Trustees	274.85	County Deed
DMID313272	3/20/2000	S. Thomas Hamilton, Jr., as personal representative of the estate of Carson Platt, deceased	Trustees & JRWMD	128.78	Personal Representativ's Deed
	0,20,200				
DMID330830	11/9/2001	Indian River County	Trustees	122.20	County Deed
		Fellsemere Development			
DMID360586	6/13/2008	Corporation, Inc.	City of Fellsmere	83.79	Warranty Deed
DMID 348440	8/8/2006	The Virginia W. Russell Family Limited Partnership	State of Florida	46.10	Warranty Deed
DMID 313271	11/17/1999	S. Thomas Hamilton, Jr., as personal representative of the estate of Carson Platt, deceased	Trustees & JRWMD	41.58	Personal Representativ's Deed
DMID345437	8/11/2005	Donald M. Ansin	Indian River County	35.38	Warranty Deed
		Dunaan A MaDanall	, Tauatana		•
DMID339706	3/17/2003	Duncan A. McDonell	Trustees	17.22	Warranty Deed
Management Lease					
				Current	
Parcel Name or Lease Number	Date Leased	Initial Lessor	Initial Lessee	Term	Expiration Date
	1	The Board of Trustees of the internal Improvement Trust	State of Florida Department of Environmental Protetion, Division of		
Lease Number 4118	3/29/1996	Fund of the State of Florida	Marine Resources	50 years	3/28/2046
Lease Number 4397	1/31/2003	The Board of Trustees of the internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida and the St. Johns River Water management District	State of Florida Department of Environmental Portection, Office of Aquatic Managed Areas	50 years	1/30/2053
	Type of				
Outstanding Issue	Instrument	nt Brief Description of the Outstanding Issue Term of the Outstanding Iss			Outstanding Issue
There is no deed related restriction or reservation on use of St. Sebastian River Pareserve State Park					

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### St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park Advisory Group Members and Report

List

### St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park Advisory Group Members and Report

Report



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Anclote Series – Within this series, Anclote sand, depressional (2B) is found at the preserve. This is a nearly level, very poorly drained sandy soil in marshy depressions in the flatwoods, in broad areas on floodplains and in poorly defined drainageways. In most years the water table is within a depth of 10 inches for more than 6 months. In dry seasons it is deeper, but is seldom below a depth of 40 inches. This soil is occasionally flooded 2-7 days following heavy rains. Permeability is rapid in all layers. The available water capacity is moderate in the surface layer and low below this layer. Organic matter content is high in the surface layer, and natural fertility is low.

Arents, 0 to 5 percent slopes (231R) – This soil consists of material dug from several areas that have different kinds of soil. This fill material is the result of earth-moving operations. This soil is used to fill such areas as sloughs, marshes, shallow depressions, swamps, and other low-lying areas above their natural ground levels. Permeability is moderately rapid to rapid. The water table varies with the amount of fill material and artificial drainage in any mapped area. In most years, the water table is at a depth of 24-36 inches for 2-4 months. During extended dry periods, no water table is within 5 feet of the surface.

**Basinger Series** – Within this series, Basinger sand, depressional (6B) and Basinger sand (7B) are found at this unit. This series consists of nearly level, poorly drained sandy soils in sloughs and depressions in the flatwoods. The soils formed in sandy marine sediments. Permeability is very rapid and the available water capacity is very low to low in all layers. Organic matter content is low.

**Bessie Series** – Within this series, Bessie muck, tidal (66B) is found at this unit. This series consists of very deep, very poorly drained, slow or very slow permeable organic soils in coastal mangrove swamps that are subject to daily or periodic flooding by high tides. They formed in marine deposits of organic materials over clayey and sandy sediments. Permeability is slow or very slow.

Canaveral Series - Within this series, the Canaveral-Anclote complex, gently undulating (9B) is found at this unit. These consist of nearly level and gently undulating, moderately well-drained sandy soils mixed with shell fragments. These soils are on low dune-like ridges bordering depressions and sloughs along the Atlantic Coast. They formed in marine sands and shell fragments. In most years the water table is at a depth of 10-40 inches for 2-6 months. Permeability is very rapid and the available water capacity is very low in all layers. Organic matter content is low.

**Canova Series** - Within this series, Canova muck (4IR) is found at this unit. The soils of this series are very poorly drained and moderately permeable; they were formed in sandy and loamy marine sediment under favorable conditions for the accumulation of organic material. These nearly level soils are in freshwater swamps and marshes. Under natural conditions, the water table is above the surface for most of the year.

**Chobee Series** - Within this series, Chobee sandy loam, frequently flooded (12B), Chobee loamy fine sand (2IR), and Chobee mucky loamy fine sand, depressional (62IR) are found at this unit. This series consists of nearly level, very poorly drained soils in marshy depressions and low areas of the floodplains. These soils formed in thick beds of moderately fine marine sediments. Under natural conditions, they are covered with shallow water or have a water table within a depth of 10 inches of the surface for more than 6 months during most years.

Copeland Series - Within this series, the Copeland-Bradenton-Wabasso complex (16B) is found at this unit. This complex consists of several nearly level, very poorly drained soils on low flats. In most years the water table is within a depth of 10 inches for more than 6 months. In dry seasons it is between 10-30 inches. This soil is flooded for 7 days to a month once every 5-20 years. Some areas are underlain by coquina rock instead of limestone.

**EauGallie Series** - Within this series, EauGallie sand (17B) and EauGallie, Winder, and Riviera soils, depressional (18B) are found at this unit. This series consists of nearly level, poorly drained sandy soils in the flatwoods. These soils are mainly on broad, low ridges. Some are in sloughs and shallow ponds. All formed in beds of sandy and loamy marine sediments. In wet seasons, the water table is within a depth of 10 inches of the surface for 2-4 months. In most years, the water table is at a depth of 48 inches for more than 6 months. Organic matter content is low.

**Electra Series** - Within this series, Electra fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes (88B and 48IR) is found at this unit. These soils are deep, somewhat poorly drained, slowly permeable or very slowly permeable soils that formed in thick beds of sandy and loamy marine sediment. These nearly level to gently sloping soils are on knolls on the flatwoods and in adjacent drainageways. The water table is at a depth of 25-40 inches for 4 consecutive months during most years and recedes to a depth of more than 40 inches during drier periods.

**Floridana Series** - Within this series, Floridana sand, depressional (22B), Floridana sand (23B and 24IR), Floridana, Chobee, and Felda soils, frequently flooded (24B), and Floridana mucky fine sand,

depressional (55IR) are found at this unit. They are very poorly drained, slowly permeable to very slowly permeable soils that formed in thick beds of sandy and loamy marine sediment. These nearly level soils are in depressions, in poorly defined drainageways, and on broad, low flats. The water table is above the surface for short periods after heavy rainfall or within a depth of 10 inches for more than 6 months during most years. It is at a depth of 10-30 inches for short periods during dry seasons. Depressional areas are ponded for 6 months or more.

**Hilolo Series** – Within this series, Hilolo fine sand (46B) is found at this unit. This series consists of deep, poorly drained slowly permeable soils formed in sandy and loamy marine sediments influenced by underlying alkaline materials. They occur on nearly level areas and along the borders of depressions and sloughs. Drainage is poor and runoff is slow. Permeability is moderate to very slow. The water table is within depths of 10 inches for 2-4 months and at depths of 10-40 inches for 6-9 months in most years.

Holopaw Series - Within this series, Holopaw fine sand (47IR) and Holopaw fine sand, depressional (57IR) are found at this unit. They are poorly drained, moderately slowly permeable soils that formed in thick beds of sandy and loamy marine sediment. These nearly level soils are on broad low flats, in poorly defined drainageways, and in depressional areas. The water table is within a depth of 10 inches of the surface for 2-6 months each year. The depressional areas are ponded for 6-9 months or more.

Immokalee Series - Within this series, Immokalee sand (28B) is found at this unit. Soils in this series are poorly drained, moderately permeable soils that formed in beds of sandy marine sediment. These nearly level soils are on broad flatwoods. In most years, the water table is within a depth of 10 inches of the surface for 1-3 months and at a depth of 10-40 inches for 6-9 months.

**Jupiter Series** – Within this series, Jupiter fine sand (3IR and 31IR) is found at this unit. They are poorly drained, rapidly permeable soils that formed in thin beds of sandy marine sediment underlain by fractured limestone bedrock. These nearly level soils are on low flats and hammocks. They are saturated during the wet periods.

**Lokosee Series** - Within this series, Lokosee fine sand (59IR) is found at this unit. These soils are poorly drained, slowly or very slowly permeable; they were formed in thick beds of sandy and loamy marine sediment. They occur on low hammocks, on broad low flats that are

adjacent to the flatwoods, and in poorly defined drainageways. In most years, the water table is within a depth of 10 inches of the surface for 2-4 months and at a depth of 10-40 inches for more than 6 months. During extended dry periods, it recedes to a depth of more than 40 inches.

Malabar Series - Within this series, Malabar sand, high (29B), Malabar sand (30B), and Malabar fine sand (39IR) are found at this unit. These soils are poorly drained, slowly permeable to very slowly permeable; they formed in thick beds of sandy and loamy marine sediment. They are found in low, narrow to broad sloughs, on flats, and in poorly defined drainageways. The water table is at a depth of less than 10 inches of the surface for 2-6 months each year and at a depth of 10-40 inches for most of the remainder of the year.

Manatee Series - Within this series, Manatee mucky loamy fine sand, depressional 53(IR) is found at this unit. Soils in this series are very poorly drained and moderately permeable; they formed in sandy and loamy marine sediment. These nearly level soils are in depressions, in poorly defined drainageways, and on broad, low flats. Under natural conditions, these soils are covered with shallow water, or they have a water table within a depth of 10 inches of the surface for more than 6 months of most years. Runoff is slow.

Myakka Series - Within this series, Myakka sand (36B), Myakka sand, depressional (38B), Myakka fine sand (51R) and Myakka fine sand, depressional (451R) are found at this unit. They are poorly drained, moderately permeable to moderately rapidly permeable soils that formed in beds of sandy marine sediment. These nearly level soils are on broad flatwoods and in depressions. In most years, the water table is within a depth of 10 inches of the surface for 1-3 months and at a depth of 10-40 inches for 6-9 months. Depressional areas are ponded for 6 months or more each year.

**Oldsmar Series** - Within this series, Oldsmar sand (40B), Oldsmar fine sand (6IR), and Oldsmar fine sand, depressional (52IR) are found at this unit. They are poorly drained, slowly permeable soils that formed in sandy and loamy marine sediment. These nearly level soils are on broad flatwoods and in depressional areas in the flatwoods. In most years, the water table is at a depth of 10-40 inches for more than 6 months and at a depth of less than 10 inches for 1-2 months.

**Paola Series -** Within this series, Paola fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes (43B) is found at this unit. They are excessively drained, very rapidly permeable soils that formed in thick deposits of marine or eolian sand. These nearly level to gently sloping soils are on the Atlantic Coastal Ridge. The water table is at a depth of more than 72 inches.

**Pineda Series** - Within this series, Pineda sand (47B and 16IR), and Pineda fine sand, depressional (56IR) are found at this unit. They are deep, poorly drained, slowly permeable to very slowly permeable soils that formed in thick beds of sandy and loamy marine sediment. These nearly level soils are on low hammocks and in broad, poorly defined sloughs. In most years, the water table is within a depth of 10 inches of the surface for 1-6 months and at a depth of 10-40 inches for more than 6 months. It recedes to a depth of more than 40 inches during extended dry periods.

**Pomello Series** - Within this series, Pomello sand (49B) and Pomello sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes (27IR) are found at this unit. They are moderately well-drained, moderately rapidly permeable soils that formed in thick beds of marine sediment. These nearly level to gently sloping soils are on low ridges and knolls in the flatwoods. The water table is at a depth of 24-40 inches for about 1-4 months during wet periods and at a depth of 40-60 inches during drier periods.

**Pompano Series** - Within this series, Pompano fine san (49IR) is found at this unit. These are poorly drained, rapidly permeable soils that formed in thick deposits of sandy marine sediment. These nearly level soils are in sloughs and poorly defined drainageways. The water table is within a depth of 10 inches of the surface for 2-6 months each year. During the drier periods, it is within a depth of about 30 inches for more than 9 months each year. Some areas are occasionally flooded for 2-7 days in some years.

Quartzipsamments, smoothed (52B) – this soil is nearly level to gently sloping and moderately well drained to somewhat poorly drained. It consists of thick deposits of sand and of mixed sand and shell fragments. This fill material is the result of earthmoving operations. They are commonly along major highways. Many areas are former sloughs, marshes, or shallow ponds that have been filled with various soil material to surrounding ground level or to elevations above natural ground level. Some areas were originally high ridges that have been excavated to below natural ground level and reworked. In a few places soils have been reworked in place and not moved. Drainage is variable. Most excavated areas are well-drained, but the water table is generally within a depth of 50 inches in filled areas. Permeability is variable but generally is very rapid. Available water capacity is also variable but generally is very low. Organic matter content is low.

**Riviera Series** - Within this series, Riviera sand (19B), Riviera fine sand (10IR), and Riviera fine sand, depressional (51IR) are found at this unit. They are poorly drained, slowly permeable to very slowly

permeable soils that formed in beds of sandy and loamy marine sediment. These nearly level soils are on low hammocks, in poorly defined drainageways, on broad, low flats, and in depressional areas. The water table is within a depth of 10 inches of the surface for 1-6 months and at a depth of 10-40 inches for more than 6 months in most years. It recedes to a depth of more than 40 inches during extended dry periods. The depressional areas are ponded for 6-9 months or more each year. The slope ranges from 0-2 percent.

**Samsula Series** – Within this series, Samsula muck, depressional (62B) is found at this unit. These are very poorly drained, rapidly permeable soils that formed in moderately thick beds of hydrophytic non-woody plant residue. These nearly level soils are in small depressions, poorly defined drainageways, and freshwater marshes and swamps. The water table is at or above the surface except during extended dry periods.

**Satellite Series** - Within this series, Satellite sand (53B) and Satellite fine sand (34IR) are found at this unit. These are somewhat poorly drained, very rapidly permeable soils that formed in theick beds of sandy marine sediment. These nearly level soils are on low knolls and ridges on the flatwoods. The water table is at a depth of 18-40 inches for 2-6 months and at a depth of 40-72 inches for 6 months or more in most years.

**St. Johns Series** - Within this series, St. Johns sand, depressional (55B) is found at this unit. This series consists of nearly level, poorly drained sandy soils on broad low ridges, in sloughs, in poorly defined drainageways, and in shallow intermittent ponds in the flatwoods. These soils formed in marine sands. Permeability is moderate in the weakly cemented layers and very rapid in all other layers. The available water capacity is moderate in the surface layer and weakly cemented layers and very low to low in all other layers. Organic matter content is moderate in the surface layer and weakly cemented layers and low in other layers.

**Tomoka Series** - Within this series, Tomoka muck, undrained (67B) is found at this unit. This series consists of nearly level, very poorly drained, well-decomposed organic soils in broad, flat marshes, small depressions, and swamps. These soils formed in moderately thick beds of hydrophytic, non-woody plant remains underlain by sandy and loamy mineral layers. Permeability is rapid in the organic layers and sandy layers and moderate to moderately rapid in the loamy layers. The available water capacity is very high in the organic layers, low in the

sandy layers, and moderate in the loamy layers. Organic matter content is very high.

**Udorthents**, **steep (59B)** – this soil consists of well-drained heterogeneous mixtures of sand, shell, and unconsolidated material that has been excavated from adjacent canals or other areas and deposited in irregular piles. These deposits are deep and form a continuous embankment along major canals; in other places, they may be only a few feet thick and may be spread over large areas. The seasonal high water table is usually below a depth of 72 inches. Permeability is variable but is generally rapid; available water capacity is also variable but usually is low.

**Wabasso Series** - Within this series, Wabasso sand (71B) and Wabasso fine sand (13IR) are found at this unit. They are poorly drained, slowly permeable or very slowly permeable soils that formed in sandy and loamy marine sediment. These nearly level soils are on broad flatwoods. In most years, the water table is at a depth of 10-40 inches for more than 6 months and at a depth of less than 10 inches of the surface for 1-2 months.

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**Primary Habitat Codes** 

(for imperiled species)

St. Sebastian Rive	r Preserve State	Park Plants
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Scientific Name

<b>BRYOP</b>	HYTES
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Sphagnum moss...... *Sphagnum* sp.

