

MANAGEMENT STATUS REPORT FOR CONSERVATION 20/20 PRESERVES

December 2011 REPORT (October – December 2011)

January 5, 2012

CAPE CORAL, PINE ISLAND, and MATLACHA PASS AREAS

Charlotte Harbor Preserve **400 acres** **C20/20 Preserves adjacent to Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park**

Nominations 58, 91, 95, 96, 99, 137, 262, 280, 372

- No report
- **Stewardship Plan Status: MOU with DEP approved by BoCC June 3, 2008.**

Yucca Pens Preserve **231 acres** **C20/20 Preserves near the FWC-managed Yucca Pens**

Nominations 75, 102, 107, 202, 281

- Hydrological fixes seem to have worked well
- **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BoCC 11/27/07**

Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve **730 acres** **St. James City**

Nominations 92, 121, 147, 168, 184, 346, 402

- Roller chopping palmetto in accordance with gopher tortoise habitat improvement grant
- **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 06/20/06.**

Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve- Bayside **190 acres** **St. James City**

Nomination 389

- Mini plan written and will go before the BoCC on 1/10/2012 (already approved by MSC and CLASAC)
- Waiting for exotic removal contract so that the melaleuca can be removed for free
- **Stewardship Plan Status: Not yet done**

Galt Preserve **265 acres** **St. James City**

Nominations 152, 155, 185-2

- Contractor working on the design of the facilities (funded through FCT grant)
- New eagle nest built on the preserve. It will require a redesign of a portion of amenities.
- Staff workdays spraying melaleuca resprouts
- **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 01/16/07.**

Pineland Site Complex **8.59 acres** **Pine Island**

Nomination 48

- No report

Smokehouse Bay Preserve **268 acres** **Pine Island**

Nomination 55 and 315

- Backfilling of phase I of the mosquito ditches is complete. Staff is looking for grants to fund the final phase.
- Caught 16 hogs in December for a total of 90 for the year (traps were down for several months)
- **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC February 9, 2010**

Cayo Pelau Preserve **189 acres** **Island just south of Charlotte County line**

Nomination 161

- Trash clean up and exotic plant control
- **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BoCC 10/14/2008**

Carver Preserve **126 acres** **Pine Island**

Nomination 368

- No report
- **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC February 9, 2010**

NORTH CENTRAL LEE COUNTY AREA

Prairie Pines Preserve	2,654 acres	Between I-75 and U.S. 41, north of Del Prado Extension
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Nominations 134, 194

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- Numerous fence cuts have been repaired (weekly basis) (horseman and ATVS).
 - Daily and monthly maintenance of the facilities
 - Continue to remove old interior barbed wire fence
 - The neighborhood access point was featured negatively in the media when a neighbor complained to the media
 - Treated guinea and cogongrass
 - Started trapping hogs again in December (stopped early during the wet season). December hog numbers are not available yet, but 127 hogs were caught previously in the year.
 - Waiting for exotic removal contract so that the melaleuca can be removed for free
 - **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 9/14/04.**

Yellow Fever Creek Preserve	339 acres	Yellow Fever Creek area, S & E of Del Prado Extension area
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Nominations 138,156

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- No report
 - **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 08/07/07.**

Pop Ash Creek Preserve	307 acres	NW corner of Nalle Grade Rd. and Nalle Rd.
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Nomination 206

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- Natural Resources Division water project is complete and the horsemen are back.
 - Horsemen continue to be happy with the project
 - Staff and volunteer workdays treating acacia and melaleuca
 - **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 1/31/06.**

Powell Creek Preserve	77 acres	Adjacent to Powell Creek canal, north of Bayshore Rd.
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Nomination 217

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- Working with Natural Resources to discuss hydrological restoration
 - Removed hazard tree along Hart Road
 - **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 1/31/06.**

CALOOSAHATCHEE and ORANGE RIVERS AREA
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Columbus G. MacLeod Preserve	9 acres	Island in the Caloosahatchee River
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Nomination 79

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- Signs went in near the canoe/kayak landing
 - A trail was installed during a staff workday
 - **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by the BoCC 03/27/07.**

Orange River Preserve	59 acres	west of Manatee Park, north shore of Orange River
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Nomination 142