#### **PTERIDOPHYTES**

Giant leather fern......Acrostichum danaeifolium

Toothed midsorus fern:

**Common Name** 

swamp fern..... Blechnum serrulatum

Long strap fern...... Campyloneurum phyllitidis

Nodding club-moss.....BG,DS,HH,WF

Japanese climbing fern\*.....Lygodium japonicum Small-leaf climbing fern\*.....Lygodium microphyllum Tuberous sword fern\*......Nephrolepis cordifolia Sword fern; wild Boston fern..... Nephrolepis exaltata

Hand fern......BF,FS Cinnamon fern...... BS,BG,DM,FM,FS Royal fern...... BS,BG,BF,FM,FS

Golden polypody...... Phlebodium aureum

Meadow spike-moss...... Selaginella apoda 

#### **GYMNOSPERMS**

Red cedar...... Juniperus virginiana Pond-cypress...... *Taxodium ascendens* Bald-cypress...... Taxodium distichum Sand pine...... Pinus clausa Slash pine...... Pinus elliottii Longleaf pine...... Pinus palustris

#### **MONOCOTS**

Blue maidencane......Amphicarpum muhlenbergianum

Florida bluestem...... Andropogon floridanus

Chalky bluestem...... Andropogon virginicus var. glaucus Broomsedge bluestem...... Andropogon virginicus var. virginicus

Wiregrass......Aristida beyrichiana

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Arrowfeather threeawn	Aristida purpurascens	
Florida threeawn	• •	
Bottlebrush threeawn		
Common asparagus-fern*		
Common bamboo *		
Densetuft hairsedge	<u> </u>	
Ware's hairsedge		
Southern bluethread		
Manyflowered grasspink		MF
Bandana-of-the-everglades		
Hop sedge		
Southern sandbur		
Slender woodoats		
Jamaica swamp sawgrass		
Wild taro*		
Dayflower		
Whitemouth dayflower		
Seven-sisters; string-lily		
Toothachegrass		
Baldwin's flatsedge		
Yellow nutgrass;	eyperus ereceus	
chufa flatsedge*	Cyperus esculentus	
Haspan flatsedge	Cyperus haspan	
Swamp flatsedge		
Papyrus flatsedge*		
Manyspike flatsedge		
Pinebarren flatsedge		
Tropical flatsedge	Cyperus surinamensis	
Durban crowfootgrass*		m
Eggleaf witchgrass		
India crabgrass*	Digitaria longiflora	
Air-potato*		
Baldwin's spikerush; roadgrass		
Yellow spikerush;		
pale spikerush	Eleocharis flavescens	
Indian goosegrass*	Eleusine indica	
Florida butterfly orchid	Encyclia tampensis	XH,BS,BF,STS
Golden pothos*		
Thalia lovegrass*		
Elliott's lovegrass		
Slimflower lovegrass*		
Purple lovegrass		
Flattened pipewort	Eriocaulon compressum	
Tenangle pipewort	Eriocaulon decangulare	

#### St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park Plants

**Primary Habitat Codes** 

Common Name	Scientific Name	(for imperiled species)
Wild coco	Eulophia alta	
Saltmarsh fingergrass		
Pinewoods fingergrass		
Hurricanegrass	Fimbristylis cymosa	
Ditch fimbry*		
Southern umbrellasedge		
Toothpetal false reinorchid	•	
Snowy orchis		WF.WP
Waterthyme*		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Coastalplain spiderlily		
Fringed yellow stargrass	=	
Cogongrass*	• •	
Dixie iris; prairie iris		
Forked rush	•	
Soft rush		IS.
Bog rush; Elliott's rush		13
Shore rush; grassleaf rush		
•	<u> </u>	
Bighead rush		
Manyhead rush		
Needlepod rush		
Carolina redroot		
Whitehead bogbutton	-	
Southern bogbutton		
Catesby's lily; pine lily	Lilium catesbaei	NIF, VVF, VVP
American spongeplant;	Line made is one and a second	
frog's-bit	Limnobium spongia	
Common banana*	Musa x paradisiaca	
Celestial lily; fallflowering ixia		FM,FS,WF
Florida beargrass		
Woodsgrass; basketgrass		
Goldenclub; neverwet		
Beaked panicum	•	
Maidencane		
Guineagrass*		
Torpedograss*		
Bahiagrass*		aurae
Early paspalum		
Water paspalum		
Thin paspalum		
Vaseygrass *		
Green arrow arum		
Elephantgrass; napiergrass*	<u> </u>	
Senegal date palm*		
Common reed		
Water-lettuce*		
Pickerelweed		
	ccacha condata	

#### St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park Plants

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
	D	011 005 1/11
Giant orchid	,	SH,SCF,XH
Rose natalgrass*		
Starrush whitetop	•	
Starrush whitetop	•	
Fascicled beaksedge		
Pinebarren beaksedge		
Narrowfruit horned beaksedge Giant whitetop;	. Rhynchospora inundata	
sandswamp whitetop	.Rhynchospora latifolia	
Sandyfield beaksedge	. Rhynchospora megalocarj	pa
Southern beaksedge	Rhynchospora microcarpa	1
Bunched beaksedge		
Shortbeak beaksedge;	, ,	
Baldrush	. Rhynchospora nitens	
Pineland beaksedge	Rhynchospora perplexa	
Plumed beaksedge		
Fairy beaksedge		
Wright's beaksedge		
Cabbage palm		
Sugarcane plumegrass		
Leafless beaked ladiestresses		nceolata MF.PF. <mark>81</mark>
Indian cupscale*		
Grassy arrowhead		
Bulltongue arrowhead		
Water spangles	_	
Bowstring hemp*		3
White sunnybell		•
Softstem bulrush		
Baldwin's nutrush		
Fringed nutrush		
Netted nutrush		
Tall nutgrass; whip nutrush		
Saw palmetto	=	
Yellow bristlegrass;	. Serenoa repens	
yellow foxtail	Setaria narviflora	
yellow loxtall	. Setaria parvinora	
Narrowleaf blueeyed grass	3	m
Annual blueeyed grass*	_	
Jeweled blueeyed grass		1
Earleaf greenbrier		
Laurel greenbrier		
Bristly greenbrier		
Lopsided Indiangrass	•	
Sand cordgrass	•	
Lacelip ladiestresses	.Spiranthes laciniata	DM,FM,STS

#### St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park Plants

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Spring ladiestresses	Sniranthes vernalis	ME EM ES SSI STS
Smutgrass*		
Pineywoods dropseed	•	
St. Augustinegrass*		m
Yellow hatpins	•	11
Fivefingers*		
Alligatorflag; fireflag		
Cardinal airplant		doncienica ES UU STS
Potbelly airplant		derisispica1 3,1111,313
Ballmoss		
Southern needleleaf		
Spanish moss		EC IIII CEC
Giant airplant		F5,НН,515
Purplequeen*	. Tradescantia pallida	
Moses-in-the-cradle;	Totalogophia	
oysterplant*	Tradescantia spatnacea	
Eastern gamagrass;	Teles a server of a stude let a	
Fakahatcheegrass		
Southern cattail		
Broadleaf cattail		
Paragrass*		
Shortleaf yelloweyed grass		
Carolina yelloweyed grass		
Elliott's yelloweyed grass		
Spanish bayonet; aloe yucca*		
Adam's needle		
Redmargin zephyrlily		WF,WP
Soldier's orchid; lawn orchid*		
Crowpoison; Osceola's plume		
Corn; maize*	Zea mays	
	DICOTS	
Rosary pea*	Abrus precatorius	
Sweet acacia	. Acacia farnesiana	
Pineland acacia	. Acacia pinetorum	
Red maple	. Acer rubrum	
Shyleaf	Aeschynomene americana	1
Indian jointvetch*		
Purple false foxglove		
Hammock snakeroot	•	
Golden trumpet*		
Alligatorweed*		es
Sessile joyweed*		
Spiny amaranth*		
Common ragweed	•	
Bastard indigobush;		

**Primary Habitat Codes** 

Common Name	Scientific Name	(for imperiled species)
False indigobush	Amornha fruticosa	
Peppervine		
Pond apple		
Groundnut		
Marlberry		
Florida Indian plantain		
Ovateleaf Indian plantain	_	
Scarlet milkweed;	Arriogiossairi ovatuiri	
bloodflower*	Asclepias curassavica	
Curtiss' milkweed	Asclepias curtissii	SC
Florida milkweed		
Swamp milkweed		
Fewflower milkweed		
Savannah milkweed	•	
Velvetleaf milkweed		
Netted pawpaw		
Climbing aster		
Whitetop aster;		
pinebarren aster	. Aster reticulatus	
Annual saltmarsh aster	Actor cubulatus	
Whitetop aster; Dixie aster		
Black mangrove		
Silverling		
Groundsel tree; sea myrtle	<u> </u>	
	Baccilai is Halli IIII Ulla	
Lemon bacopa; blue waterhyssop	Bacona caroliniana	
blue waterriyssop	Басора сагоппапа	
Herb-of-grace	Bacopa monnieri	
Coastalplain honeycombhead	Balduina angustifolia	
Tarflower	Bejaria racemosa	
Alabama supplejack;		
rattan vine	Berchemia scandens	
Beggarticks; romerillo	Bidens alba	
Burrmarigold;		
smooth beggarticks	Bidens laevis	
Smallfruit beggarticks	Bidens mitis	
Pineland rayless goldenrod		stralis
False nettle; bog hemp		
Bushy seaside oxeye		
American bluehearts		
American beautyberry		
Papaya*		
Pineland chaffhead	Carphephorus carnosus	
Coastalplain chaffhead		IS
I	i i	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Vanillalaaf	Carphophorus adaraticsin	NUC.
Vanillaleaf		
Hairy chaffhead		•
Water hickory	,	
Scrub hickory		
Pignut hickory		
Love vine; devil's gut		
River sheoak*		la
Australian-pine*		
Gray sheoak*		
Madagascar periwinkle*		
Sugarberry; hackberry		
Spadeleaf		
Spurred butterfly pea		
Common buttonbush	•	5
Florida rosemary; sand heath		
Partridge pea		7
Sensitive pea		
Pillpod sandmat		
Hyssopleaf sandmat		
Spotted sandmat		
Gulf sandmat	. Chamaesyce thymifolia	
Woolly sonbonnets;		
pineland daisy	. Chaptalia tomentosa	
Mexican tea*	Chenopodium ambrosioid	es
Coastalplain goldenaster	•	
Scrubland goldenaster		
Spotted water hemlock		
Camphortree*		
Yellow thistle		
Nuttall's thistle		
Citron*	. Citrullus lanatus	
Sour orange*		
Tangerine*		
Sweet orange*		
Grapefruit*		
Pine-hyacinth	•	
Tread-softly; finger-rot		
Blue mistflower		
Large-flowered rosemary		SC
Canadian horseweed	<u> </u>	
Florida tickseed		-
Leavenworth's tickseed		
Swamp dogwood;		
stiff dogwood	. Cornus foemina	
Lanceleaf rattlebox*		
Smooth rattlebox*		ovata
SINOSII IGIIIODOX	. S. Stalaria pallida vai . Obc	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Rabbitbells		
Showy rattlebox*	•	
Vente conmigo		
Colombian waxweed	,	
Marsh parsley*	. Cyclospermum leptophyll	'um
Leafless swallowwort		
Coinvine	. Dalbergia ecastophyllum	
Whitetassels	Dalea carnea	
Feay's prairieclover	Dalea feayi	
Summer farewell	<i>Dalea pinnata</i> var. <i>adeno</i>	poda
Ticktrefoil	Desmodium incanum	
Panicledleaf ticktrefoil	Desmodium paniculatum	
Threeflower ticktrefoil*		
Carolina ponysfoot	Dichondra caroliniensis	
Poor joe; rough buttonweed		
Virginia buttonweed		
Common persimmon		
Pink sundew		
Water sundew;		
spoonleaf sundew	Drosera intermedia	DM,DS
Oblongleaf twinflower	. Dyschoriste oblongifolia	
Devil's potato; rubber vine		
False daisy		
Tall elephantsfoot		
Florida tasselflower*		
Lilac tasselflower*	<u> </u>	
American burnweed; fireweed		
Oakleaf fleabane		
Prairie fleabane		
Early whitetop fleabane	S S	
Loquat*	_	
Fragrant eryngo		
Baldwin's eryngo		
Button rattlesnakemaster		
Coralbean; Cherokee bean	3 0 3	
White stopper		
Spanish stopper;	. Eugeriia axiiiaris	
boxleaf stopper	Eugania footida	
boxieai stoppei	Eugeriia Toetiua	
Surinam cherry*	. Eugenia uniflora	
Dogfennel		
Mohr's thoroughwort		
Roundleaf thoroughwort		1
Lateflowering thoroughwort	•	
Lesser Florida spurge	•	
Slender goldenrod		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Silver dwarf morningglory	Evolvulus saricaus	
Strangler fig; golden fig		
Weeping fig*		
Florida swampprivet		
Elliott's milkpea		
Eastern milkpea	<u> </u>	
Downy milkpea		
Coastal bedstraw		
Stiff marsh bedstraw		22.225
Garberia		SC,SCF
Southern beeblossom		
Dwarf huckleberry		
Carolina cranesbill		
Narrowleaf purple everlasting	. Gnaphalium falcatum	
Sweet everlasting;		
rabbit tobacco	Gnaphalium obtusifolium	
Pennsylvania everlasting		ım
Spoonleaf purple everlasting		
Globe amaranth*		
Loblolly bay		
Rough hedgehyssop		
Shaggy hedgehyssop	•	
English ivy*		
Spanish daisy; bitterweed		
Southeastern sneezeweed		
Pinebarren frostweed		um
Florida scrub frostweed		a
Common sunflower*		
Florida sunflower		
Stiff sunflower		
Pineland heliotrope		1
Limpograss*	. , , , ,	,
Swamp rosemallow		
Rosemallow*		r rosa sinonsis
Queen-devil		1.105a-5111611515
	<u> </u>	
Coastalplain hawkweed		
Manyflower marshpennywort		
Skyflower	3	_
Coastalplain St. John's-wort		71
Roundpod St. John's-wort	нурегісит cistifolium	
Sandweed;		
peelbark St. John's-wort	нурегісит tasciculatum	
Pineweeds; orangegrass	Hypericum gentianoides	
St. Andrew's-cross		
Dwarf St. John's-wort	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Atlantic St. John's-wort	<b>5</b> .	
Fourpetal St. John's-wort	.Hypericum tetrapetalum	
Clustered bushmint;		
musky mint	Hyptis alata	
Comb bushmint*	. Hyptis pectinata	
John Charles*	Hyptis verticillata	
Carolina holly; sand holly	Ilex ambigua var. ambigu	a
Dahoon holly	. Ilex cassine	
Inkberry; gallberry	Ilex glabra	
Yaupon	. Ilex vomitoria	
Hairy indigo*	Indigofera hirsuta	
Trailing indigo*	. Indigofera spicata	
Indigo	Indigofera suffruticosa	
Moonflowers	Ipomoea alba	
Mile-a-minute vine*	Ipomoea cairica	
Tievine		
Oceanblue morningglory	. Ipomoea indica	
Man-of-the-earth	Ipomoea pandurata	
Saltmarsh morningglory	. Ipomoea sagittata	
Heavenlyblue morningglory	. Ipomoea violacea	
Juba's bush	Iresine diffusa	
Virginia willow;		
Virginia sweetspire	Itea virginica	
Bigleaf sumpweed		
Pineland waterwillow	Justicia angusta	
Shrimpplant*		
Virginia saltmarsh mallow		
Crapemyrtle*	Lagerstroemia indica	
White mangrove	Laguncularia racemosa	
Lantana; shrubverbena*		
Nodding pinweed		SC
Dickert's pinweed		
Drysand pinweed		MF
Piedmont pinweed		
Virginia pepperweed		
Chapman's gayfeather		
Garber's gayfeather		
Slender gayfeather	_	
Dense gayfeather		
Shortleaf gayfeather		driflora et e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e
Gopher apple		
Glossy privet*		
Canada toadflax		
Apalachicola toadflax		
Savannah false pimpernel	_	
Florida yellow flax	.Linum floridanum	

Bay lobelia. Lobelia feayana Glade lobelia. Lobelia glandulosa White lobelia. Lobelia paludosa White lobelia. Lobelia paludosa Winged primrosewillow Ludwigia alata Seedbox. Ludwigia alata Seedbox. Ludwigia lalernifolia Pledmont primrosewillow. Ludwigia linifolia Seaside primrosewillow. Ludwigia maritima Mexican primrosewillow. Ludwigia peruviana Creeping primrosewillow. Ludwigia repens Shrubby primrosewillow. Ludwigia repens Shrubby primrosewillow. Ludwigia repens Shrubby primrosewillow. Ludwigia suffruticosa Skyblue lupine. Ludwigia suffruticosa Skyblue lupine. Lupinus diffusus Rose-rush. Lygodesmia aphylla Rusty staggerbush. Lyonia fruticosa Fetterbush. Lyonia fruticosa Fetterbush. Lyonia fruticosa Fetterbush. Lyonia fruticosa Fetterbush. Lyonia fruticosa Grassleaf Barbara's buttons. Marshallia tenuifolia Florida milkvine. Maenopilium lathyroides Southern magnolia. Magnolia grandiflora Grassleaf Barbara's buttons. Marshallia tenuifolia Florida milkvine. Mecardonia acuminata Black medick* Medicago lupulina Phunktree* Melaleuca quinquenervia Chinaberrytree* Melia azedarach White sweetclover* Melilotus albus Chocolateweed* Melilotus albus Chocolateweed* Melilotus albus Chocolateweed* Melochia corrobrifolia Creeping cucumber Melothria pendula Florida keys hempvine. Mikania cordifolia Creeping cucumber Melothria pendula Florida keys hempvine. Mikania cordifolia Creeping cucumber Melothria pendula Florida keys hempvine. Mikania cordifolia Creeping cucumber Melothria pendula Florida keys hempvine. Mikania cordifolia Creeping cucumber Melothria pendula Florida keys hempvine. Mikania cordifolia Creeping cucumber Melothria pendula Florida keys hempvine. Mireola sessilifolia Balsampear* Monordopa uniflora Latexplant* Morora adorata White mulberry* Morora alba Red mulberry* Morora alba Red mulberry Morora alba Red mulberry Myrcianthes fragrans. PF Southern bayberry: wax myrtle. Myrnphaea capensis var. zanzibariensis Nymphaea odorata Big floattingheart. Nymphaea odorata	Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Glade lobelia. Lobelia glandulosa White lobelia. Lobelia paludosa Winged primrosewillow. Ludwigia alata Seedbox. Ludwigia alata Seedbox. Ludwigia alata Seedbox. Ludwigia arcuata Southeastern primrosewillow. Ludwigia inifiolia Seaside primrosewillow. Ludwigia maritima Mexican primrosewillow. Ludwigia peruviana Mexican primrosewillow. Ludwigia peruviana Creeping primrosewillow. Ludwigia peruviana Creeping primrosewillow. Ludwigia suffruticosa Skyblue lupine. Lughius diffusus Rose-rush. Lygodesmia aphylla Rusty staggerbush. Lyonia ferruginea Coastalplain staggerbush. Lyonia fruticosa Fetterbush. Lyonia fruticosa Fetterbush. Lyonia lucida Loosestrife. Lythrum alatum var. lanceolatum Wild bushbean* Macroptilium lathyroides Southern magnolia. Magnolia grandiflora Grassleaf Barbara's buttons. Marshallia tenuifolia Florida milkvine. Matelea floridana. PF,XH Axilflower. Mecardonia acuminata Black medick* Medicago lupulina Melaleuca quinquenervia Chinaberrytree* Melaleuca quinquenervia Chinaberrytree* Melaleuca quinquenervia Chinaberrytree* Melaleuca quinquenervia Chinaberrytree Melochia corchorifolia Creeping cucumber. Melothria pendula Florida keys hempvine. Mikania cordifolia Climbing hempvine. Mikania cordifolia Climbing hempvine. Mikania cordifolia Climbing hempvine. Mikania cordifolia Mitreola pestiolata Swamp hornpod. Mitreola petiolata Swamp hornpod. Mitreola petiolata Swamp hornpod. Mitreola petiolata White mulberry* Moros rubra Noros	Dov. labalia	Labalia faayaaa	
White lobelia	3	<b>3</b>	
Winged primrosewillow. Ludwigia alata Seedbox. Ludwigia alternifolia Piedmont primrosewillow. Ludwigia arcuata Southeastern primrosewillow. Ludwigia inifolia Seaside primrosewillow. Ludwigia octovalvis Peruvian primrosewillow. Ludwigia peruviana Creeping primrosewillow. Ludwigia peruviana Creeping primrosewillow. Ludwigia suffruticosa Shrubby primrosewillow. Ludwigia suffruticosa Shyblue lupine. Lupinus diffusus Rose-rush. Lyonia ferruginea Coastalplain staggerbush. Lyonia ferruginea Coastalplain staggerbush. Lyonia ferruginea Coastalplain staggerbush. Lyonia lucida Loosestrife. Lythrum alatum var. lanceolatum Wild bushbean* Macroptilium lathyroides Southern magnolia. Magnolia grandiflora Grassleaf Barbara's buttons. Marshallia tenuifolia Florida milkvine. Matelea floridana. PF, XH Axiiflower Mecardonia acuminata Black medick* Medicago lupulina Punktree* Melia azedarach White sweetclover* Melia azedarach White sweetclover* Melia azedarach White sweetclover* Melia cordifolia Creeping cucumber. Melothria pendula Florida keys hempvine. Mikania scandens Sensitive brier Mimosa quadrivalvis var. angustata Partridgeberry; twinberry. Mitchella repens Lax hornpod. Mitreola sessifilolia Balsampear* Momordica charantia Indianpipe. Monotropa uniflora Latexplant* Morus alba Red mulberry* Morus rubra White mulberry* Morus rubra White mulberry* Morus rubra White mulberry* Morus rubra White mulberry Morus rubra White mulberry Morus alba Red mulberry. Morus alba Red mulberry. Morus alba Red mulberry. Morus rubra Twinberry. Myrcianthes fragrans. PF Southern bayberry; wax myrtle. Myrica cerifera Spatterdock; yellow pondility. Nuphae a odorata American white waterlily. Nymphaea odorata		9	
Seedbox. Ludwigia alternifolia Piedmont primrosewillow. Ludwigia arcuata Southeastern primrosewillow. Ludwigia inifolia Seaside primrosewillow. Ludwigia maritima Mexican primrosewillow. Ludwigia peruviana Creeping primrosewillow. Ludwigia peruviana Creeping primrosewillow. Ludwigia peruviana Creeping primrosewillow. Ludwigia repens Shrubby primrosewillow. Ludwigia suffruticosa Skyblue lupine. Lupinus diffusus Rose-rush. Lygodesmia aphylla Rusty staggerbush. Lyonia ferruginea Coastalplain staggerbush. Lyonia ferruginea Coastalplain staggerbush. Lyonia fucida Loosestrife. Lythrum alatum var. lanceolatum Wild bushbean* Macroptilium lathyroides Southern magnolia. Magnolia grandiflora Grassleaf Barbara's buttons. Marshallia tenuifolia Florida milkvine. Matelea floridana. PF, XH Axilflower. Mecardonia acuminata Black medick* Medicago lupulina Punktree* Melaleuca quinquenervia Chinaberrytree* Melia vaedarach White sweetclover* Meliotus albus Chocolateweed* Melochia corchorifolia Creeping cucumber. Melothria pendula Florida keys hempvine. Mikania scandens Sensitive brier. Melothria pendula Partridgeberry: twinberry Mitchela repens Lax hornpod. Mitreola pesiolata Swamp hornpod. Mitreola sessilifolia Balsampear* Monortopa uniflora Latexplant* Morrenia odorata White mulberry* Morus alba Red mulberry: Morus alba Red mulberry: Morus rubra Twinberry. Morus rubra Twinberry. Myrcanthes fragrans. PF Southern bayberry; wax myrtle. Myrica cerifera Spatterdock; yellow pondility. Nuphaea odorata			
Piedmont primrosewillow			
Southeastern primrosewillow			
Seaside primrosewillow	•		
Mexican primrosewillow	·		
Peruvian primrosewillow*	•	•	
Creeping primrosewillow	-		
Shrubby primrosewillow. Ludwigia suffruticosa Skyblue lupine. Lupinus diffusus Rose-rush. Lygodesmia aphylla Rusty staggerbush. Lyonia ferruginea Coastalplain staggerbush. Lyonia fruticosa Fetterbush. Lyonia fruticosa Fetterbush. Lyonia futicosa Fetterbu			
Skyblue lupine			
Rose-rush. Lygodesmia aphylla Rusty staggerbush. Lyonia ferruginea Coastalplain staggerbush. Lyonia fruticosa Fetterbush. Lyonia lucida Loosestrife. Lythrum alatum var. lanceolatum Wild bushbean* Macroptilium lathyroides Southern magnolia. Magnolia grandiflora Grassleaf Barbara's buttons. Marshallia tenuifolia Florida milkvine. Matelea floridana. PF,XH Axilflower Mecardonia acuminata Black medick* Medicago lupulina Punktree* Melaleuca quinquenervia Chinaberrytree* Melia azedarach White sweetclover* Melilotus albus Chocolateweed* Melothria pendula Florida keys hempvine. Mikania cordifolia Climbing hempvine. Mikania scandens Sensitive brier. Mimosa quadrivalvis var. angustata Partridgeberry; twinberry Mitchella repens Lax hornpod. Mitreola petiolata Swamp hornpod Mitreola sessilifolia Balsampear* Momordica charantia Indianpipe. Monotropa uniflora Latexplant* Morus alba Red mulberry* Myrcianthes fragrans. PF Southern bayberry; wax myrtle. Myrica cerifera Spatterdock; yellow pondlily. Nymphaea aoporata Nymphaea capensis var. zanzibariensis American white waterlily* Nymphaea capensis var. zanzibariensis	• •		
Rusty staggerbush	•	•	
Coastalplain staggerbush		, ,	
Fetterbush		-	
Losestrife			
Wild bushbean*		-	
Southern magnolia		9	eolatum
Grassleaf Barbara's buttons		,	
Florida milkvine			
Axilflower			
Black medick*	Florida milkvine	Matelea floridana	PF,XH
Punktree*	Axilflower	Mecardonia acuminata	
Chinaberrytree*	Black medick*	Medicago lupulina	
White sweetclover*			
Chocolateweed*			
Creeping cucumber			
Florida keys hempvine			
Climbing hempvine	Creeping cucumber	Melothria pendula	
Sensitive brier	Florida keys hempvine	Mikania cordifolia	
Partridgeberry; twinberry			
Lax hornpod	Sensitive brier	Mimosa quadrivalvis var. a	angustata
Swamp hornpod	Partridgeberry; twinberry	Mitchella repens	
Balsampear*	Lax hornpod	Mitreola petiolata	
Indianpipe			
Latexplant*	Balsampear*	Momordica charantia	
White mulberry*	Indianpipe	Monotropa uniflora	
Red mulberry	Latexplant*	Morrenia odorata	
Twinberry	White mulberry*	Morus alba	
Southern bayberry; wax myrtle	Red mulberry	Morus rubra	
wax myrtle		Myrcianthes fragrans	PF
Spatterdock; yellow pondlily <i>Nuphar lutea</i> Cape blue waterlily* <i>Nymphaea capensis</i> var. <i>zanzibariensis</i> American white waterlily <i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	Southern bayberry;		
Cape blue waterlily*			
American white waterlily Nymphaea odorata			
American white waterlily Nymphaea odorata	Cape blue waterlily*	Nymphaea capensis var. z	ranzibariensis
Big floatingheart Nymphoides aquatica	American white waterlily	Nymphaea odorata	
	Big floatingheart	Nymphoides aquatica	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
	N	
Swamp tupelo		ra
Cutleaf eveningprimrose		
Flattop mille graines*		
Innocence; roundleaf bluet		
Clustered mille graine		
Pricklypear		55.44
Erect pricklypear		PF,XH
Scrub wild olive	Č,	
Common yellow woodsorrel		_
Pink woodsorrel*		bosa
Water cowbane	<b>3</b> .	
Feay's palafox		
Florida pellitory		
Jerusalem thorn*		
Virginia creeper; woodbine		olia
Corkystem passionflower	Passiflora suberosa	
Avocado*	Persea americana	
Red bay	Persea borbonia var. borl	oonia
Swamp bay		
Florida false sunflower	Phoebanthus grandiflorus	5
Oak mistletoe	Phoradendron leucarpum	,
Turkey tangle fogfruit;		
Capeweed	. Phyla nodiflora	
Mascarene island leafflower*	Phyllanthus tenellus	
Cutleaf groundcherry	Physalis angulata	
American pokeweed	Phytolacca americana	
Wild pennyroyal	Piloblephis rigida	
Blueflower butterwort		SSL,WF,WP
Yellow butterwort	=	
Small butterwort	Pinguicula pumila	
Pitted stripeseed	. Piriqueta caroliniana	
Narrowleaf silkgrass	Pityopsis graminifolia	
Virginia plantain;		
southern plantain	Plantago virginica	
Stinking camphorweed	Pluchea foetida	
Sweetscent	Pluchea odorata	
Rosy camphorweed	. Pluchea rosea	
Paintedleaf;		
fire-on-the-mountain	Poinsettia cyathophora	
Baldwin's milkwort	Polygala balduinii	
Drumheads	Polygala cruciata	
Tall pinebarren milkwort	Polygala cymosa	
Showy milkwort		
Procession flower	. Polygala incarnata	

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park Plants			
Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)	
Oranga milluuant	Dalugala lutas		
Orange milkwort			
Candyroot			
Racemed milkwort	, , ,		
Low pinebarren milkwort	3 0		
Yellow milkwort	. Polygala rugelii		
Coastalplain milkwort	Polygala setacea		
Hairy jointweed	. Polygonella ciliata		
Tall jointweed			
October flower			
Dotted smartweed			
Rustweed; juniperleaf			
Paraguayan purslane*	. Portulaca amilis		
Pink purslane; kiss-me-quick	. Portulaca pilosa		
Combleaf mermaidweed	. Proserpinaca pectinata		
Carolina laurelcherry			
Strawberry guava*			

Blackroot......Pterocaulon pycnostachyum

Mock bishopsweed;

West Indian meadowbeauty...... Rhexia cubensis
Pale meadowbeauty...... Rhexia mariana
Maid marian...... Rhexia nashii

Rubbervine; mangrovevine....... Rhabdadenia biflora

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Carolina wild petunia	Ruellia caroliniensis	
Britton's wild petunia*		
Swamp dock		
Bartram's rosegentian		
Shortleaf rosegentian		
Coastal rosegentian		
Largeflower rosegentian		
Carolina willow;	. Sabatia grandinora	
coastalplain willow	Saliv caroliniana	
coastalpiairi willow	. Salix Cal Ullillaria	
Lyreleaf sage	Salvia lyrata	
American elder; elderberry	Sambucus nigra	
Water pimpernel	. Samolus ebracteatus	
Pineland pimpernel	. <i>Samolus valerandi</i> ssp. p	parviflorus
Popcorntree;	·	
Chinese tallowtree*	Sapium sebiferum	
White twinevine	Sarcostemma clausum	
Hooded pitcherplant		DS WE
Lizard's tail		5, WI
Australian umbrella tree*		
Brazilian pepper*		
Sweetbroom; licoriceweed		
Butterweed		
Coffeeweed; sicklepod	Senna obtusifolia	
Danglepod		
Rattlebox*		
Bladderpod; bagpod		
Piedmont blacksenna		
Common wireweed:	. Cojimena pooimata	
common fanpetals	Sida acuta	
Lima*		
Cuban jute; Indian hemp		
Gum bully		
Florida bully		
Tough bully		
American black nightshade		
Soda apple; cockroachberry		
Twoleaf nightshade*		
Tropical soda apple*		
Chapman's goldenrod		manii
Wand goldenrod		
Spiny sowthistle*		
Common sowthistle*		
Woodland false buttonweed		
Prostrate false buttonweed	,	
Creeping oxeye*		
	. <del>-</del>	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Common chickweed*	Stellaria media Stenandrium dulce Stillingia aquatica Stipulicida setacea Toxicodendron radicans Triadenum virginicum Trichostema dichotomum Tridax procumbens Trifolium repens Ulmus americana Urena lobata Utricularia gibba Utricularia inflata Utricularia purpurea Utricularia radiata Utricularia subulata Vaccinium corymbosum Vaccinium darrowii Vaccinium myrsinites Vaccinium stamineum Verbena bonariensis Verbesina virginica Vernonia gigantea Viburnum obovatum Vicia acutifolia Vigna luteola Viola palmata Viola sororia Vitis rotundifolia Ximenia americana Youngia japonica	
	<i>y</i>	

#### **INVERTEBRATES**

<b>Butterflies &amp; Moths (Lepido</b>	ptera)
Gulf Fritillary	Agraulis vanillae
Cypress Looper*	Anacamptodes pregracilis
Delaware Skipper	
Tiger Moth	Apantesis sp.
Monk Skipper	Asbolis capucinus
Io Moth	Automeris io
Blackberry Looper	Chlorochlamys chloroleucaria
Queen	Danaus gilippus
Rosy Maple Moth	Dryocampa rubicunda
Sleepy Duskwing	Erynnis brizo
Horace's Duskywing	
Salt Marsh Moth	
Palmetto Skipper	Euphyes arpaOF
Varigated Fritillary	· ·
Little Yellow	
Zebra Swallowtail	
Banded Tussock Moth	
Common Buckeye	,
Yellow Flannel Moth	
Raspberry Wave	0 , 3
Leucania	
Stained Lophosis Moth	<u> </u>
Southern Chocolate Angle	•
Dainty Sulphur	
Twin-spot Skipper	
Decorated Owlet	
Palmades Swallowtail	<b>o</b> ,
Spicebush Swallowtail	·
Cloudless Sulphur	
Pearl Crescent	
Whirlabout	<u> </u>
Apple Sphinx	
Gray Hairstreak	, •
Southern Emerald Moth	
Joyful Holomelina	
Southern Broken-Dash	
Countries	
Crah	Callinaatas arnatus
	Callinectes ornatus
	Callinectes sapidus
	Farfantepenaeus aztecus
•	Farfantepenaeus duorarum SRST
wnite snrimp	Litopenaeus setiferus SRST

Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)

Эι.	Sepasti	an River	Preserv	e State	Park	Animais	•

Scientific Name

**Common Name** 

Grasshoppers (Orthoptera) Spurthroat grasshopper <i>Melanoplus kissimmee</i>			
Molluscs Channeled apple spail*	Pomacea canaliculata	water	
спанненей арріс знан	i omacca cananculata	vvatci	
	FISH		
Lined sole	Achirus lineatus	SRST	
Mountain mullet	Agonostomus monticola	SRST	
	Anchoa hepsetus		
	Anchoa mitchilli		
	Amia calva		
	Archosargus probatocephalus		
•	Arius felis		
Silver perch	Bairdiella chrysoura	SRST	
•	Bathyogobius soporator		
9 9	Brevoortia spp		
	Caranx hippos		
	Caranx latus		
	Centropomus ensiferus		
Fat snook	Centropomus parallelus	SRST	
Tarpon snook	Centropomus pectinatus	SRST	
Snook	Centropomus undecimalis	SRST	
Atlantic spadefish	Chaetodipterus faber	SRST	
Florida blenny	Chasmodes saburrae	SRST	
Bay whiff	Citharichthys spilopterus	SRST	
Walking catfish*	Clarias batrachus	SRST	
Spotted seatrout	Cynoscion nebulosus	SRST	
Sheepshead minnow	Cyprinodon variegatus	SRST	
Atlantic stingray	Dasyatis sabina	SRST	
Bluntnose stingray	Dasyatis say	SRST	
	Diapterus auratus		
	Diapterus plumieri		
Fat sleeper	Dormitator maculatus	SRST	
Gizzard shad	Dorosoma cepedianum	SRST	
Threadfin shad	Dorosoma petenense	SRST	
Spinycheek sleeper	Eleotris pisonis	SRST	
Ladyfish	Elops saurus	SRST	
	Esox niger		
	Etheostoma fusiforme		
	Eucinostomus gula		
_	Eucinostomus harengulus		
	Eucinostomus jonesi		
Mojarra	<i>Eucinostomus</i> spp	SRST	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Lyre goby	Evorthodus Ivricus	SRST
Eastern mosquitofish		
Yellowfin mojarra		
Bigmouth sleeper		
Darter goby		
Highfin goby		
Slashcheek goby		
Freshwater goby		
Marked goby		
Naked goby		
Code goby		
Scaled sardine		
Least killifish		
Brown hoplo*	•	
Suckermouth catfish		
Flagfish		
Brook silversides		
Pinfish		
Spot	Leiostomus xanthurus	SRST
Longnose gar	. Lepisosteus osseus	SRST
Florida gar	. Lepisosteus platyrhincus	SRST
Sunfish	. Lepomis auritus	SRST
Warmouth	Lepomis gulosus	SRST
Bluegill		
Dollar sunfish		
Redear sunfish	. •	
Spotted sunfish		
Crested goby		
Bluefin killifish		
Rainwater killifish	<u> </u>	
Snapper		
Gray snapper		
Tarpon	•	
Silverside		
Clown goby		
Opossum pipefish	0	
Atlantic croaker		
	. •	
Largemouth bass		
Planehead filefish	•	
Striped mullet		
White mullet		
Taillight shiner		
Coastal shiner		
Leatherjack		
Atlantic thread-herring		
Pigfish		
Southern flounder	. Paralichthys lethostigma	SRST

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Sailfin molly		
Blackdrum	0	
Burro grunt		
Bluefish		
Red drum		
Lookdown		
Southern puffer		
Checkered puffer	•	
Great barracuda		
Atlantic needlefish		
Redfin needlefish		
Timucu	Strongylura timucu	SRST
Chain pipefish	Syngnathus louisianae	SRST
Gulf pipefish	Syngnathus scovelli	SRST
Inshore lizardfish	Synodus foetens	SRST
Spotted tilapia*	Tilapia mariae	SRST
Blackchin tilapia*	Tilapia melanotheron	SRST
Hogchoker	Trinectes maculatus	SRST
Salamanders Two-toed amphiuma	AMPHIBIANS  Amphiuma means means	s BS,BG,DM,HH,SSL,SRST
Frogs and Toads		
Florida cricket frog	Acrie arvllue dorealie	DM FM
Oak toad		
Southern toad	•	
Greenhouse frog*		
Eastern narrow-mouthed toad		
Green treefrog		
<u> </u>	_	
Pinewoods treefrog	_	
Barking treefrog Squirrel treefrog		
Cuban treefrog*		
Southern chorus frog	·	
Little grass frog		
Florida gopher frog		
Pig frog		
Southern leopard frog		
Eastern spadefoot toad	Зсартюриѕ поюгоокі пов	DIOOKI IVIF,SC,SCF,DIVI,FS
	REPTILES	
Crocodilians		
American alligator	. Alligator mississippiensis.	FS,SRST

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Turtles Florida softshell turtle Florida snapping turtle Florida chicken turtle Gopher tortoise Striped mud turtle Florida mud turtle Peninsula cooter Florida redbelly turtle Florida box turtle	Chelydra serpentina osce Deirochelys reticularia ch Gopherus polyphemus Kinosternon baurii palma Kinosternon subrubrum Pseudemys floridana pen Pseudemys nelsoni	eolaSRST eryseaDS,SRST MF,SH,SC,SCF,WF,MF erumFS,SRST FS,SRST FS,SRST DS,SRST DS,SRST
Lizards Green anole	Anolis sagrei	81,82 fusSH,SC,SCF PH,XH,HH 81,82 angicaudusMTC MF,SC,SCF,XH
Snakes Florida cottonmouth	Agkistrodon piscivorus co	onantiBS,BF,FS,SRST
Florida scarlet snake  Southern black racer  Eastern diamondback	•	
Rattlesnake	Crotalus adamanteus	MF,PH,SH,SC,SCF
Southern ringneck snake Eastern indigo snake		
Corn snake Yellow rat snake Striped swamp snake Eastern coachwhip Eastern coral snake	Elaphe obsoleta quadrivit . Regina alleni Masticophis flagellum flag	ttataMTC DS,FM,STS,WP gellumSH,SC,SCF,UHF
Florida water snake Brown water snake Rough green snake Florida pine snake	Nerodia taxispilota Opheodrys aestivus aest	BS,BF,FS,SRST ivusMF,SCF,WF
South Florida black swamp snake	Seminatrix pygaea cyclas	<i>s</i> DS,21,DM,WP