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- Prepped fire lines
 - Mowed areas too
 - **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by the BoCC 11/21/06.**

Hickory Swamp Preserve	67 acres	Buckingham, Peace Road, south of Orange River
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Nomination 73

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- No report
 - **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 10/17/06.**

Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve 296 acres C20/20 Preserve near the Six Mile Slough
Nominations 53, 69, 216, 239-2, 298, 347, 348, 360

- Staff and consultants are investigating the use of Site 239 for mitigation needs for the Port Authority
- Two hogs were trapped on the C2020 portions of the preserve for the year.
- Waiting for exotic removal contract so that the melaleuca can be removed for free
- **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 2002.**

Six Mile Cypress Slough North Preserve 1219 acres C20/20 Preserve north of Six Mile Slough
Nominations 390, 410, 422

- Learning and recording species on the preserve
- Waiting for exotic removal contract so that the melaleuca can be removed for free

Matanzas Pass Preserve 1.05 acres C20/20 Preserves adjacent to Matanzas Pass Preserve
Nominations 283 & 284

- Exotic plant control continues
- Dr. Frank W. Stapor, from Tennessee Technological University has walked the 2020 parcel and is interested in sedimentology/stratigraphy of the site to age Estero Island.
- Home Sweet Home / Earth Education program developed by the Friends of Matanzas Pass Preserve hosted a total of eight classes from Beach Elementary, Harlem Heights and Bonita Springs on the 2020 site. Students discovered what happens when you no longer have a home/lose your habitat.
- **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 05/02/06.**

SOUTHEAST LEE COUNTY AREA

Gator Hole Preserve 175 acres north of Corkscrew Rd., approximately 3 miles east of I-75
Nomination 62

- Gopher tortoise relocation planning continues (with Public Works staff)
- 3 prescribed burns occurred on the site ~ 90 acres
- **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 05/30/06.**

Wild Turkey Strand Preserve 3,137 acres north of Alico Rd. to S.R. 82
Nominations 90, 200, 345

- Working with a consultant on the design and permitting for the facilities (funded through FCT grant)
- Staff and consultants are investigating the use of portions of site 200 and 345 for mitigation needs for the Port Authority
- Mowed interior trails and fire lines
- **Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 06/28/05.**

Imperial Marsh Preserve 926 acres north of Corkscrew Rd., 9 miles east of I-75
Nominations 93, 259, 288, 321, 334

- Permitting is complete for pasture restoration. It will begin once the wet season is over.
 - The Sam Galloway Tract may be used as mitigation by the Port Authority for the new runway
- Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by the BOCC 10/18/05, Second version approved 4/28/09.**

Flag Pond Preserve 67 acres Daniels Rd., east of I-75
Nomination 197

- Initial exotic plant treatment
- Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 03/27/07.**

BONITA SPRINGS AREA

Imperial River Preserve **39 acres** **Mouth of the Imperial River**
Nomination 81

- No report.

Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 6/7/00. New version approved 06/05/07.

Pine Lake Preserve **131 acres** **west of Bonita Grande Road and south of East Terry Street**
Nomination 119

- Fire lines widened and cabbage palms were reduced

Stewardship Plan Status: Approved by BOCC 09/06/05.

Hidden Cypress **572 acres**
Nomination 249

- Site inspection and boundary sign installation

Stewardship Plan Status: not yet scheduled

Oak Creek **3.9 acres**
Nomination 344

- Site inspection and boundary sign installation

Stewardship Plan Status: not yet scheduled

GENERAL UPDATES:

Added stickers to the boundary signs (2,722) for the change in gun laws (second time). Most of the signs are complete except those that are in locations that are flooded. They will be done in the dry season.

Inexpensive rule signs are being installed on the preserves so the public knows the name of the preserves and can know that they are C2020 preserves.

Acronym definitions:

ATV-All Terrain Vehicle

BOCC-Board of County Commissioners

C20/20-Conservation 20/20

CHNEP-Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program

DEP-Florida Department of Environmental Protection

DOT-Department of Transportation

FGCU-Florida Gulf Coast University

FWC-Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation
Commission

HCMP-Hickey's Creek Mitigation Park

MOU -Memorandum of Understanding

MSC-Management Subcommittee

NOAA-National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Association

SFWMD- South Florida Water Management District