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Florida brown snake	Storeria dekayi victa	MTC
Peninsula ribbon snake		
Eastern garter snake	Thamnophis sirtalis sirtal	<i>lis</i> MTC
	BIRDS	
Common Loon		
Pied-billed Grebe	Podilymbus podiceps	BS,DS,FM,FS,STS,SRST
American White Pelican		
Brown Pelican		
Magnificent Frigatebird		
Double-crested Cormorant		
Anhinga		
Great Egret		
Great Blue Heron		
American Bittern		
Cattle Egret*	Bubulcus ibis	MTC
Green Heron		
Little Blue Heron		
Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	MTC
Tricolored Heron		
Least Bittern	Ixobrychus exilis	DM,DS,FM,STS,WP,SRST
Yellow-crowned Night-heron		
Black-crowned Night-Heron		
White Ibis		
Glossy Ibis	<u> </u>	
Wood Stork		
Roseate Spoonbill		
Northern Pintail		
Northern Shoveler		
American Green-winged Teal		
Blue-winged Teal		
Mottled Duck	<u> </u>	
Mallard		
Wood Duck		
Muscovy Duck*		
Black-bellied Whistling-duck		
Hooded Merganser	, ,	
Cooper's Hawk		
Sharp-shinned Hawk		
Red-tailed Hawk		
Red-shouldered Hawk		
Broad-winged Hawk		
Crested Caracara		
Northern Harrier		
Swallow-tailed Kite		
American Kestrel	Falco sparverius	MTC

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Merlin	Falco columbarius	MTC
Peregrine Falcon		
Bald Eagle Osprey	naliaeetus leucocepiiaius.	
Snail Kite		
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Turkey Vulture		
Black Vulture		
Northern Bobwhite		
Sandhill Crane		
Florida Sandhill Crane		
Wild Turkey		
Sora		
King Rail		
Virginia Rail		
Florida Clapper Rail	•	
American Coot		
Common Moorhen		
American Oystercatcher		
Black-necked Stilt	•	
Limpkin	<u> </u>	
Spotted Sandpiper		
Upland Sandpiper		
Pectoral Sandpiper		
Least Sandpiper		
Semipalmated Sandpiper		
Semipalmated Plover		
Killdeer		
Common Snipe		
Long-billed Dowitcher	•	
American Woodcock	•	
Lesser Yellowlegs		
Greater Yellowlegs		
Solitary Sandpiper		
Herring Gull		
Laughing Gull		
Ring-billed Gull		
Black Skimmer	, ,	
Least Tern		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Caspian Tern		
Forster's Tern		
Royal Tern		
Rock Dove*		
Common Ground-dove		
Eurasian Collared-dove*	Streptopelia decaocto	<mark>81</mark>
White-winged Dove*		
Mourning Dove		
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus americanus	MTC

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Burrowing Owl	Athene cunicularia	<mark>81</mark>
Great Horned Owl		
Eastern Screech Owl	_	
Barred Owl		
Barn Owl		
Chuck-will's-willow		
Whip-poor-will		
Common Nighthawk		
Chimney Swift		
Ruby-throated Hummingbird		
Belted Kingfisher		
Northern Flicker		
Pileated Woodpecker		
Red-bellied Woodpecker		
Red-headed Woodpecker	•	
Red-cockaded Woodpecker	. Picoides borealis	MF
Downy Woodpecker		
Hairy Woodpecker	•	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		
Eastern Wood-Pewee		
Acadian Flycatcher		
Great Crested Flycatcher		
Eastern Phoebe	5	
Gray Kingbird		
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	<del>-</del>	
Eastern Kingbird		
Loggerhead Shrike		
Yellow-throated Vireo		
White-eyed Vireo		
Red-eyed Vireo	•	
Blue-headed Vireo		
Florida Scrub-jay		
American Crow		
Fish Crow		
Blue Jay		
Purple Martin		
Barn Swallow		
Cliff Swallow		
Northern Rough-winged		
Swallow	Stelgidopteryx serripenni	sOF
Tree Swallow		
Tufted Titmouse		
Brown-headed Nuthatch		
Carolina Wren		
House Wren	• •	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Polioptila caerulea	MTC

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Poquilus calondula	MTC
Veery		
Hermit Thrush		
Swainson's Thrush		
Eastern Bluebird		
American Robin		
Marsh Wren	<u> </u>	
	•	
Sedge Wren	•	
Gray Catbird		
Northern Mockingbird		
Brown Thrasher		
Cedar Waxwing		
Black-throated Blue Warbler		
Yellow-rumped Warbler		
Prairie Warbler		
Yellow-throated Warbler		
Blackburnian Warbler		
Magnolia Warbler		
Palm Warbler		
Chestnut-sided Warbler		
Yellow Warbler	•	
Pine Warbler	•	
Blackpoll Warbler		
Cape May Warbler		
Common Yellowthroat		
Worm-eating Warbler		
Swainson's Warbler		
Black-and-white Warbler		
Northern Parula		
Prothonotary Warbler	Protonotaria citrea	BS,DS,FS,STS
Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapillus	MTC
Louisiana Waterthrush		
Northern Waterthrush	Seiurus noveboracensis	MTC
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	MTC
Orange-crowned Warbler	Vermivora celata	PH,SH,UHF,XH
Golden-winged Warbler	Vermivora chrysoptera	MTC
Tennessee Warbler	Vermivora peregrina	MTC
Blue-winged Warbler	Vermivora pinus	MTC
Hooded Warbler	Wilsonia citrina	MF,BS,WF
Scarlet Tanager	Piranga olivacea	MF,SH,UHF
Summer Tanager	Piranga rubra	MF,SH,UHF
Bachman's Sparrow		
Grasshopper Sparrow	•	
Lark Sparrow		
Swamp Sparrow		
Song Sparrow		
Savannah Sparrow		
•		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Primary Habitat Codes (for imperiled species)
Eastern Towhee	Pinilo erythronhthalmus	ME PH SC SCE
Vesper Sparrow		
Clay-colored Sparrow		
Chipping Sparrow		
Field Sparrow		
White-throated Sparrow		
Red-winged Blackbird		
Bobolink		
Baltimore Oriole		
Brown-headed Cowbird*		
Boat-tailed Grackle		
Common Grackle		
	•	
Eastern Meadowlark	•	
European Starling*		
Northern Cardinal		
Blue Grosbeak		
Painted Bunting		
Indigo Bunting		
Rose-breasted Grosbeak		
American Goldfinch	Carduelis tristis	MTC
	MAMMALS	
Domestic cattle*	. Bos taurus	<mark>81</mark>
Opossum	Didelphis virginiana	MTC
Nine-banded armadillo*	. Dasypus novemcinctus	MTC
Eastern cottontail	Sylvilagus floridanus	MF,SCF
Marsh rabbit	Sylvilagus palustris	BF,DM,FM
Southern flying squirrel	Glaucomys volans	UHF
House mouse*		
Cotton mouse	. Peromyscus gossypinus	MF,SH,SCF,UHF
Gray squirrel	Sciurus carolinensis	MTC
Hispid cotton rat		
Florida manatee	Trichechus manatus latiro	ostris water
Coyote*	Canis latrans	MTC
Feral cat*		
Bobcat	. Felis rufus	MTC
River otter	Lutra canadensis	SRST
Striped skunk		
Raccoon	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Eastern spotted skunk	_	
Gray fox		
Atlantic bottle-nosed dolphin		
Axis deer*		
Fallow deer*		
White-tailed deer		
Wild pig*		
pig	040 001014	

		Primary Habitat Codes
Common Name	Scientific Name	(for imperiled species)

#### **TERRESTRIAL**

Beach Dune BD CB Coastal Berm Coastal Grassland CG Coastal Strand CS Dry Prairie DP Keys Cactus Barren KCB Limestone Outcrop LO Maritime Hammock MAH Mesic Flatwoods MF Mesic Hammock MEH Pine Rockland PR Prairie Hammock PH Rockland Hammock RH Sandhill SH Scrub SC Scrubby Flatwoods SCF Shell Mound SHM Sinkhole SK Slope Forest SPF Upland Glade UG **Upland Hardwood Forest** UHF Upland Mixed Woodland **UMW Upland Pine** UP Wet Flatwoods WF Xeric Hammock XH

#### **PALUSTRINE**

ΑF **Alluvial Forest** Basin Marsh BM Basin Swamp BS Baygall BG **Bottomland Forest** BF Coastal Interdunal Swale CIS Depression Marsh DM Dome Swamp DS Floodplain Marsh FΜ Floodplain Swamp FS Glades Marsh GM Hydric Hammock HH Keys Tidal Rock Barren KTRB Mangrove Swamp MS Marl Prairie MP Salt Marsh SAM Seepage Slope SSL Shrub Bog SHB Slough SLO Slough Marsh SLM

### **Primary Habitat Codes**

Strand Swamp	STS
Wet Prairie	WP
LACUSTRINE	

Clastic Upland Lake CULK Coastal Dune Lake CDLK Coastal Rockland Lake CRLK Flatwoods/Prairie **FPLK** Marsh Lake MLK River Floodplain Lake RFLK Sandhill Upland Lake SULK Sinkhole Lake SKLK Swamp Lake **SWLK** 

#### RIVERINE

Alluvial Stream AST Blackwater Stream **BST** Seepage Stream SST Spring-run Stream **SRST** 

#### **SUBTERRANEAN**

Aquatic Cave ACV **Terrestrial Cave** TCV

#### **ESTUARINE**

Algal Bed EAB Composite Substrate **ECPS** Consolidated Substrate **ECNS** Coral Reef **ECR** Mollusk Reef **EMR** Octocoral Bed EOB Seagrass Bed **ESGB** Sponge Bed **ESPB Unconsolidated Substrate** EUS Worm Reef **EWR** 

### **Primary Habitat Codes**

#### MARINE

Algal Bed MAB Composite Substrate **MCPS** Consolidated Substrate MCNS Coral Reef MCR Mollusk Reef MMR MOB Octocoral Bed Seagrass Bed **MSGB** Sponge Bed **MSPB Unconsolidated Substrate** MUS Worm Reef **MWR** 

#### **ALTERED LANDCOVER TYPES**

Abandoned field **ABF** Abandoned pasture **ABP** Agriculture AG Canal/ditch CD Clearcut pine plantation CPP Clearing CL Developed DV Impoundment/artificial pond IAP Invasive exotic monoculture IEM Pasture - improved РΙ Pasture - semi-improved PSI Pine plantation PΡ Road RD SA Spoil area Successional hardwood forest SHF Utility corridor UC

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Many Types of Communities	MTC
Overflying	OF
81	Unknown
82	Unknown



#### **Imperiled Species Ranking Definitions**

The Nature Conservancy and the Natural Heritage Program Network (of which FNAI is a part) define an <u>element</u> as any exemplary or rare component of the natural environment, such as a species, natural community, bird rookery, spring, sinkhole, cave or other ecological feature. An <u>element occurrence</u> (EO) is a single extant habitat that sustains or otherwise contributes to the survival of a population or a distinct, self-sustaining example of a particular element.

Using a ranking system developed by The Nature Conservancy and the Natural Heritage Program Network, the Florida Natural Areas Inventory assigns two ranks to each element. The global rank is based on an element's worldwide status; the state rank is based on the status of the element in Florida. Element ranks are based on many factors, the most important ones being estimated number of Element occurrences, estimated abundance (number of individuals for species; area for natural communities), range, estimated adequately protected EOs, relative threat of destruction, and ecological fragility.

Federal and State status information is from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (animals), and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (plants), respectively.

#### **FNAI GLOBAL RANK DEFINITIONS**

G1 Critically imperiled globally because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or less than 1000 individuals) or because of extreme	
vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or fabricated factor.	
G2 Imperiled globally because of rarity (6 to 20 occurrences or less than	
3000 individuals) or because of vulnerability to extinction due to some	
natural or man-made factor.	
G3 Either very rare or local throughout its range (21-100 occurrences or	
less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or	
vulnerable to extinction of other factors.	
G4 apparently secure globally (may be rare in parts of range)	
G5 demonstrably secure globally	
GH of historical occurrence throughout its range may be rediscovered	
(e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker)	
GX believed to be extinct throughout range	
GXC extirpated from the wild but still known from captivity or cultivation	
G#? Tentative rank (e.g.,G2?)	
G#G# range of rank; insufficient data to assign specific global rank (e.g., G2G3)	
G#T# rank of a taxonomic subgroup such as a subspecies or variety; the G	
portion of the rank refers to the entire species and the T portion refers	
to the specific subgroup; numbers have same definition as above (e.g. G3T1)	,
G#Q rank of questionable species - ranked as species but questionable	
whether it is species or subspecies; numbers have same definition as above (e.g., G2Q)	

# **Imperiled Species Ranking Definitions**

G#T#Q same as above, but validity as subspecies or variety is questioned. GU due to lack of information, no rank or range can be assigned (e.g.,
GUT2).
G? Not yet ranked (temporary)
S1 Critically imperiled in Florida because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or less than 1000 individuals) or because of extreme vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
S2 Imperiled in Florida because of rarity (6 to 20 occurrences or less than 3000 individuals) or because of vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
S3 Either very rare or local throughout its range (21-100 occurrences or less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or vulnerable to extinction of other factors.
S4 apparently secure in Florida (may be rare in parts of range)
S5 demonstrably secure in Florida
SH of historical occurrence throughout its range, may be rediscovered (e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker)
SX believed to be extinct throughout range
SA accidental in Florida, i.e., not part of the established biota
SE an exotic species established in Florida may be native elsewhere in North America
SN regularly occurring but widely and unreliably distributed; sites for conservation hard to determine
SU due to lack of information, no rank or range can be assigned (e.g., SUT2).
S? Not yet ranked (temporary)
N Not currently listed, nor currently being considered for listing, by state or federal agencies.

#### **LEGAL STATUS**

# **FEDERAL**

# (Listed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service - USFWS)

LE Listed as Endangered Species in the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants under the provisions of the Endangered	
Species Act. Defined as any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.	
PE Proposed for addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened	
Wildlife and Plants as Endangered Species.	
LT Listed as Threatened Species. Defined as any species that is likely to	
become an endangered species within the near future throughout all of a significant portion of its range.	r
PT Proposed for listing as Threatened Species.	
C Candidate Species for addition to the list of Endangered and	
Threatened Wildlife and Plants. Defined as those species for which the	
USFWS currently has on file sufficient information on biological	
vulnerability and threats to support proposing to list the species as	
endangered or threatened.	
E(S/A) Endangered due to similarity of appearance.	
T(S/A) Threatened due to similarity of appearance.	
EXPE, XE Experimental essential population. A species listed as experimental and	b
essential.	
EXPN, XN Experimental non-essential population. A species listed as	
experimental and non-essential. Experimental, nonessential populations of	
endangered species are treated as threatened species on public land, for	
consultation purposes.	

#### **STATE**

# ANIMALS .. (Listed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission - FWC)

FE Federally-designated Endangered
FT Federally-designated Threatened
FXN Federally-designated Threatened Nonessential Experimental Population
FT(S/A) Federally-designated Threatened species due to similarity of appearance

#### **Imperiled Species Ranking Definitions**

ST..... Listed as Threatened Species by the FWC. Defined as a species, subspecies, or isolated population, which is acutely vulnerable to environmental alteration, declining in number at a rapid rate, or whose range or habitat, is decreasing in area at a rapid rate and therefore is destined or very likely to become an endangered species within the near future. SSC ...... Listed as Species of Special Concern by the FWC. Defined as a population which warrants special protection, recognition or consideration because it has an inherent significant vulnerability to habitat modification, environmental alteration, human disturbance or substantial human exploitation that, in the near future, may result in its becoming a threatened species. PLANTS .... (Listed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer **Services - FDACS)** LE ..... Listed as Endangered Plants in the Preservation of Native Flora of Florida Act. Defined as species of plants native to the state that are in imminent danger of extinction within the state, the survival of which is unlikely if the causes of a decline in the number of plants continue, and includes all species determined to be endangered or threatened pursuant to the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Listed as Threatened Plants in the Preservation of Native Flora of Florida Act. Defined as species native to the state that are in rapid decline in the number of plants within the state, but which have not so decreased in such number as to cause them to be endangered.



These procedures apply to state agencies, local governments, and non-profits that manage state-owned properties.

#### A. General Discussion

Historic resources are both archaeological sites and historic structures. Per Chapter 267, Florida Statutes, 'Historic property' or 'historic resource' means any prehistoric district, site, building, object, or other real or personal property of historical, architectural, or archaeological value, and folklife resources. These properties or resources may include, but are not limited to, monuments, memorials, Indian habitations, ceremonial sites, abandoned settlements, sunken or abandoned ships, engineering works, treasure trove, artifacts, or other objects with intrinsic historical or archaeological value, or any part thereof, relating to the history, government, and culture of the state."

#### B. Agency Responsibilities

Per State Policy relative to historic properties, state agencies of the executive branch must allow the Division of Historical Resources (Division) the opportunity to comment on any undertakings, whether these undertakings directly involve the state agency, i.e., land management responsibilities, or the state agency has indirect jurisdiction, i.e. permitting authority, grants, etc. No state funds should be expended on the undertaking until the Division has the opportunity to review and comment on the project, permit, grant, etc.

State agencies shall preserve the historic resources which are owned or controlled by the agency.

Regarding proposed demolition or substantial alterations of historic properties, consultation with the Division must occur, and alternatives to demolition must be considered.

State agencies must consult with Division to establish a program to locate, inventory and evaluate all historic properties under ownership or controlled by the agency.

#### C. Statutory Authority

Statutory Authority and more in-depth information can be found at: <a href="http://www.flheritage.com/preservation/compliance/guidelines.cfm">http://www.flheritage.com/preservation/compliance/guidelines.cfm</a>

#### D. Management Implementation

Even though the Division sits on the Acquisition and Restoration Council and approves land management plans, these plans are conceptual. Specific information regarding individual projects must be submitted to the Division for review and recommendations.

Managers of state lands must coordinate any land clearing or ground disturbing activities with the Division to allow for review and comment on the proposed project. Recommendations may include, but are not limited to: approval of the project as submitted, cultural resource assessment survey by a qualified professional archaeologist, modifications to the proposed project to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effects.

Projects such as additions, exterior alteration, or related new construction regarding historic structures must also be submitted to the Division of Historical Resources for review and comment by the Division's architects. Projects involving structures fifty years of age or older, must be submitted to this agency for a significance determination. In rare cases, structures under fifty years of age may be deemed historically significant. These must be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Adverse impacts to significant sites, either archaeological sites or historic buildings, must be avoided. Furthermore, managers of state property should make preparations for locating and evaluating historic resources, both archaeological sites and historic structures.

#### E. Minimum Review Documentation Requirements

In order to have a proposed project reviewed by the Division, certain information must be submitted for comments and recommendations. The minimum review documentation requirements can be found at:

http://www.flheritage.com/preservation/compliance/docs/minimum\_review\_documentation\_requirements.pdf .

\* \* \*

Questions relating to the treatment of archaeological and historic resources on state lands should be directed to:

Deena S. Woodward
Division of Historical Resources
Bureau of Historic Preservation
Compliance and Review Section
R. A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Phone: (850) 245-6425

Toll Free: (800) 847-7278 Fax: (850) 245-6435

The criteria to be used for evaluating eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places are as follows:

- Districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects may be considered to have significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and/or culture if they possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:
  - a) are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; and/or
  - **b)** are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; and/or
  - embody the distinctive characteristics of type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; and/or
  - d) have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.
- Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures; properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes; structures that have been moved from their original locations; reconstructed historic buildings; properties primarily commemorative in nature; and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the *National Register*. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:
  - a) a religious property deriving its primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
  - b) a building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
  - a birthplace or grave of an historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building directly associated with his productive life; or
  - a cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, distinctive design features, or association with historic events; ora reconstructed building, when it is accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or a property primarily commemorative in intent, if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or
  - e) a property achieving significance within the past 50 years, if it is of exceptional importance.

# Preservation Treatments as Defined by Secretary of Interior's Standards and Guidelines

**Restoration** is defined as the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems and other coderequired work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project.

**Rehabilitation** is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations and additions while preserving those portions or features that convey its historical, cultural or architectural values.

**Stabilization** is defined as the act or process of applying measures designed to reestablish a weather resistant enclosure and the structural stability of an unsafe or deteriorated property while maintaining the essential form as it exists at present.

**Preservation** is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.



# Addendum 8 Timber Management Analysis

#### 1. Management Context and Best Management Practices

Timber management prescriptions and actions at St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park (St. Sebastian) are based on the desired future condition (DFC) of a stand or natural community as determined by guidelines established by the DRP. In most cases, the DFC will be closely related to the historic natural community. However, it is important to note, that in areas where the historic community has been severely altered by past land use practices, the DFC may not always be the same as the historic natural community. All forest/stand/timber management activities undertaken will adhere to the current Florida Silvicultural Best Management Practices and Florida Forestry Wildlife Best Management Practices for State Imperiled Species. DRP is responsible for managing timber resources within corresponding management zones. This timber assessment was conducted by F4 Tech on behalf of DRP.

#### 2. Purpose of Timber Management Activities

Timber management activities will be conducted to help restore and/or improve current conditions so that the associated DFC (typically an historic condition) can be achieved or maintained. Timber management will primarily be conducted in pinedominated natural communities. Upland communities typically include mesic flatwoods, sandhill, upland pine, upland mixed woodland and altered landcover areas such as successional hardwood forest and pine plantations. Other historically hardwood-dominated natural communities will likely have little to no scheduled timber management activities. In some circumstances, actions may be conducted to remove overstory invasive/exotic trees such as Chinese tallow and Brazilian pepper to help restore or maintain natural communities.

#### 3. Potential Silvicultural Treatments

Several silvicultural treatments may be considered and utilized over the next ten years to achieve the long-term DFC for candidate natural communities at St. Sebastian. These treatments include timber harvests, timber stand improvement, site preparation, and reforestation. The various types of timber harvests may include pine thinning, targeted hardwood removal, and clearcutting. Silvicultural treatments should be implemented to minimize disturbance to non-target vegetation, soil, and wildlife.

Thinning is conducted to reduce the basal area (BA) or density of trees/stems in a stand to improve forest health and growth conditions for residual trees. The "opening up" of high density forest stands increases tree and stand vigor, which helps mitigate the potential for damaging insect outbreaks. Thinning also increases sunlight reaching the forest floor, which when combined with routine prescribed fire, can increase groundcover vegetation abundance, species richness, and overall ecological diversity. The disruption of a historic natural fire regime and/or fire return interval can often result in the need to remove undesirable or overstocked hardwood stems that currently occupy growing space in the canopy and sub-canopy. Tree

DRAFT 1

#### Florida State Parks Timber Management Analysis

removal/harvest also increases groundcover vegetation, ecological diversity, and fine fuels that facilitate consistent fire return intervals and responses.

Clearcutting supports restoration goals by removing offsite pine or hardwood species and is a precursor to establishing site-appropriate species. It is also used to control insect infestations that are damaging or threatening forest resources and ecosystem conditions on or off site. A tangible by-product of conducting timber harvests for restoring or improving forested communities is the generation of revenue.

Stand or natural community improvement activities are often conducted to reduce unwanted hardwood, palm, or palmetto competition. Stand improvement treatments reduce fuel or fuel height, which can improve groundcover conditions and aid in maintaining proper prescribed burning return intervals. The two main stand improvement activities used on park property are herbicide treatments and mechanically cutting vegetation. Herbicide may be applied aerially, by mechanized ground-based equipment, or via backpack sprayers. Herbicides are used to reduce the amount of hardwood competition in areas that are unable to carry sufficient prescribed fire due to shading and lack of adequate groundcover fuels. Mechanical cutting is used to reduce the height of smaller shrub and hardwood competition, allowing for the establishment of fire-dependent herbs and grasses. Decreasing fuel loadings and enhancing groundcover allows prescribed fire to be reintroduced safely into a stand that has been unable to carry fire adequately. In select areas, mechanical or chemical control is also used to control excessive palm density promoted by past disturbance or fire exclusion to the same ends described above. Unlike hardwoods, these areas can burn with too much intensity under certain conditions.

Reforestation is used to establish the appropriate southern pine species in areas that have been harvested and lack sufficient natural regeneration in terms of abundance (seedlings/acre) and/or species composition. Reforestation candidate areas can also include those that are fire suppressed or have been recently impacted by natural events such as windthrow, bark beetle attack, or wildfire. The two methods used to reestablish the overstory will be natural and artificial regeneration. Both methods may require site preparation to facilitate survival of the desired species. Site preparation activities may include the use of prescribed fire, herbicides, and/or mechanical treatments such as roller chopping. Site preparation technique(s) will be selected that address the current vegetative cover type and condition, and the need to minimize seedling competition while avoiding/minimizing any long-term impacts to native groundcover species and native wildlife. Natural generation may be used in areas where artificial regeneration is not needed, such as areas that have an adequate seed source of the desired tree species located on site or in the immediate vicinity. Artificial regeneration may include machine or hand planting. Hand planting is preferred on wetter sites, rougher sites, and/or sites where groundcover protection is a concern and a more natural appearance of randomly spaced trees is desired. Machine planting generally allows for more consistent planting and often allows higher survival rates if the site is properly prepared.

DRAFT 2

# 4. Inventory Data and Potential Actions per Area of Interest or Management Zone

St. Sebastian comprises 21,627 acres in Hardee and Highlands Counties. A total of 13,909 acres are associated with seven (7) upland natural community (NatCom) types (includes hydric hammock) and one (1) altered landcover type that are potential candidates for timber management. From October 2017 to January 2018, an inventory based on field plots was conducted across and within these areas to quantify overstory, midstory and understory conditions. Table 1 below provides general statistics generated by the inventory at St. Sebastian. Table 2 below provides current stocking levels and potential management activities of candidate management zones and NatComs.

This timber assessment was based on GIS data (management zone and NatCom boundary data) provided by DRP in December 2017. This assessment identifies opportunities for potential actions over the next 10-year UMP planning horizon based on current conditions compared against desired future conditions. It is not intended to be prescriptive. State park staff responsible for developing operational plans should view this timber assessment and all supporting data as a guide for potential actions to consider. Given the dynamic nature of property ownership and land management activities at St. Sebastian, together with the timeframe required to create or update a UMP, it is possible that some tabular data may be dated. Therefore, NatCom acreages and recent treatments that occurred after the December 2017 period may not be reflected in the tables herein.

A review and analysis of this data suggests that current ecological conditions for multiple management zones and associated forested communities could benefit from vegetation treatments. This assessment was based on a comparison of current conditions and the corresponding NatCom analog or target conditions as defined per Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) Reference Site descriptions. In general, inventory data indicates that most NatComs evaluated had overstory pine stocking levels within or slightly below the range and hardwood overstory stocking levels above the upper limits identified for corresponding FNAI Reference Sites. Some NatComs considered may require midstory and overstory control to become, or remain, in compliance with FNAI defined ranges for palmetto and non-pine midstory. Stands with low stocking levels or a complete lack of preferred tree species would likely benefit from midstory control and artificial regeneration. In areas where planting is deemed necessary, the site should be assessed for site preparation needs including midstory/understory reduction.

The following section contains a general description of each upland NatCom (by management zone), their general condition, and the potential for restoration and/or improvement actions via timber management. Acres listed correspond with the DFC per NatCom type.

Table 1. General summary statistics for St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park

Number of Management Zones within the Park	200
Number of Management Zones needing timber management	182
Number of unique upland NatCom polygons (split by management zone)	320*
Number of unique upland NatCom polygons potentially needing timber management	320*
Upland NatCom acres	13,909*
Acres potentially needing timber management	13,909*

<sup>\*</sup>Includes hydric hammock

## Hydric Hammock (743 acres)

Hydric hammock is characterized as a closed canopy, evergreen hardwood and/or palm forest with a variable understory dominated by palms and with a sparse to moderate groundcover of grasses and ferns. Soils of this community type are typically moist with limestone very near the surface. Typical canopy species include laurel oak (Quercus laurifolia), pignut hickory (Carya glabra), southern magnolia (Magnolia grandiflora), cabbage palm (Sabal palmetto), sugar hackberry (Celtis laevigata), live oak (Q. virginiana), sweetbay (Magnolia virginiana), red cedar (Juniperus virginiana), swamp tupelo (Nyssa sylvatica var. biflora), American elm (Ulmus americana), red maple (Acer rubrum) and other hydrophytic tree species. Soils are typically poorly drained but only occasionally flooded. Hydric hammock will occasionally burn when fires spread naturally across ecotones from adjacent upland natural communities. Preferred species for this NatCom include those specified above. There are currently no FNAI recommendations on per species stocking levels for this NatCom. The following management zones contain hydric hammock.

Management Zones	Hydric Hammock DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-038*	4.9				
SSR-039c	11.5	68	13	55	11.2

Management Zones	Hydric Hammock DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-041	18.8	156	68	88	9.8
SSR-042*	7.9				
SSR-043	27.7	94	23	71	8.0
SSR-045	11.9	107	35	72	6.8
SSR-046	5.7	86	47	39	7.8
SSR-047w	4.0	135	65	70	8.7
SSR-057*	0.5				
SSR-058w*	0.3				
SSR-060w*	0.5				
SSR-061	8.6	119	78	41	7.2
SSR-062s	7.7	21	0	21	0.6
SSR-065s*	1.0				
SSR-071*	1.4				-
SSR-072	23.2	64	16	48	7.9
SSR-075*	1.4				
SSR-079	1.5	47	0	47	4.7
SSR-094c	27.6	49	0	49	8.2
SSR-094e*	23.5				
SSR-095e*	54.7				
SSR-096e	24.5	143	10	133	10.8
SSR-097e*	20.2				
SSR-097ne*	9.9				
SSR-098e*	74.4				
SSR-100	46.0	141	10	131	9.7
SSR-104	13.8	195	0	195	9.5
SSR-105n	16.9	53	5	48	6.5
SSR-105w*	94.0				
SSR-106ne	27.5	54	0	54	7.0
SSR-106nw	26.5	65	0	65	3.6
SSR-106se*	51.3				
SSR-110*	14.2				
SSR-123*	0.9				
SSR-125*	58.8				

Management Zones	Hydric Hammock DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-126*	1.4				
SSR-127*	1.2				
SSR-131*	17.6				
Total	743.3				

<sup>\*</sup>Un-sampled upland areas are present in this analysis and could require vegetation management in the future.

#### Invasive Exotic Monoculture (20 acres)

Invasive exotic monoculture is an altered community type. At St. Sebastian, significant invasive exotic monocultures primarily comprise improved pasture and abandoned pasture/fields. The groundcover consists mainly of several types of exotic pasture grasses. Potential DFC for these altered types include wet prairie, mesic flatwoods, and depression marshes. Future timber management activities could potentially transition this altered type into one of the listed NatCom types (some of these have been referenced by FNAI, e.g., mesic flatwoods).

Management Zones	Invasive Exotic Monoculture DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-042*	0.6				
SSR-042A	13.8	7	0	7	0.7
SSR-047e*	0.1				
SSR-047se*	0.1				
SSR-058w	5.6	92	0	92	6.4
SSR-123*	0.1				
Total	20.2				

<sup>\*</sup>Un-sampled upland areas are present in this analysis and could require vegetation management in the future.

#### Mesic Flatwoods (11,110 acres)

Mesic flatwoods are pine flatwoods characterized by an open canopy of tall pines, typically longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) and/or south Florida slash pine (*P. elliottii*) and a dense, low ground layer of low shrubs, grasses and forbs. Shrub species found in this community will include saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*), gallberry (*Ilex glabra*), fetterbush (*Lyonia lucida*), coastal plain staggerbush (*Lyonia fruticosa*), dwarf live oak (*Quercus minima*), shiny blueberry (*Vaccinium myrsinites*), and dwarf huckleberry (*Gaylussacia dumosa*). The herbaceous layer will consist primarily of grasses including wiregrass (*Aristida stricta*), pineywoods dropseed (*Sporobolus*)

junceus), witchgrasses (*Dicanthelium* spp.) and broomsedge grasses (*Andropogon* spp.). This community has minimal topographic relief and the soils contain a hardpan layer within a few feet of the surface which impedes percolation. Due to these factors, water can saturate the sandy surface soils for extended periods during the wet season but lengthy droughts also commonly occur during the dry season. The optimal fire return interval for this community is one to three years in areas dominated by cutthroat and other grass species and two to four years in areas dominated by saw palmetto. Invasive exotic plant cover will be 5 percent or less. The preferred pine species (as determined by FNAI reference sites) are longleaf and south Florida slash pine, which should be stocked at a level of 10 to 50 square feet of BA per acre while non-pine species should remain between 0 and 26.2 stems per acre. The following management zone(s) contain mesic flatwoods which could be considered for some form of timber management including overstory removal, midstory mitigation, site preparation, and planting of preferred pine species; unless contradictory to management goals detailed in the Resource Management Component.

Managamant	Mesic	Total	Boool	Basal Area	Averege
Management			Basal		Average
Zone(s)	Flatwoods DFC	Overstory	Area	Non-	Diameter
		Basal Area	Preferred	Preferred	at breast
	(Acres)	(ft <sup>2</sup> /acre)	Species	Species	height (inches)
SSR-001n	18.0	5	5	0	2.9
SSR-00111	176.2	16	15	1	4.3
				-	
SSR-003n	85.8	4	2	2	1.9
SSR-003s	127.2	5	5	0	1.9
SSR-004	234.1	10	8	3	3.8
SSR-005n	194.2	9	3	6	3.3
SSR-005s	203.1	15	14	1	3.9
SSR-006	151.9	4	3	1	2.1
SSR-007	83.1	4	1	2	2.1
SSR-008e	125.0	4	2	2	3.0
SSR-008w	35.4	7	0	7	1.8
SSR-009	213.3	7	1	7	2.7
SSR-010	111.5	11	10	1	3.5
SSR-011n	51.6	85	14	71	8.4
SSR-011s	30.5	15	0	15	4.2
SSR-012	79.5	18	0	18	5.5
SSR-013	60.4	21	3	18	5.2
SSR-014	199.9	18	0	18	4.1
SSR-014A	20.6	88	3	85	9.4
SSR-015	178.0	35	0	35	7.4
SSR-016n	305.2	20	0	20	5.9
SSR-016s	66.2	4	0	4	2.5
SSR-017	27.5	95	5	90	9.1

Management Zone(s)	Mesic Flatwoods DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-018	179.1	37	6	32	8.0
SSR-019	173.3	27	0	27	6.3
SSR-020w*	0.3				
SSR-021e	154.2	24	7	17	5.7
SSR-021w	68.4	16	15	2	3.2
SSR-022	79.0	11	1	10	4.1
SSR-023e1	36.8	8	0	8	6.5
SSR-023e2*	14.5				
SSR-023e3*	18.0				
SSR-023w	66.5	18	0	18	5.5
SSR-026	74.5	24	12	12	5.1
SSR-028w*	22.6		/		
SSR-029e	104.8	8	2	5	6.4
SSR-029w	111.0	9	2	7	4.9
SSR-030	125.5	12	0	12	3.8
SSR-031	47.4	23	0	23	5.6
SSR-032	77.8	22	0	22	4.2
SSR-033	104.1	21	0	21	3.6
SSR-034	128.1	14	0	14	4.8
SSR-035n	55.7	5	0	5	5.9
SSR-035s	98.2	5	0	5	7.7
SSR-036	206.6	13	0	13	7.8
SSR-037	220.9	19	0	19	7.9
SSR-038	93.8	47	1	46	7.7
SSR-039c	49.9	16	7	9	6.9
SSR-039n	7.9	25	20	5	7.1
SSR-039s	53.9	25	2	23	9.2
SSR-040n	8.8	13	0	13	7.9
SSR-040s	153.5	8	4	4	3.3
SSR-041	54.8	93	0	93	8.0
SSR-042*	81.2				
SSR-043	100.2	18	6	13	3.9
SSR-044	68.5	31	24	8	4.8
SSR-045	7.6	10	10	0	2.5
SSR-046	14.5	87	13	73	8.7
SSR-047w	59.5	73	0	73	5.7
SSR-048	9.9	3	0	3	1.5

Management Zone(s)	Mesic Flatwoods DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-049e	5.6	7	7	0	2.3
SSR-049w	38.8	5	5	0	1.7
SSR-051	19.5	8	8	0	2.7
SSR-052e*	1.0				
SSR-052w	16.7	5	0	5	2.3
SSR-053	27.6	37	9	29	4.2
SSR-056n	62.6	5	5	1	2.0
SSR-056s	8.0	10	10	0	2.8
SSR-057	91.9	8	8	0	3.6
SSR-058w	4.6	5	5	0	1.7
SSR-059n*	10.6				
SSR-059se*	14.5				
SSR-059sw*	3.6				
SSR-060e	52.9	18	18	0	4.5
SSR-060n	214.7	2	1	2	4.6
SSR-060s	51.0	6	0	6	5.1
SSR-060se	40.7	6	4	3	5.7
SSR-060w	113.2	3	2	1	2.6
SSR-061*	52.3				
SSR-062n	16.1	2	2	0	1.0
SSR-062s	166.2	9	1	8	3.1
SSR-063c	7.1	43	3	40	6.4
SSR-063n	57.3	23	1	22	3.7
SSR-063s	52.8	45	20	25	5.7
SSR-064n	114.4	39	0	39	5.4
SSR-064s	89.9	11	0	11	2.9
SSR-065n	81.3	20	1	19	4.0
SSR-065s	77.5	35	2	33	5.1
SSR-066	33.4	18	0	18	4.3
SSR-067	179.7	27	0	27	4.7
SSR-068	102.5	16	0	16	4.6
SSR-069	206.4	27	1	26	4.6
SSR-070	36.2	66	11	54	7.3
SSR-071	105.7	45	5	40	6.8
SSR-072	23.2	53	30	23	8.3
SSR-074	57.3	4	0	4	1.8
SSR-075	54.5	2	0	2	2.1

Management Zone(s)	Mesic Flatwoods DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-076	73.0	3	0	3	1.3
SSR-077*	51.3				
SSR-077se*	2.4				
SSR-078e*	4.5				
SSR-078w	70.3	10	1	9	2.7
SSR-079	79.9	5	0	5	2.0
SSR-080	37.1	7	0	7	2.0
SSR-081	83.8	2	0	2	0.8
SSR-081se*	4.0				
SSR-082	99.8	4	0	4	1.5
SSR-083e	45.1	3	0	3	1.1
SSR-083w	16.7	96	0	96	8.0
SSR-084	51.6	36	0	36	6.0
SSR-085	92.8	6	1	5	2.1
SSR-086	54.5	6	0	6	2.7
SSR-087	39.1	16	0	16	4.8
SSR-088	191.4	7	0	7	2.4
SSR-089n	33.5	32	3	29	5.9
SSR-089s*	8.4				
SSR-090n*	148.2				
SSR-090s*	25.9				
SSR-091	36.4	1	0	1	2.3
SSR-092	141.2	12	0	12	4.4
SSR-093	59.1	6	0	6	2.2
SSR-094c*	3.4	2-			
SSR-094e	16.6	3	0	3	5.2
SSR-095e	68.7	5	0	5	1.9
SSR-095w*	15.3				
SSR-096e*	70.3				
SSR-096w*	36.0				
SSR-097e*	56.0				
SSR-097n*	22.3				
SSR-097ne*	5.4				
SSR-097nw*	0.3				
SSR-097w	23.2	2	0	2	1.2
SSR-098e	141.6	14	0	14	2.3
SSR-098sw	21.1	8	2	6	2.0

Management Zone(s)	Mesic Flatwoods DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height
CCD 000	(5.0	(ft²/acre)	4		(inches)
SSR-098w	65.0	5	1	5	2.2
SSR-099	26.7	3	0	3	1.2
SSR-100	128.8	25	0	25	3.6
SSR-101e	34.8	4	4	0	3.5
SSR-101w	12.2	31	13	19	7.3
SSR-102	91.2	37	7	30	7.5
SSR-103	8.0	20	20	0	7.0
SSR-104	236.8	25	0	24	5.7
SSR-105e	87.8	4	0	4	1.6
SSR-105n	7.7	40	0	40	5.0
SSR-105w	148.7	18	0	18	3.1
SSR-106ne	26.5	8	0	8	2.2
SSR-106nw	29.2	12	0	12	2.7
SSR-106se	23.4	30	0	30	6.2
SSR-107	61.9	11	0	11	6.0
SSR-108	71.5	75	13	62	9.5
SSR-109	19.0	55	0	55	6.2
SSR-110*	3.2				
SSR-111*	0.1				
SSR-121*	0.3				
SSR-123*	1.4				
SSR-124	14.4	15	0	15	3.2
SSR-126*	0.6				
SSR-128	10.4	43	0	43	7.1
SSR-129*	0.7	2-			
SSR-130	11.0	90	8	83	15.3
SSR-131*	23.0				
SSR-134	35.7	145	18	127	10.2
SSR-136*	0.2				
Total	11,110.4	ais analysis and as	auld roquiro ve == t	ation management in t	a first in

<sup>\*</sup>Un-sampled upland areas are present in this analysis and could require vegetation management in the future.

#### Sandhill (214 acres)

Sandhill communities are characterized by a canopy of widely spaced pine trees with a sparse midstory of deciduous oaks. The dominant pine of sandhill will usually be longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*). Herbaceous cover will be very dense, typically of wiregrass (*Aristida stricta*), and low in stature. Most of the plant diversity is contained

in the herbaceous layer including other three-awns (*Aristida* spp.), pineywoods dropseed (*Sporobolus junceus*), lopsided Indian grass (*Sorghastrum secundum*), bluestems (*Andropogon* spp.), and little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*). In addition to groundcover and pines, there will be scattered individual trees, clumps, or ridges of turkey oaks (*Quercus laevis*) and sand live oak (*Q. geminata*). In old growth conditions, some turkey oaks will be over 100 years old. The optimal fire return interval for this community is one to three years. Invasive exotic plant cover should be 5 percent or less. In this region, the preferred species (as determined by FNAI reference sites) is longleaf pine, which should be stocked at a level of 20 to 60 square feet of BA per acre while non-pine species should remain between 0 and 78.8 stems per acre. The following management zone(s) contain sandhill, which could be considered for some form of timber management including midstory mitigation, site preparation, and planting of preferred pine species; unless contradictory to management goals detailed in the Resource Management Component.

Management Zones	Sandhill DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-001n	46.5	14	14	0	3.3
SSR-001s	24.4	5	5	0	1.6
SSR-005s	16.2	10	10	0	2.5
SSR-026	74.0	10	9	1	3.4
SSR-050s*	0.4				
SSR-051*	0.2				
SSR-058w	4.8	37	13	23	4.2
SSR-059n	39.3	24	8	16	4.0
SSR-059sw*	7.8				
Total	213.5				

<sup>\*</sup>Un-sampled upland areas are present in this analysis and could require vegetation management in the future.

#### Scrub (300 acres)

Within scrub habitats, the dominant plant species will include scattered scrub oak (*Quercus inopina*), sand live oak (*Q. geminata*), myrtle oak (*Q. myrtifolia*), Chapman's oak (*Q. chapmanii*), saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*), and rusty staggerbush (*Lyonia ferruginea*). There will typically be a variety of oak age classes and heights between different scrub patches. Scattered openings in the canopy are also common, which result in bare patches of sand below that support many imperiled and/or endemic plant species including large-flowered rosemary (*Conradina grandiflora*); these species will be regularly flowering and replenishing their seed banks. In addition, sand pine (*Pinus clausa*), where present, will usually not be dominant in abundance, percent cover, or height, although pockets of mature sand pine may occur. The optimal fire return interval for this community will be regionally

variable and is typically 4-15 years when aiming to achieve a mosaic of burned and unburned areas. Invasive exotic plant cover should be 5 percent or less. In this region, the preferred overstory pine species (as determined by FNAI reference sites) is sand pine and should be stocked at a level of 0 to 20 square feet of BA per acre while non-pine species should remain between 0 and 13.1 stems per acre. The following management zones contain scrub which could be considered for some form of timber management including overstory removal, midstory mitigation, site preparation, and planting of preferred pine species; unless contradictory to management goals detailed in the Resource Management Component.

Management Zones	Scrub DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal	Basal Area Preferred	Basal Area Non- Preferred	Average Diameter at breast
		Area	Species	Species	height
		(ft²/acre)	,	'	(inches)
SSR-001n*	3.2				
SSR-001s*	9.1				
SSR-043*	2.4				
SSR-045	16.3	28	0	28	3.9
SSR-050n*	0.5				
SSR-050s*	31.6				
SSR-051*	56.1				
SSR-054n*	2.7				
SSR-055c*	17.3				
SSR-055n*	11.3				
SSR-055s*	41.0				
SSR-056n*	0.4				
SSR-056s	12.4	2	0	2	0.8
SSR-057*	6.0		-		-
SSR-058w*	6.3				
SSR-073w*	0.3				
SSR-077*	7.0		-		-
SSR-077se*	8.6				
SSR-078e*	2.3				
SSR-085*	6.6				
SSR-088*	6.8				
SSR-095w	15.2	3	0	3	2.5
SSR-096w*	11.0				
SSR-097n*	11.8				
SSR-097nw*	3.4				

Management Zones	Scrub DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-097w*	8.5				
SSR-110*	0.7				
SSR-126*	1.4				
Total	300				

<sup>\*</sup>Un-sampled upland areas are present in this analysis and could require vegetation management in the future.

#### Scrubby Flatwoods (1,450 acres)

Scrubby flatwoods are characterized by an open canopy of widely spaced pine trees and a low, shrubby understory dominated by scrub oaks and saw palmetto. At St. Sebastian, the dominant tree species of the interior portions of scrubby flatwoods will be longleaf pine (Pinus palustris) and south Florida slash pine (P. elliottii). Mature sand pines (P. clausa) will typically not be present. There will be a diverse shrubby understory, often with patches of bare white sand scattered throughout. The "canopy" will contain a scattered variety of age classes and heights across the landscape. Dominant species will include sand live oak (Quercus geminata), myrtle oak (Q. myrtifolia), Chapman's oak (Q. chapmanii), saw palmetto (Serenoa repens), rusty staggerbush (Lyonia ferruginea), and tarflower (Bejaria racemosa). Cover by herbaceous species will often be low to moderately dense. At St. Sebastian, common herbaceous species of scrubby flatwoods will include wiregrass, chalky bluestem (Andropogon virginicus var. glaucus), broomsedge bluestem (Andropogon virginicus var. virginicus), dwarf huckleberry (Gaylussacia dumosa), gopher apple (Licania michauxii), and shiny blueberry (Vaccinium myrsinites). Rare plants found in this community will include pine pinweed (Lechea divaricata) and nodding pinweed (Lechea cernua). Invasive exotic plant cover will be 5 percent or less. The optimal fire return interval for this community will be four to six years, with a management goal focused on creating a mosaic of burned and unburned areas. In this region, the preferred species (as determined by FNAI reference sites) are longleaf and south Florida slash pine, which should be stocked at a level of 10 to 60 square feet of BA per acre while non-pine species should remain between 0 and 26.2 stems per acre. At St. Sebastian, scrubby flatwoods are managed to enhance habitat conditions for the federally threatened Florida scrub jay (Aphelocoma coerulescens). As such, overstory pine BA is generally maintained at less than 10 square feet per acre via thinnings and/or clearcutting. The following management zone(s) contain scrubby flatwoods which could be considered for some form of timber management including overstory removal, midstory mitigation, site preparation, and planting of preferred pine species; unless contradictory to management goals detailed in the Resource Management Component.

Management Zones	Scrubby Flatwoods DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-016n	8.9	5	5	0	1.7
SSR-016s*	10.0				
SSR-017*	26.4				
SSR-018	12.3	50	35	15	9.7
SSR-020e*	27.6				
SSR-020w*	60.4				
SSR-021e	75.3	11	8	3	2.7
SSR-021w	30.5	8	8	0	1.9
SSR-022	62.1	15	1	14	2.9
SSR-024*	29.3				
SSR-025*	58.7				
SSR-027*	93.8				
SSR-028e*	15.5				
SSR-028w*	87.9				
SSR-040s	16.5	8	4	4	3.1
SSR-043	16.0	30	10	20	3.8
SSR-044*	1.3				
SSR-045	55.3	12	12	0	2.7
SSR-046*	3.2				
SSR-048	5.5	5	0	5	1.7
SSR-049e*	2.9				
SSR-049w	7.0	10	10	0	1.9
SSR-050n*	1.0				
SSR-050s*	5.3				
SSR-051	29.8	3	3	0	1.2
SSR-052e	47.9	29	10	19	4.0
SSR-052w	27.7	5	3	2	1.0
SSR-053*	4.8				
SSR-055c	32.5	2	1	1	2.7
SSR-055n*	0.4				
SSR-055s	129.4	8	6	1	2.2
SSR-056n*	3.3				
SSR-057	60.7	6	5	1	2.0

Management Zones	Scrubby Flatwoods DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-058e	5.2	160	120	40	7.1
SSR-058w*	1.4				
SSR-059n	10.3	15	0	15	4.7
SSR-059sw*	0.2				
SSR-061*	8.6				
SSR-075*	3.1				
SSR-077*	3.0				
SSR-077se*	2.5				
SSR-078e*	10.3				
SSR-078w*	1.6				
SSR-081*	7.3				
SSR-085*	0.3				
SSR-088*	15.7				
SSR-090n*	3.2				
SSR-090s*	3.2				
SSR-091*	1.5				
SSR-092*	3.2				
SSR-093*	14.7				
SSR-094c*	3.8				
SSR-094w*	11.6				
SSR-095e	23.9	5	0	5	2.4
SSR-095w*	48.8				
SSR-096e*	6.7				
SSR-096w*	2.4				
SSR-097e*	12.1				-
SSR-097n*	25.9				
SSR-097nw*	10.7				-
SSR-097w*	1.2				
SSR-098sw*	0.9				
SSR-098w*	3.0				
SSR-099*	71.3				
SSR-100	51.8	1	0	1	0.4
SSR-110*	4.2				

Management Zones	Scrubby Flatwoods DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-125*	12.0				
SSR-126*	0.7				
SSR-130*	0.2				
SSR-131*	13.5				
SSR-132*	0.9				
Total	1,449.7				

<sup>\*</sup>Un-sampled upland areas are present in this analysis and could require vegetation management in the future.

#### **Upland Hardwood Forest (16 acres)**

This community is characterized as having a well-developed, closed canopy dominated by deciduous hardwood tree species on mesic soils in areas that are sheltered from fire. At St. Sebastian, overstory tree species will include pignut hickory (Carya glabra), live oak (Quercus virginiana), laurel oak (Q. laurifolia), sugarberry (Celtis laevigata), and southern magnolia (Magnolia grandiflora). Understory species will include trees and shrubs such as beautyberry (Callicarpa americana), hog plum (Ximenia americana), Carolina laurelcherry (Prunus caroliniana), American elm (Ulmus americana), gum bully (Sideroxylon lanuginosum), and red bay (Persea borbonia). Ground cover will consist of various shade tolerant herbaceous species, sedges, and vines. There are currently no FNAI recommendations on preferred species or stocking levels for this NatCom. The following management zone(s) contain upland hardwood forests which could be considered for some form of timber management including overstory removal, midstory mitigation, site preparation, and planting of preferred pine species; unless contradictory to management goals detailed in the Resource Management Component.

Management Zones	Upland Hardwood Forest DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-052e*	0.9				
SSR-058e*	1.1				
SSR-073w	14.1	116	65	51	9.7
Total	16.1				

<sup>\*</sup>Un-sampled upland areas are present in this analysis and could require vegetation management in the future.

#### Wet Flatwoods (56 acres)

This forested upland community is a pine flatwoods type with a sparse canopy, sparse

or absent mid-story, and a dense ground cover of hydrophytic herbs, grasses and low shrubs. Pond cypress (Taxodium ascendens) will reach canopy height in some locations of the park. At St. Sebastian, dominant pine species will be longleaf (Pinus palustris) and south Florida slash (P. elliottii). Common shrubs will include fetterbush (Lyonia lucida), gallberry (Ilex glabra), and wax myrtle (Myrica cerifera). Native herbaceous cover will include hooded pitcherplants (Sarracenia minor) and other plants such as terrestrial orchids will be present and abundant in some areas. The optimal fire return interval for this NatCom is two to four years. Invasive exotic plant cover will be 5 percent or less. In this region, the preferred species (as determined by FNAI reference sites) are longleaf pine and south Florida slash, which should be stocked at a level of 10 to 50 square feet of BA per acre while non-pine species should remain at 0 stems per acre. The following management zone(s) contain wet flatwoods which could be considered for some form of timber management including overstory removal, midstory mitigation, site preparation, and planting of preferred pine species; unless contradictory to management goals detailed in the Resource Management Component.

Management Zones	Wet Flatwoods DFC (Acres)	Total Overstory Basal Area (ft²/acre)	Basal Area Preferred Species	Basal Area Non- Preferred Species	Average Diameter at breast height (inches)
SSR-016n	22.3	5	3	3	3.6
SSR-017*	0.7				
SSR-064n*	0.4				
SSR-098e*	7.6				
SSR-104	25.4	60	35	25	7.5
Total	56.4				

<sup>\*</sup>Un-sampled upland areas are present in this analysis and could require vegetation management in the future.

Table 2. Summary of potential timber management actions for upland NatCom types to help restore or improve ecosystem conditions, unless contradictory to management goals detailed in the Resource Management Component.

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	Potential Actions/Treatments		
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-038*	163.4	Hydric	4.0					NIA				
SSR-039c	80.2	Hammock Hydric Hammock	4.9 11.5	23		165		NA NA	 N	 N	 N	 N
SSR-041	155.9	Hydric Hammock	18.8	0		496		NA	Y	Y	N	N
SSR-042*	115.4	Hydric Hammock	7.9					NA				
SSR-043	214.2	Hydric Hammock	27.7	3	-	1337		NA	Y	Y	N	N
SSR-045	97.0	Hydric Hammock	11.9	10		1811		NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-046	84.8	Hydric Hammock	5.7	0		2132		NA	Υ	Y	N	N
SSR-047w	110.1	Hydric Hammock	4.0	15		511		NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-057*	186.8	Hydric Hammock	0.5					NA				
SSR-058w*	23.8	Hydric Hammock	0.3					NA				
SSR-060w*	145.8	Hydric Hammock	0.5	J)				NA				
SSR-061	69.6	Hydric Hammock	8.6	0		1770		NA	Y	Y	N	N
SSR-062s	174.5	Hydric Hammock	7.7	0		2300		NA	Y	Y	N	N

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	Potential Actions/Treatments		
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-065s*	168.0	Hydric Hammock	1.0					NA				
SSR-071*	107.1	Hydric Hammock	1.4					NA				
SSR-072	74.0	Hydric Hammock	23.2	19		483		NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-075*	72.7	Hydric Hammock	1.4					NA				
SSR-079	125.4	Hydric Hammock	1.5	0	Ţ	1755		NA	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-094c	44.8	Hydric Hammock	27.6	14		225	-	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-094e*	41.6	Hydric Hammock	23.5					NA				
SSR-095e*	174.1	Hydric Hammock	54.7	)				NA				
SSR-096e	129.0	Hydric Hammock	24.5	20		795		NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-097e*	98.6	Hydric Hammock	20.2					NA				
SSR-097ne*	16.3	Hydric Hammock	9.9					NA				
SSR-098e*	261.6	Hydric Hammock	74.4					NA				
SSR-100	270.0	Hydric Hammock	46.0	24		909		NA	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-104	352.4	Hydric Hammock	13.8	5		780		NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-105n	27.8	Hydric Hammock	16.9	15		1932		NA	Υ	Υ	N	N

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	nts	
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
CCD 105*	207.2	Hydric	04.0					NIA				
SSR-105w*	287.3	Hammock Hydric	94.0				-	NA				
SSR-106ne	69.9	Hammock	27.5	5		433		NA	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-106nw	92.2	Hydric Hammock	26.5	50		0		NA	N	N	N	N
SSR-106se*	84.0	Hydric Hammock	51.3	_				NA				
SSR-110*	23.3	Hydric Hammock	14.2		-			NA				
SSR-123*	10.1	Hydric Hammock	0.9				-	NA				
SSR-125*	70.8	Hydric Hammock	58.8					NA				
SSR-126*	27.6	Hydric Hammock	1.4	-				NA				
SSR-127*	15.9	Hydric Hammock	1.2					NA				
SSR-131*	421.5	Hydric Hammock	17.6					NA				
SSR-042*	115.4	Invasive Exotic Monoculture	0.6					NA				
SSR-042A	14.1	Invasive Exotic Monoculture	13.8	0		800		NA	Y	Y	Y	Y
	22.0	Invasive Exotic				1224						.,
SSR-058w	23.8	Monoculture	5.6	0		1394		NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-001n	67.7	Mesic	18.0	10	10-50	50	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	Potential Actions/Treatments		
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
		Flatwoods										
SSR-002	179.5	Mesic Flatwoods	176.2	14	10-50	279	0-0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Y
SSR-003n	89.3	Mesic Flatwoods	85.8	4	10-50	8	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-003s	130.6	Mesic Flatwoods	127.2	5	10-50	0	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-004	290.4	Mesic Flatwoods	234.1	11	10-50	22	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-005n	267.1	Mesic Flatwoods	194.2	9	10-50	41	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-005s	251.5	Mesic Flatwoods	203.1	15	10-50	14	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-006	186.3	Mesic Flatwoods	151.9	6	10-50	7	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-007	86.8	Mesic Flatwoods	83.1	4	10-50	14	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-008e	215.0	Mesic Flatwoods	125.0	8	10-50	0	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-008w	92.0	Mesic Flatwoods	35.4	7	10-50	0	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-009	380.4	Mesic Flatwoods	213.3	5	10-50	43	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-010	126.0	Mesic Flatwoods	111.5	11	10-50	0	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-011n	100.1	Mesic Flatwoods	51.6	13	10-50	769	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-011s	42.2	Mesic Flatwoods	30.5	15	10-50	267	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	Potential Actions/Treatments		
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-012	136.8	Mesic Flatwoods	79.5	13	10-50	18	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-013	79.7	Mesic Flatwoods	60.4	13	10-50	135	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Y	Y
SSR-014	418.1	Mesic Flatwoods	199.9	15	10-50	944	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-014A	24.6	Mesic Flatwoods	20.6	65	10-50	347	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-015	232.3	Mesic Flatwoods	178.0	24	10-50	85	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-016n	372.6	Mesic Flatwoods	305.2	15	10-50	153	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-016s	92.9	Mesic Flatwoods	66.2	5	10-50	175	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-017	65.9	Mesic Flatwoods	27.5	8	10-50	704	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Υ	Y
SSR-018	312.5	Mesic Flatwoods	179.1	30	10-50	208	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-019	205.2	Mesic Flatwoods	173.3	31	10-50	90	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-020w*	73.5	Mesic Flatwoods	0.3		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-021e	262.9	Mesic Flatwoods	154.2	22	10-50	73	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-021w	112.9	Mesic Flatwoods	68.4	16	10-50	273	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-022	172.4	Mesic Flatwoods	79.0	15	10-50	577	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-023e1	40.3	Mesic Flatwoods	36.8	8	10-50	38	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	Potential Actions/Treatments		
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
665 000 0*	24.6	Mesic	445		10.50							
SSR-023e2*	21.6	Flatwoods	14.5		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-023e3*	23.3	Mesic Flatwoods	18.0		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-023w	77.8	Mesic Flatwoods	66.5	15	10-50	247	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-026	167.9	Mesic Flatwoods	74.5	15	10-50	222	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-028w*	140.5	Mesic Flatwoods	22.6		10-50		0-0	NA				
SSR-029e	167.9	Mesic Flatwoods	104.8	8	10-50	125	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-029w	191.8	Mesic Flatwoods	111.0	8	10-50	248	0-0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-030	276.6	Mesic Flatwoods	125.5	15	10-50	406	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-031	109.3	Mesic Flatwoods	47.4	25	10-50	183	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-032	177.6	Mesic Flatwoods	77.8	24	10-50	385	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	N	N
SSR-033	193.8	Mesic Flatwoods	104.1	23	10-50	442	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	N	N
SSR-034	185.6	Mesic Flatwoods	128.1	18	10-50	250	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-035n	103.3	Mesic Flatwoods	55.7	5	10-50	0	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-035s	122.6	Mesic Flatwoods	98.2	5	10-50	38	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-036	314.3	Mesic Flatwoods	206.6	14	10-50	43	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	reatmei	nts
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-037	249.1	Mesic Flatwoods	220.9	18	10-50	21	0-0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
33K-U37	249.1	Mesic	220.9	10	10-30	21	0-0	INA	IN	IN	T	T
SSR-038	163.4	Flatwoods	93.8	39	10-50	232	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-039c	80.2	Mesic Flatwoods	49.9	14	10-50	5	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Y
CCD 020-	0.1	Mesic	7.0	25	40.50			NIA.			N.	
SSR-039n	8.1	Flatwoods Mesic	7.9	25	10-50	0	0 - 0	NA	N	N	N	N
SSR-039s	57.5	Flatwoods	53.9	26	10-50	10	0 - 0	NA	N	N	N	N
SSR-040n	14.0	Mesic Flatwoods	8.8	17	10-50	0	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Y
SSR-040s	212.5	Mesic Flatwoods	153.5	9	10-50	35	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-041	155.9	Mesic Flatwoods	54.8	45	10-50	588	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-042*	115.4	Mesic Flatwoods	81.2		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-043	214.2	Mesic Flatwoods	100.2	5	10-50	599	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-044	84.8	Mesic Flatwoods	68.5	28	10-50	1186	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-045	97.0	Mesic Flatwoods	7.6	10	10-50	100	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-046	84.8	Mesic Flatwoods	14.5	7	10-50	1400	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-047w	110.1	Mesic Flatwoods	59.5	40	10-50	1104	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	N	N
SSR-048	314.5	Mesic Flatwoods	9.9	3	10-50	639	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	reatmei	nts
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-049e	9.0	Mesic Flatwoods	5.6	10	10-50	200	0-0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-049w	51.5	Mesic Flatwoods	38.8	5	10-50	83	0 - 0	NA NA	Y	Y	Y	Y
SSR-051	134.0	Mesic Flatwoods	19.5	10	10-50	180	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-052e*	59.7	Mesic Flatwoods	1.0		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-052w	44.9	Mesic Flatwoods	16.7	3	10-50	1259	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-053	211.8	Mesic Flatwoods	27.6	1	10-50	2069	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-056n	69.8	Mesic Flatwoods	62.6	7	10-50	0	0-0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-056s	25.9	Mesic Flatwoods	8.0	10	10-50	0	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-057	186.8	Mesic Flatwoods	91.9	13	10-50	0	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Y
SSR-058w	23.8	Mesic Flatwoods	4.6	5	10-50	0	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Y
SSR-059n*	62.5	Mesic Flatwoods	10.6		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-059se	14.9	Mesic Flatwoods	14.5	0	10-50	425	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-059sw	11.6	Mesic Flatwoods	3.6	0	10-50	1000	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-060e	55.0	Mesic Flatwoods	52.9	21	10-50	11	0 - 0	NA	N	N	N	N
SSR-060n	226.6	Mesic Flatwoods	214.7	8	10-50	33	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	reatmer	nts
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
		Mesic										.,
SSR-060s	64.2	Flatwoods	51.0	2	10-50	49	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Y
SSR-060se	56.4	Mesic Flatwoods	40.7	4	10-50	17	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-060w	145.8	Mesic Flatwoods	113.2	6	10-50	0	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-061*	69.6	Mesic Flatwoods	52.3		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-062n	19.4	Mesic Flatwoods	16.1	2	10-50	260	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-062s	174.5	Mesic Flatwoods	166.2	5	10-50	457	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-063c	8.2	Mesic Flatwoods	7.1	40	10-50	980	0-0	NA	Y	Y	N	N
SSR-063n	64.8	Mesic Flatwoods	57.3	22	10-50	428	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-063s	203.6	Mesic Flatwoods	52.8	46	10-50	650	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-064n	250.4	Mesic Flatwoods	114.4	39	10-50	690	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	N	N
SSR-064s	150.9	Mesic Flatwoods	89.9	10	10-50	478	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Y
SSR-065n	149.4	Mesic Flatwoods	81.3	18	10-50	988	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Y
SSR-065s	168.0	Mesic Flatwoods	77.5	29	10-50	937	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-066	46.1	Mesic Flatwoods	33.4	20	10-50	1836	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Y
SSR-067	247.9	Mesic Flatwoods	179.7	19	10-50	560	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Y

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	reatmei	nts
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-068	210.8	Mesic Flatwoods	102.5	17	10-50	217	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
33K-008	210.8	Mesic	102.5	1/	10-50	217	0-0	IVA	Y	r	Y	Y
SSR-069	227.8	Flatwoods	206.4	20	10-50	786	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-070	43.1	Mesic Flatwoods	36.2	50	10-50	452	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	N	N
SSR-071	107.1	Mesic Flatwoods	105.7	35	10-50	889	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-072	74.0	Mesic Flatwoods	23.2	23	10-50	629	0 - 0	NA NA	Y	Y	N	N
33K-072	74.0	Mesic	23.2	23	10-30	023	0-0	INA	T	ı	IN	IN
SSR-074	113.3	Flatwoods	57.3	4	10-50	470	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-075	72.7	Mesic Flatwoods	54.5	2	10-50	20	0-0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-076	124.0	Mesic Flatwoods	73.0	3	10-50	280	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-077	74.8	Mesic Flatwoods	51.3	2	10-50	555	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-077se*	15.9	Mesic Flatwoods	2.4		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-078e	25.1	Mesic Flatwoods	4.5	0	10-50	900	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-078w	84.9	Mesic Flatwoods	70.3	9	10-50	226	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-079	125.4	Mesic Flatwoods	79.9	6	10-50	357	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-080	81.4	Mesic Flatwoods	37.1	7	10-50	700	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Y
SSR-081	110.2	Mesic Flatwoods	83.8	1	10-50	168	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	reatmer	nts
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
665 664		Mesic			10.50	225			.,	.,	.,	.,
SSR-081se	6.2	Flatwoods	4.0	3	10-50	325	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-082	136.3	Mesic Flatwoods	99.8	4	10-50	10	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-083e	63.7	Mesic Flatwoods	45.1	3	10-50	0	0 - 0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-083w	20.5	Mesic Flatwoods	16.7	13	10-50	434	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-084	81.5	Mesic Flatwoods	51.6	9	10-50	321	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-085	147.6	Mesic Flatwoods	92.8	3	10-50	622	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Υ	Y
SSR-086	83.3	Mesic Flatwoods	54.5	6	10-50	0	0-0	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ
SSR-087	51.6	Mesic Flatwoods	39.1	8	10-50	92	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-088	330.6	Mesic Flatwoods	191.4	5	10-50	521	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Y	Υ
SSR-089n	39.6	Mesic Flatwoods	33.5	6	10-50	505	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-089s*	10.3	Mesic Flatwoods	8.4		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-090n	266.3	Mesic Flatwoods	148.2	0	10-50	550	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-090s	56.1	Mesic Flatwoods	25.9	6	10-50	100	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-091	63.8	Mesic Flatwoods	36.4	6	10-50	100	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-092	212.4	Mesic Flatwoods	141.2	14	10-50	219	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	reatmei	nts
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-093	129.3	Mesic Flatwoods	59.1	6	10-50	343	0-0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-094c*	44.8	Mesic Flatwoods	3.4		10-50		0-0	NA NA				
SSR-094e	41.6	Mesic Flatwoods	16.6	3	10-50	125	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-095e	174.1	Mesic Flatwoods	68.7	1	10-50	411	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-095w*	103.1	Mesic Flatwoods	15.3		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-096e*	129.0	Mesic Flatwoods	70.3		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-096w*	63.2	Mesic Flatwoods	36.0		10-50		0-0	NA				
SSR-097e	98.6	Mesic Flatwoods	56.0	0	10-50	1522	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-097n*	66.2	Mesic Flatwoods	22.3		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-097ne*	16.3	Mesic Flatwoods	5.4		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-097nw*	17.8	Mesic Flatwoods	0.3		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-097w	40.5	Mesic Flatwoods	23.2	2	10-50	633	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-098e	261.6	Mesic Flatwoods	141.6	15	10-50	1774	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Y
SSR-098sw	33.2	Mesic Flatwoods	21.1	8	10-50	1420	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Y
SSR-098w	82.0	Mesic Flatwoods	65.0	5	10-50	900	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	reatmei	nts
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-099	114.2	Mesic Flatwoods	26.7	3	10-50	833	0-0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
331-099	114.2	Mesic	20.7	3	10-30	033	0-0	IVA	T.	r	T	T
SSR-100	270.0	Flatwoods	128.8	20	10-50	1590	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-101e	66.2	Mesic Flatwoods	34.8	0	10-50	74	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Υ	Υ
CCD 404	16.2	Mesic	42.2	12	40.50	456	0.0	NIA	v	V	.,	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
SSR-101w	16.2	Flatwoods Mesic	12.2	13	10-50	156	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Y	Y
SSR-102	112.5	Flatwoods	91.2	29	10-50	398	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-103	38.8	Mesic Flatwoods	8.0	0	10-50	2220	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-104	352.4	Mesic Flatwoods	236.8	17	10-50	277	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Y
SSR-105e	110.4	Mesic Flatwoods	87.8	4	10-50	287	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-105n	27.8	Mesic Flatwoods	7.7	40	10-50	2350	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-105w	287.3	Mesic Flatwoods	148.7	17	10-50	1252	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-106ne	69.9	Mesic Flatwoods	26.5	7	10-50	270	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-106nw	92.2	Mesic Flatwoods	29.2	12	10-50	1280	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-106se	84.0	Mesic Flatwoods	23.4	30	10-50	1425	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-107	67.5	Mesic Flatwoods	61.9	12	10-50	364	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-108	77.0	Mesic Flatwoods	71.5	35	10-50	390	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	N	N

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	reatmer	nts
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
		Mesic										
SSR-109	20.1	Flatwoods	19.0	38	10-50	572	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	N	N
SSR-110*	23.3	Mesic Flatwoods	3.2		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-111*	86.2	Mesic Flatwoods	0.1		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-121*	19.5	Mesic Flatwoods	0.3		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-123*	10.1	Mesic Flatwoods	1.4		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-124	14.4	Mesic Flatwoods	14.4	0	10-50	2328	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-126*	27.6	Mesic Flatwoods	0.6		10-50		0-0	NA				
SSR-128	10.4	Mesic Flatwoods	10.4	40	10-50	609	0 - 0	NA	Y	Y	N	N
SSR-129*	0.7	Mesic Flatwoods	0.7	-	10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-130	30.7	Mesic Flatwoods	11.0	10	10-50	192	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
SSR-131*	421.5	Mesic Flatwoods	23.0		10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-134	569.8	Mesic Flatwoods	35.7	50	10-50	577	0 - 0	NA	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-136*	1.4	Mesic Flatwoods	0.2	1	10-50		0 - 0	NA				
SSR-001n	67.7	Sandhill	46.5	14	20 - 60	186	0 - 79	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-001s	37.1	Sandhill	24.4	8	20 - 60	700	0 - 79	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-005s	251.5	Sandhill	16.2	10	20 - 60	0	0 - 79	NA	N	N	Υ	Υ

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	reatmer	nts
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-026	167.9	Sandhill	74.0	9	20 - 60	151	0 - 79	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-050s*	44.6	Sandhill	0.4		20 - 60		0 - 79	NA				
SSR-051*	134.0	Sandhill	0.2		20 - 60		0 - 79	NA				
SSR-058w	23.8	Sandhill	4.8	13	20 - 60	1779	0 - 79	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-059n	62.5	Sandhill	39.3	8	20 - 60	1606	0 - 79	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-059sw	11.6	Sandhill	7.8	3	20 - 60	1315	0 - 79	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
SSR-001n*	67.7	Scrub	3.2		0 - 20		0 - 13	0-26				
SSR-001s*	37.1	Scrub	9.1		0 - 20		0 - 13	0-26				
SSR-043*	214.2	Scrub	2.4		0 - 20		0 - 13	0-26				
SSR-045	97.0	Scrub	16.3	5	0 - 20	1636	0 - 13	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-050n*	9.1	Scrub	0.5		0 - 20		0 - 13	0-26				
SSR-050s	44.6	Scrub	31.6	1	0 - 20	2525	0 - 13	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-051	134.0	Scrub	56.1	0	0 - 20	1189	0 - 13	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-054n*	20.7	Scrub	2.7	1	0 - 20		0 - 13	0-26				
SSR-055c	53.2	Scrub	17.3	0	0 - 20	1600	0 - 13	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-055n	12.5	Scrub	11.3	0	0 - 20	225	0 - 13	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-055s	187.4	Scrub	41.0	0	0 - 20	1250	0 - 13	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-056n*	69.8	Scrub	0.4		0 - 20		0 - 13	0-26				
SSR-056s	25.9	Scrub	12.4	3	0 - 20	0	0 - 13	0-26	N	N	N	N
SSR-057*	186.8	Scrub	6.0		0 - 20		0 - 13	0-26				
SSR-058w	23.8	Scrub	6.3	3	0 - 20	133	0 - 13	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-073w*	22.5	Scrub	0.3		0 - 20		0 - 13	0-26				
SSR-077	74.8	Scrub	7.0	0	0 - 20	1950	0 - 13	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-077se	15.9	Scrub	8.6	0	0 - 20	2125	0 - 13	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-078e*	25.1	Scrub	2.3		0 - 20		0 - 13	0-26				

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	reatmer	nts
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-085*	147.6	Scrub	6.6		0 - 20	\\\\\\\	0 - 13	0-26				
SSR-088	330.6	Scrub	6.8	0	0 - 20	1200	0 - 13	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-095w	103.1	Scrub	15.2	3	0 - 20	0	0 - 13	0-26	N	N	N	N
SSR-096w*	63.2	Scrub	11.0		0 - 20		0 - 13	0-26				
SSR-097n	66.2	Scrub	11.8	0	0 - 20	1050	0 - 13	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-097nw*	17.8	Scrub	3.4		0 - 20	-	0 - 13	0-26		-		
SSR-097w	40.5	Scrub	8.5	0	0 - 20	900	0 - 13	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-110*	23.3	Scrub	0.7		0 - 20		0 - 13	0-26		-		
SSR-126*	27.6	Scrub	1.4	-	0 - 20		0 - 13	0-26		-		
SSR-016n	372.6	Scrubby Flatwoods	8.9	5	20 - 60	0	0 - 26	0-26	N	N	N	N
SSR-016s	92.9	Scrubby Flatwoods	10.0	10	20 - 60	0	0 - 26	0-26	N	N	N	N
SSR-017	65.9	Scrubby Flatwoods	26.4	4	20 - 60	580	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-018	312.5	Scrubby Flatwoods	12.3	50	20 - 60	100	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-020e*	29.2	Scrubby Flatwoods	27.6		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-020w*	73.5	Scrubby Flatwoods	60.4		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-021e	262.9	Scrubby Flatwoods	75.3	11	20 - 60	25	0 - 26	0-26	N	N	N	N
SSR-021w	112.9	Scrubby Flatwoods	30.5	8	20 - 60	140	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Y	N	N
SSR-022	172.4	Scrubby Flatwoods	62.1	16	20 - 60	360	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-024*	30.3	Scrubby	29.3		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	reatme	nts
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
		Flatwoods										
SSR-025	76.9	Scrubby Flatwoods	58.7	0	20 - 60	1700	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Y	N	N
SSR-027	104.6	Scrubby Flatwoods	93.8	1	20 - 60	56	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-028e	20.5	Scrubby Flatwoods	15.5	0	20 - 60	1200	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Y	N	N
SSR-028w	140.5	Scrubby Flatwoods	87.9	0	20 - 60	225	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-040s	212.5	Scrubby Flatwoods	16.5	10	20 - 60	0	0 - 26	0-26	N	N	N	N
SSR-043	214.2	Scrubby Flatwoods	16.0	7	20 - 60	1493	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-044*	84.8	Scrubby Flatwoods	1.3		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-045	97.0	Scrubby Flatwoods	55.3	10	20 - 60	1577	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-046*	84.8	Scrubby Flatwoods	3.2		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-048	314.5	Scrubby Flatwoods	5.5	0	20 - 60	459	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Y	N	N
SSR-049e*	9.0	Scrubby Flatwoods	2.9	\\\\-	20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-049w	51.5	Scrubby Flatwoods	7.0	10	20 - 60	1750	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-050n*	9.1	Scrubby Flatwoods	1.0		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-050s*	44.6	Scrubby Flatwoods	5.3		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Po	otential Actions/T	reatmei	nts
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-051	134.0	Scrubby Flatwoods	29.8	5	20 - 60	2700	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Y	N	N
SSR-052e	59.7	Scrubby Flatwoods	47.9	10	20 - 60	2433	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Y	N	N
SSR-052w	44.9	Scrubby Flatwoods	27.7	5	20 - 60	1520	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-053*	211.8	Scrubby Flatwoods	4.8		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-055c	53.2	Scrubby Flatwoods	32.5	10	20 - 60	358	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-055n*	12.5	Scrubby Flatwoods	0.4		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-055s	187.4	Scrubby Flatwoods	129.4	9	20 - 60	2293	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-056n*	69.8	Scrubby Flatwoods	3.3		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-057	186.8	Scrubby Flatwoods	60.7	7	20 - 60	162	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Y	N	N
SSR-058e	38.0	Scrubby Flatwoods	5.2	0	20 - 60	1050	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-058w*	23.8	Scrubby Flatwoods	1.4		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-059n	62.5	Scrubby Flatwoods	10.3	0	20 - 60	303	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Y	N	N
SSR-059sw*	11.6	Scrubby Flatwoods	0.2		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-061*	69.6	Scrubby Flatwoods	8.6		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-075*	72.7	Scrubby Flatwoods	3.1		20 - 60	1	0 - 26	0-26				

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Potential Actions/Treatments			
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-077*	74.8	Scrubby Flatwoods	3.0		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-077se*	15.9	Scrubby Flatwoods	2.5		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-078e	25.1	Scrubby Flatwoods	10.3	0	20 - 60	1250	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Y	N	N
SSR-078w*	84.9	Scrubby Flatwoods	1.6		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-081	110.2	Scrubby Flatwoods	7.3	0	20 - 60	800	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Y	N	N
SSR-085*	147.6	Scrubby Flatwoods	0.3		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-088	330.6	Scrubby Flatwoods	15.7	0	20 - 60	875	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-090n*	266.3	Scrubby Flatwoods	3.2	)	20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-090s*	56.1	Scrubby Flatwoods	3.2		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-091*	63.8	Scrubby Flatwoods	1.5		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-092	212.4	Scrubby Flatwoods	3.2	0	20 - 60	400	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-093	129.3	Scrubby Flatwoods	14.7	0	20 - 60	675	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-094c*	44.8	Scrubby Flatwoods	3.8		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-094w	16.0	Scrubby Flatwoods	11.6	0	20 - 60	325	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-095e	174.1	Scrubby Flatwoods	23.9	5	20 - 60	0	0 - 26	0-26	N	N	N	N

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Potential Actions/Treatments			
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest
SSR-095w	103.1	Scrubby Flatwoods	48.8	0	20 - 60	375	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
33K-095W	103.1	Scrubby		U	20 - 60	3/5		U-26	Y	Y	IN	IN
SSR-096e*	129.0	Flatwoods	6.7		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-096w*	63.2	Scrubby Flatwoods	2.4		20 - 60	/	0 - 26	0-26				
		Scrubby										
SSR-097e	98.6	Flatwoods	12.1	0	20 - 60	600	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
SSR-097n	66.2	Scrubby Flatwoods	25.9	0	20 - 60	971	0 - 26	0-26	Υ	Υ	N	N
		Scrubby										
SSR-097nw*	17.8	Flatwoods	10.7		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-097w*	40.5	Scrubby Flatwoods	1.2		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-098sw*	33.2	Scrubby Flatwoods	0.9		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-098w*	82.0	Scrubby Flatwoods	3.0		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-099	114.2	Scrubby Flatwoods	71.3	0	20 - 60	1570	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-100	270.0	Scrubby Flatwoods	51.8	1	20 - 60	1010	0 - 26	0-26	Y	Υ	N	N
SSR-110*	23.3	Scrubby Flatwoods	4.2		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-125*	70.8	Scrubby Flatwoods	12.0	///	20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-126*	27.6	Scrubby Flatwoods	0.7		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				
SSR-130*	30.7	Scrubby Flatwoods	0.2		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26				

### Florida State Parks Timber Management Analysis

Management Zone (MZ)	MZ (acres)	Candidate NatCom Type	Candidate NatCom Type	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	Current Average Overstory	FNAI Target Overstory	FNAI Target Scrub	Potential Actions/Treatments				
			Acres	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	Pine BA (ft2/AC)	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	and Midstory Non-Pine TPA	Species TPA	Harvest or Thin	Stand Improvement	Site Prep	Reforest	
SSR-131*	421.5	Scrubby Flatwoods	13.5	1	20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26					
SSR-132*	18.0	Scrubby Flatwoods	0.9		20 - 60		0 - 26	0-26					
SSR-052e*	59.7	Upland Hardwood Forest	0.9					NA					
SSR-058e*	38.0	Upland Hardwood Forest	1.1					NA					
SSR-073w	22.5	Upland Hardwood Forest	14.1	3		648		NA	Υ	Y	N	N	
SSR-016n	372.6	Wet Flatwoods	22.3	13	10-50	630	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	
SSR-017*	65.9	Wet Flatwoods	0.7		10-50		0 - 0	NA					
SSR-064n*	250.4	Wet Flatwoods	0.4		10-50		0 - 0	NA					
SSR-098e*	261.6	Wet Flatwoods	7.6		10-50		0 - 0	NA					
SSR-104	352.4	Wet Flatwoods	25.4	35	10-50	1055	0 - 0	NA	Υ	Y with zeros indica	N	N	

<sup>\*</sup>Un-sampled upland areas are present in this analysis and could require vegetation management in the future. Table cells populated with zeros indicate that inventory plots were installed and visited but no trees were present within the plot. Dashes in table cells mean no plots were installed or visited.

DRAFT 39



# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

### MEMORANDUM

To:

Aric Larson, Governmental Operations Consultant III

Division of State Lands

FROM:

Parks Small, Chief, Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources

Division of Recreation and Parks

Parks Small Digitally signed by Parks Small Date: 2015.11.04 14:38:14

Sine Murray, Chief, Office of Park Planning

Division of Recreation and Parks

Murray\_SM Digitally signed by Murray\_SM Date: 2015.11.06 13:07:30 -05'00'

SUBJECT:

Response to Draft Land Management Review (LMR)

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park

The Land Management Review draft report provided to Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) determined that management of St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park by the DRP met the two tests prescribed by law. Namely, the review team concluded that the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and in accordance with the land management plan.

Attached is DRP's Managing Agency Response to the draft LMR report. The responses were prepared via a coordinated effort of the park, district office, and our offices.

Thank you for your attention.

### 1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

Is the property managed in accordance with the purposes for which it was acquired?

Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

#### Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review				
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.65	3.59				
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3,96	3.73				
Hydrology	1.99	2.81				
Imperiled Species	4.63	4.23				
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.70	3.48				
Cultural Resources	4.56	3.81				
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.67	3.73				
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	2.09	N/A				

Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)

Excellent Above Average Below Average Poor

# 1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

- 1. The team commends the DRP staff for an outstanding job managing the landscape with fire effectively and prudently. (8+, 0-)
- 2. The team commends the DRP staff for long term restoration of red-cockaded woodpecker and scrub jay populations. (8+, 0-)
- 3. The team commends the DRP staff for a high level of resource management with limited funding and staff. (8+, 0-)
- 4. The team commends the DRP staff for the high quality recreational and educational opportunities provided to visitors. (8+, 0-)
- 5. The team commends the DRP staff for utilizing an interim cattle lease for the management of ruderal lands until restoration is feasible in those areas. (8+, 0-)

#### 1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

- 1. The team recommends that DRP expand discussion of xeric hammock within the management plan if this natural community is recognized and managed on the park. (8+, 0-)
  - **Managing Agency Response:** Agree. A discussion of xeric hammock will be added to the next revision of the unit management plan.
- The team recommends that DRP conduct an assessment of current and historic acres of functional wet prairie to determine trends in quality and quantity of this natural community. (8+, 0-)
  - Managing Agency Response: Agree. DRP continues to improve on and refine the park's natural community map and descriptions while adding this information to unit management plan.

    When staffing and funding allow, habitat assessments will be performed as well.
- 3. The team recommends that DRP pursue interagency cooperation for implementing long-term monitoring of surface water quality and quantity, pertaining to potential impacts from agricultural, residential, and transportation corridor developments. (8+, 0-)
  - **Managing Agency Response:** Agree. DRP will continue to work with local, state, and federal agencies to determine the best strategy to monitor surface water quantity and quality. The SJRWMD is a cooperator and joint owner of most of the property and currently monitor surface water on the preserve.
- 4. The team recommends that DRP pursue funding for a comprehensive hydrologic assessment so that a hydrologic restoration plan can be developed and implemented. (8+, 0-)
  - **Managing Agency Response:** Agree. DRP will seek the necessary funding needed to develop the comprehensive hydrologic assessment. Once this task has been performed, a plan will be developed and implemented.

#### 2. Field Review Details

### 2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. Natural Communities; specifically mesic flatwoods, sandhill, upland hardwood forest, xeric hammock, basin swamp, baygall, bottomland forest, depression marsh, floodplain marsh,

- floodplain swamp, hydric hammock seepage slope, strand swamp, wet flatwoods, wet prairie, blackwater stream and estuarine tidal swamp:
- Listed Species Protection and Preservation; for listed animal species in general, and specifically for red cockaded woodpeckers, scrub jay, and brown-headed nuthatch. Also for listed plant species in general; and specifically for pitcher plant, hand fern and large flower false rosemary:
- 3. Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources; specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring:
- 4. Cultural Resources; specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation:
- 5. Prescribed Fire; specifically area being burned, frequency and quality:
- 6. Restoration, specifically of mesic flatwoods:
- 7. Non-Native, Invasive & Problems Species, specifically control of plants:
- 8. Resource Protection, specifically boundary survey and signage:
- Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions:
- 10. Public Access and Education; specifically roads, parking and boat access:
- 11. Environmental Education and Outreach, specifically recreational opportunities and management of visitor impacts:

#### 2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

- Restoration, specifically hydrology restoration, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, whether restoration efforts are adequate.
  - Managing Agency Response: Agree. While DRP has enhanced thousands of acres by backfilling and plugging ditches in many areas of the preserve, there are still plenty areas that need to be restored if it determined that restoration is feasible. There are many areas in the preserve where restoring hydrology onsite may cause negative impacts to offsite residential areas. DRP will continue to work with partners to seek funding needed to conduct the park-wide hydrological assessment in order to conduct restoration.
- Forest Management, specifically timber harvesting, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether forest management is sufficient.

**Managing Agency Response:** Agree. DRP has been working on a timber contract with the Florida Forest Service to thin significant portions of the preserve that are currently overstocked with pine. We envision that a contract will be signed within the next several months.

 Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration, specifically ditches and hydro-period alteration, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether consideration of past and present hydrologic and geologic functions are sufficient.

Managing Agency Response: Agree: The current management plan discusses the need for a comprehensive hydrological study, however one has not been completed at this time. It is estimated that this type of study would roughly cost \$200,000 or more to assess the entire preserve. Staff continue to seek grant opportunities that will provide funding for this type of study. The hydrological study must be accomplished prior to filling in ditches to prioritize ditches for filling and to avoid any off site impacts.

4. Resource Protection, specifically law enforcement presence, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether resources are sufficient to protect the property.

Managing Agency Response: Resource Protection including law enforcement presence, will be discussed with FWC and local authorities. DRP does not have any law enforcement officers within its division. All LE support comes from FWC and local authorities.

Surface Water Monitoring, specifically water quality and quantity, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address surface water quality and quantity.

Managing Agency Response: Agree. DRP will continue to work with local, state, and federal agencies to determine the best strategy to monitor surface water quantity and quality. The SJRWMD is a cooperator and joint owner of most of the property and currently monitor surface water on the preserve.

6. Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically inholdings/additions, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether adjacent property concerns are sufficiently addressed.

Managing Agency Response: Disagree. The current unit management plan includes a section that discusses inholdings and additions to the park in the optimum boundary section of the plant. Inholdings/additions will also be included in the next plan.

7. Management Resources, specifically buildings, equipment, staff and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient. **Managing Agency Response:** Agree. However, no new staff or funding can be assigned to this or any other park unit unless they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature.

### 2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Natural Communities ( I.A )										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	4	3	4	4	4	5	4	4	4.00
Sandhill	I.A.3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Scrub	I.A.4	4	4	4	4	3		4	4	3.86
Scrubby Flatwoods	1.A.5	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	3.88
Upland Hardwood Forest	I.A.6	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4.13
Xeric Hammock	I.A.7	4	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	4.75
Basin Swamp	I.A.8	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4	4.63
Baygall	I.A.9	4	5	X	4	4	4	4	5	4.29
Bottomland Forest	I.A.10	5	4	4	5	4	4		4	4.29
Depression Marsh	I.A.11	5	5	5	-5	5	4	5	5	4.88
Dome Swamp	I.A.12	3	5	3	3	2	4	3	4	3,38
Floodplain Marsh	I.A.13	5	4	5	5	4	4	5	5	4.63
Floodplain Swamp	I.A.14	5	4	5	5	4	4	5	5	4.63
Hydric hammock	I.A.15	4	4	X	4	4	X	4	4	4.00
Seepage Slope	I.A.16	5	4	5	5	5	4	5	5	4.75
Strand Swamp	I.A.17	4	5	4	4	4	X	4	5	4.29
Wet Flatwoods	I.A.18	4	4	5	4	4	4	5	5	4.38
Wet Prairie	I.A.19	4	3	3	5	4	X	5	4	4.00
Blackwater Stream	I.A.20	5	5	5	4	5	4	5	5	4.75
Estuarine Tidal Swamp	I.A.21	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	4.88
			4.39	Natura	l Com	munit	ies Av	erage :	Score	4.37
Listed Species: Protection & Preservation ( I.B	V									
Animals (in general)	l.B.1	5	5	5	MIRRORKS	5	5	5	5	5.00
Red Cockaded Woodpecker	I.B.1.a	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Scrub Jay	I.B.1.b	5	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	4.75
Brown-headed Nuthatch	I.B.1.c	5	5		4	5		3	5	4.50
Plants (in general)	I.B.2	4	4	5		4	7 19 1	5	5	4.50
Pitcher Plant	I.B.2.a	4	5	5	4	3		5	5	4.43
Hand Fern	1.B.2.b	4	5	4	4	4		5	5	4.43
Large Flower False Rosemary	1.B.2.c	4	5		4	4	799	7 100	5	4.40
zarge Hower False Hoseinary		Angeler Marie	10 E 202 F	41.5.25		d Spec	ies Av	erage	-	4.63
Natural Resources Survey/Management Reso	urces (I.C)			A.						
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	1.C.2	T 5	5	5	5	4	5	4	5	4.75
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	3	4	4	5	4	4	5	4	4.13
Fire effects monitoring	1.C.4	4	3	3	5	3	3	5	5	3,88

Boundary survey	III.F.1	3	5	5	3	4	X	4	5	4.14
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	3	4	4	3	4	X	4	4	3.71
Signage	III.F.3	3	4	5	3	4	X	4	5	4.00
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	1	1	1	1	3	X	1	2	1.43
and the state of t	Carrier State of the Control		حيلين	Resou	rce Pr	otecti	on Ave	erage S	core	3,32
Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)								. (6.)		
Land Use										
Expanding development	III.G.1.a	3	X	3	3	3	4	4	3	3,29
I-95	III.G.1.b	3	X	X	2	3	X	4	3	3.00
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	1	X	X	2	3	3	4	4	2.83
Public Access & Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3	3, IV.4, IV.5)					151				
Public Access			EN S							
Roads	IV.1.a	4	5	4	4	4	3	- 5	4	4.13
Parking	IV.1.b	4	5	4	4	3	3	5	4	4.00
Boat Access	IV.1.c	4	5	3	3	4	3	5	5	4.00
Environmental Education & Outreach							1623			
Wildlife	IV.2.a	4	5	2	3	4	3	4	5	3.75
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	4	5	2	3	4	4	4	5	3.88
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	4	5	2	3	4	3	4	5	3.75
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	3	3	4	3	4	4	5	5	3.88
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4 -	5	4	5	5	4	4	5	5	4.63
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	4.25
		Public Access & Education Average Score								
Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3. V.	4)							1		
Maintenance									by the	
Waste disposal	V.1.a	4	1	5	3	4	Х	5	4	3.71
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	3	1	5	3	4	Х	5	4	3,57
Infrastructure									J216	
Buildings	V.2.a	2	4	2	1	1	2	1	2	1,88
Equipment	V.2.b	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1.25
Staff	V.3	1	1	1	1	1	X	1	2	1,14
Funding	V.4	1	1	1	1	1	X	1	1	1,00
			Ma	nagen	nent R	esour	ces Av	erage	Score	2.09
	Color Code:	Excellent		Above Average		Below Average		Poor		See
				Mi	ssing ote	THE CONTRACT	Insufficient Information			Appendix for detail

# 3. Land Management Plan Review Details

## $3.1\ Items\ Requiring\ Improvements\ in\ the\ Management\ Plan$

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on

average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

 Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically other habitat management effects monitoring, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.

Managing Agency Response: Agree: The current management plan discusses the need for a comprehensive hydrological study, however one has not been completed at this time. Much of the restoration funding is acquired through grants which require a project to be "shovel ready" or require matching funds. Very few grants offer agencies funding for research. To date a grant opportunity has not been found that provides funding for this type of study. Furthermore, the comprehensive hydrologic study is estimated to cost \$200,000 for the entire preserve. This must be accomplished prior to filling in ditches to prioritize ditches for filling and to avoid any off site impacts. The next management plan will discuss barriers to hydrological survey and monitoring.

Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality and quantity, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address surface water quality and quantity monitoring.

Managing Agency Response: Agree. DRP will include a discussion of water quality and quantity in the next revision of the parks plan. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was infull compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC. The next update of this plan will be infull compliance with changes made to the statutes noted above by the Florida Legislature in 2008.

2. Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination and surplus lands identified, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address surplus lands.

Managing Agency Response: Adjacent Property Concerns including discussion of potential surplus land determination will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was infull compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC. The next update of this plan will be infull compliance with changes made to the statutes noted above by the Florida Legislature in 2008.

### 3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores