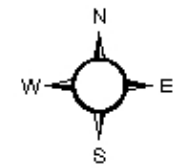
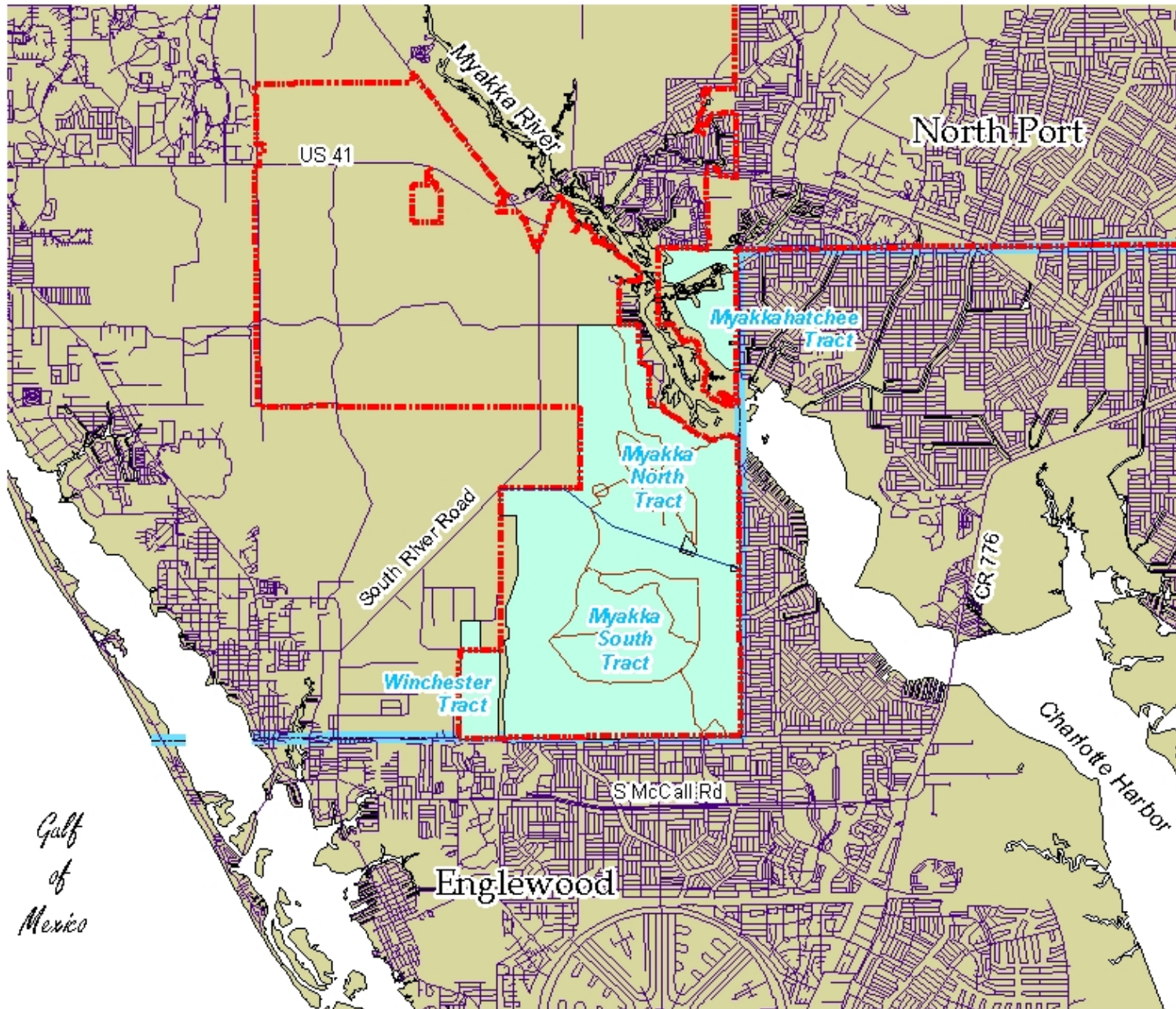
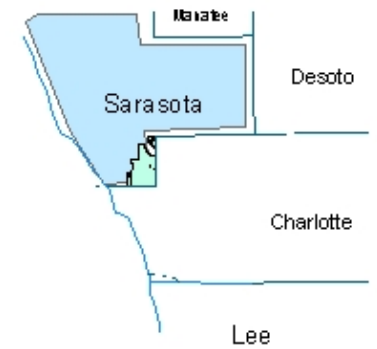


EXHIBIT A

LOCATION MAP



Florida Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Division of Forestry
Map Made : January 2009



Myakka State Forest
Sarasota County

- North Port City Boundary
- Myakka State Forest
- Sarasota County Line



EXHIBIT B

PROXIMITY MAP

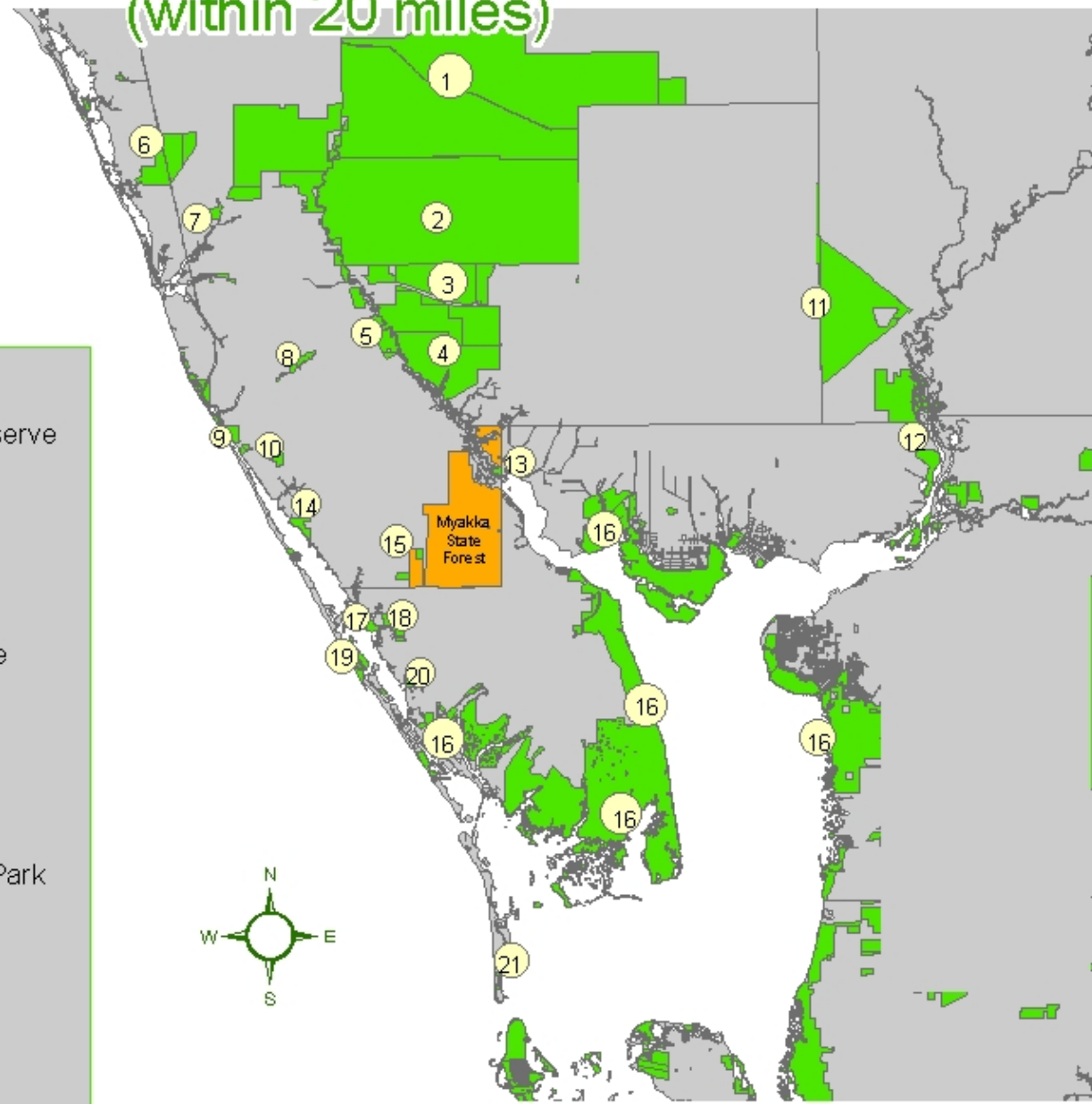
Proximity Map - Major Public Resources (within 20 miles)

Exhibit B

Florida Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Division of Forestry

Map Made: June 2010

- 1 Myakka River State Park
- 2 T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve
- 3 Shewe Tract
- 4 Deer Prairie Creek Preserve
- 5 Jelks Preserve
- 6 Oscar Scherer State Park
- 7 Fox Creek
- 8 Alligator Creek Conservation Area
- 9 South Venice Lemon Bay Preserve
- 10 Manasota Scrub Preserve
- 11 RV Griffin Reserve
- 12 Lower Peace River Corridor
- 13 Myakka Islands Point
- 14 Lemon Bay Park
- 15 Ainger Creek Trails
- 16 Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park
- 17 Cedar Point Environmental Park
- 18 Oyster Creek Regional Park
- 19 Stump Pass Beach State Park
- 20 Buck Creek Preserve
- 21 Gasparilla Island State Park

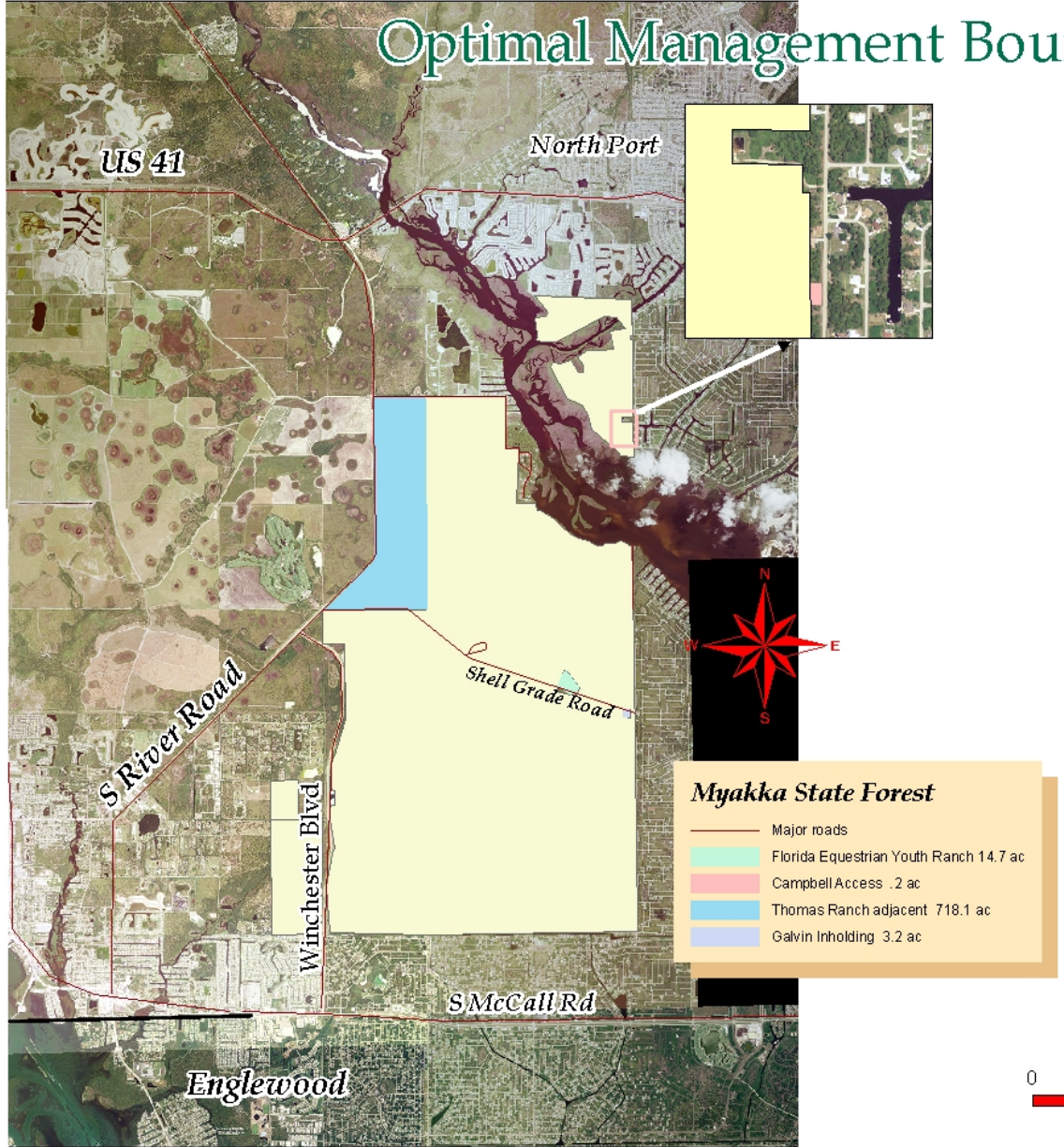


0 3.5 7 14 Miles

EXHIBIT C

OPTIMAL BOUNDARY MAP

Optimal Management Boundary Map



**Florida Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Division of Forestry**

March 2009

In order of priority

The site of the Florida Equestrian Youth Ranch was passed over in the original property acquisition because of the presence of dipping vats used by a previous owner. Regulation of this type of property has changed and now it is desirable to own this property for proper forest management. There is a conservation easement through the property.

Campbell Access is a solution to the problem of having no access to the Myakkahatchee Tract for the public to take advantage of recreational opportunities that exist on this piece of the forest north of the Myakka River.

Thomas Ranch is adjacent to the western boundary of the forest and between the forest and South River Road. It could easily be managed as part of the North Myakka tracts and make pre-scribe burning and other management activities more compatible with the existing infrastructure of roads and development

Galvin Inholding is a lot privately owned prior to the inclusion of the property in the state lands system. This property is not regulated by conservation easements or similar deed restrictions



EXHIBIT D

MANAGEMENT PLAN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING SUMMARY

Myakka State Forest (MSF)
10-Year Resource Management Plan

Management Plan Advisory Group (MPAG)
Public Meeting/Public Hearing Summary
Tuesday, June 15, 2010, 6:15/6:30 p.m.
@ 4970 City Hall Boulevard,
North Port, FL 34286

MPAG Members Present:	Affiliation:
Duane Weis	Myakka District Manager
Stephanie Green	Southwest Florida Water Management District
Mike Kemmerer	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Vanessa Carusone	City of North Port, City Commissioner
Jack Creighton	Natural Resource Conservation Service
Wade Mathews	Sarasota Audubon Society
Wade Waltimeyer	Private Landowner
Suzanne Park	Florida Equestrian Youth Ranch

MPAG Members Absent:	Affiliation:
Kevin Love	Southwest Florida Water Management District
Jon Thaxton	Sarasota County Board of Commissioners
Eric Clausen	Local Mountain Bike Group

Members of the General Public Present:	Affiliation:
Debbie Blanco	Sarasota County Natural Resources/Interested citizen
Kevin J. Vaughan	North Port Off-Road Association/Interested citizen
Scott Bryant	North Port Off-Road Association/Interested citizen
Leah Vaughan	North Port Off-Road Association/Interested citizen

DOF Staff Present:	Affiliation:
Ed Flowers	Forestry Resource Administrator
Tom Williams	Myakka State Forest Senior Forester
John Barrow	Land Planning Coordinator
Cori Hermle	Land Planning Specialist

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**6:15 p.m. Public Meeting:**

The orientation of the Management Plan Advisory Group was convened @ 6:17 pm by Cori Hermle. Hermle started by thanking the MPAG members for attending. Hermle explained to the MPAG members their purpose for tonight's public hearing. All of the MPAG members introduced each other to the group. Hermle continued by giving an overview of the approval process of a ten-year resource management plan including its history. It was explained that the

ten-year resource management plan should not be viewed as an operational plan but conceptual in its design.

A question was asked about the Florida Sunshine Laws. John Barrow explained the Florida Sunshine Law, which in brief instructs members of a governmental body or group in a decision-making capacity not to discuss agenda items outside the publicly noticed meeting. Hermle explained that minutes of the meeting and hearing were being recorded, and that the minutes would be sent out to everyone for confirmation within two weeks of the meeting. A question was asked on how long tomorrow's meeting would be. Barrow answered that it can vary from 1½ to 3 hrs. A question was asked on how much further editing would be done to the plan. Hermle explained the steps the plan would go through after the public meeting/hearing.

Hermle proposed a brief break until the start of the 6:30 p.m. public hearing.

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6:30 p.m. Public Hearing:

The Public Hearing was convened @ 6:36 p.m. by Hermle. Eight (8) MPAG members and four (4) interested citizens were in attendance for the public hearing. Hermle gave a brief overview of the management plan and the purpose for the evening's hearing. All of the MPAG members introduced each other to the members of the public present. Ed Flowers gave a brief presentation of the management plan and the focus of the plan. The floor was opened up to questions. Below is a summary of questions asked during the public hearing:

What has been happening within Myakka State Forest, detrimental or favorable, in the last few years?

Flowers said that there have been several large treatments of melaleuca, and cogon grass is currently undergoing treatment. There have been no major wildfires, and several hundred acres of pine trees have been planted in the last several years. Wetland restoration on the south end of the Forest is getting underway.

Are exotics less that they have been?

Flowers said that they believe they have a handle on the exotic situation, but that it is an ongoing battle.

What does cogon grass look like?

Hermle and Flowers gave a description of cogon grass.

Have feral pigs gotten better or worse?

Flowers said it is about the same. Hunting and trapping is allowed, but that the feral hogs may be coming into the Forest from adjacent properties.

Debbie Blanco of Sarasota County Natural Resources asked if there was an email address she could send comments and suggested edits about the plan?

Hermle said comments/edits can be sent to Ed Flowers or to Hermle's email address.

Was Picayune Strand State Forest open for OHV use?

Barrow answered that it currently is not available for OHV use.

Does the land conservation program that Myakka State Forest was acquired with mean that it is off-limits to OHV use?

Hermle said that it depends on the conservation program and the reasons why the property was acquired.

What percentage of the area of the park would give OHV riders enough space to be satisfied with?

Kevin Vaughan replied that 1,000 acres would be an adequate riding area, but that it is possible to have an OHV area of just a few hundred acres. He stated that there are natural areas of the Forest that are not acceptable to OHV use.

Would OHV riders be satisfied with riding along trails or would they want an OHV track area?

Scott Bryant replied some OHV users may not be satisfied with limited OHV uses, such as sticking to trails and speed limits, but that many local OHV users will be happy to have an OHV area on the Forest even if OHV uses are limited.

Would ideal non-wetland areas for an OHV trail system conflict with the local Scrub Jay population?

Tom Williams replied that there are families of Scrub Jays on the Winchester Tract, but that it is not ideal territory for them. The area has been roller chopped and is ready to be burned, which will improve the habitat for Scrub Jays. Vanessa Carusone said that the current Scrub Jay habitat is near wetland areas that would not be ideal for OHV use anyway, and said that any OHV trails would be on the more northern portions of the State Forest.

What program were these lands purchased under?

Duane Weis responded that it was 50% CARL and 50% Save Our Rivers.

There is a whole caveat of rules and regulations covering those land purchases, relating to soil disturbances and such. Knowing that this area does get wet, and if this OHV activity is allowed, would OHV users be willing to be restricted to certain times of year?

Scott Bryant said that any OHV use is better than no use, and that local OHV users are familiar with how wet the Forest gets at certain times of year.

Would OHV users be opposed to some type of fee system for OHV use?

Scott Bryant said no, OHV users pay fees for every other OHV area that they use within the state.

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### **Additional Public Comments**

- ♦ Debbie Blanco with the Sarasota County Natural Resources stated the county's interest in helping coordinate or offering land management assistance on the Forest west of Winchester Blvd.
- ♦ Request for marked trails for OHV use on the Forest during some parts of the year, similar to the designated OHV trail system offered on the Ocala National Forest.
- ♦ Request that DOF add more OHV areas to the southern part of Florida. There are very few OHV areas available south of Brooksville, FL and promised areas in South Florida have not materialized.
- ♦ President of the North Port Off-Road Association (NPORA) voiced his support for adding an OHV trail system to Myakka State Forest and offered his association's cooperation and support in the design, marking and maintenance of an OHV system on the Forest.

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****Attached are the written comments of interested citizens unable to attend the public hearing and read out loud by Kevin Vaughan during the public hearing.****

Hermle thanked everyone for attending and offering their comments. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Kevin Vaughan, Manthey Ave, North Port

I am here today to comment regarding the proposed revision of the management plan for Myakka State Forest. I and ALL the membership of the NPORA support the addition of an OHV trail system or riding area in the forest. OHV recreation is a recognized outdoor recreation activity as defined by the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). OHV recreation is allowed on three other State Forests. The use is compatible with the natural resources of the Myakka State Forest and there is a large need for OHV recreation opportunities in southwest Florida. Ohv recreation also has a positive economic impact on the surrounding areas where located as a recent study has determined about Croom motorcycle area in the withaloochee State forest. I believe this could be done with a small part of the forest, and a directional trail system that will not disrupt the Myakka corridor. AND may help with some of the Forests Goals

As president of the NPORA I would also offer our associations full and complete cooperation with the division of forestry in the design, marking, maintenance of an OHV trail system within the forest. We have many volunteers who can help! and Thank you for your consideration.

We would like to support an OHV trails system in the Myakka Forest for future use. There is a high demand in this area for such a trail system due to the nearest OHV area being 2 plus hours north of here and nothing south of here. The economic study done on Croom Motorcycle area proves that such a trail system is not only profitable to Forestry, but carries a significant positive economic impact for local businesses. What other users of the forest pay a \$50 plus user fee? OHV users will! Thank you for your consideration.

Kevin, Leah Vaughan

7397 Manthey Ave

North Port, Florida 34291

954-298-0952

I would like to make some comments regarding the proposed revision of the management plan for Myakka State Forest to be discussed Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at 6:15 pm 4970 City Hall Boulevard, North Port, FL 34286 .

My family is in support of the addition of an OHV trail system or riding area in the Myakka State Forest.

A riding area would increase commerce for business owners around the Forest.

OHV recreation is a recognized outdoor recreation activity as defined by the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

OHV recreation is allowed on three other State Forests but the closest to our area is two hours North.

The use is compatible with the natural resources of the Myakka State Forest.

There is a large need for OHV recreation opportunities in southwest Florida.

Tom, Julie and Jake Miller
5090 Cillette Ave
North Port, FL 34288
270-302-6571

I would like to voice my support for the proposed revision of the management plan for Myakka State Forest to be discussed Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at 6:15 pm 4970 City Hall Boulevard, North Port, FL 34286 .

OHV use is a family friendly activity enjoyed by my families and many of my friends. OHV use, if brought to Myakka State Forest, would also bring a boost to economy of the surrounding area. Currently there is no legal off road riding area within one hundred miles of North Port.

Scott L. Stone

5307 Barlow Terrace

North Port, FL. 34287

941-302-7728

I am submitting comments regarding the proposed revision of the management plan for Myakka State Forest to be discussed Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at 6:15 pm 4970 City Hall Boulevard, North Port, FL 34286 .

My family is in support of the addition of an OHV trail system or riding area in the Myakka State Forest.

A riding area would increase commerce for business owners around the Forest.

OHV recreation is a recognized outdoor recreation activity as defined by the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

OHV recreation is allowed on three other State Forests but the closest to our area is two hours North.

The use is compatible with the natural resources of the Myakka State Forest.

There is a large need for OHV recreation opportunities in southwest Florida.

Chris Mills and family

3360 Emerald Ln

North Port, FL 34286

(941) 426-6286

My Family and I would like to express our support for an OHV trail system within the Myakka State Forest. We enjoy riding and bonding as a family and a local riding area would allow us to spend more quality time doing what we love. Please consider that OHV recreation is a recognized recreational activity that has FEW places to enjoy. None locally. Please help!

Shanna, Mike, Samantha, Megan and Andrew Tennant

1849 Yankee Terrace, North Port, 34286

941-429-0577

From: Deborah L. Blanco [mailto:dblanc@scgov.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 17, 2010 12:28 AM
To: Flowers, Ed
Cc: Belinda S. Perry; Christian C. Meyer
Subject: Myakka Forest Management Plan Review

Hi Ed,

Here are the comments I promised to send regarding the Myakka Forest Management Plan. I hope they are useful. Both Chris and I reviewed the plan.

Debbie

Page 8 – Goal 5: Exotic & Invasive Species Maintenance & Control

Feral hogs not mentioned as an exotic and control methods are not mentioned. They are briefly mentioned on page 30 under Non native/Invasive species.

Page 10 – Boundary Marking and Security.

A goal of replacing 5 miles of fencing is listed but no dollar figure assigned. It would cost between \$40,000 and \$75,000 to fence the entire 5 miles (depending on type of fence). A total of \$600 is listed for the estimated annual cost.

Page 12 – Table 2: Priority Needs and Cost Estimates

Not sure if it was on purpose but "Operations" under Visitor Services & Recreation has no dollar amount.

Page 13 – Proximity to Other Public Resources

Should include Deer Prairie Creek Preserve, Ainger Creek Trails (North & South), Myakka Islands Point, and Jelks Preserve.

Exhibit B map should also label them.

Typos on the map – 1) Myakka River State Park (river isn't capitalized) 2) T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve (not Preserve)

You've included some conservation easements that are on private land (Longino and Carlton Ranches). Should they be listed on a Public Resources map?

Page 30 – Non native and invasive species

Lygodium isn't mentioned in the paragraph with the other exotic plants.

The text reads that there are low occurrence levels of pepper, cogon grass, melaleuca, and air potato but in the next paragraph it mentions that 650 acres of melaleuca have been treated. Although it's been treated that wouldn't be considered low occurrence.

Exhibit H – Flora & Fauna

Cogon grass, and lygodium need to be included on the plant list and highlighted in yellow as an exotic.

Myakka State Forest (MSF)
10-Year Resource Management Plan

Management Plan Advisory Group (MPAG) Meeting
Wednesday, June 16, 2010, 9:00 a.m.
@ 4970 City Hall Boulevard,
North Port, FL 34286

MPAG Members Present: Affiliation:

Duane Weis	Myakka District Manager
Stephanie Green	Southwest Florida Water Management District
Mike Kemmerer	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Vanessa Carusone	City of North Port, City Commissioner
Jack Creighton	Natural Resource Conservation Service
Wade Mathews	Sarasota Audubon Society
Wade Waltimeyer	Private Landowner
Suzanne Park	Florida Equestrian Youth Ranch
Eric Clausen	Local Mountain Bike Group

MPAG Members Absent: Affiliation:

Kevin Love	Southwest Florida Water Management District
Jon Thaxton	Sarasota County Board of Commissioners

Members of the General Affiliation:

Public Present:

Shawn Culliman	City of North Port Planner
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DOF Staff Present: Affiliation:

Ed Flowers	Forestry Resource Administrator
Tom Williams	Myakka State Forest Senior Forester
John Barrow	Land Planning Coordinator
Cori Hermle	Land Planning Specialist

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**9:00 a.m. Public Meeting:**

Cori Hermle thanked everyone for attending and explained that the purpose of this meeting was to record any comments the MPAG members may have related to the Ten-Year Resource Management Plan for Myakka State Forest. The MPAG focused their attentions on the ten-year management plan. The plan was reviewed section-by-section and below is a summary of the comments by topic.

I.B. Overview of State Forest Management Program

Wade Waltimeyer asked if any of the maps detailed the different tracts on the forest. Ed Flowers said the Tracts are identified in Exhibit M-Historic Natural Communities Map, but that Tract labels could be added to Exhibit A-Location Map. Wade Mathews asked if the Winchester Tract

was included in the acreage numbers given. Duane Weis said yes. Waltimeyer asked where the Scrub Jays were located. Suzanne Park said they were located on the south end of Winchester Tract. Mathews said there was a notation in the plan that Scrub Jays weren't located on the Forest. Tom Williams said the Scrub Jays are on the Winchester Tract and the plan will be corrected.

Vanessa Carusone and Shawn Culliman arrived late to the meeting. Shawn Culliman wanted to point out a few issues with the plan. Culliman said that the plan is in compliance with the local comprehensive growth plan. Hermle requested a letter from the City saying that the plan was in compliance. Culliman pointed out in section IV.A. 8. Law Enforcement, the City of North Port also offers law enforcement assistance and that a statement of such should be included in the plan. Carusone said that there was no reference in the plan to a mutual aid agreement with the local fire department.

#### I.C. Past Accomplishments

Stephanie Green pointed out formatting issues with Table 1. Mike Kemmerer asked what does 'Banding' mean in Table 1. Williams responded that banding is when herbicide is applied between trees, in the rows. Kemmerer asked if there was any information available on specific user group usage of the Forest. Williams said that there is no distinction made between user groups when day passes are sold. Individual user group usage is estimated. Eric Classens asked if the number for 'Roads Rebuilt' was a typo. Hermle responded that the number was missing a decimal. Carusone asked if there was any way to calculate usage by specific user groups, since there are several federal grants available. John Barrow responded that DOF is moving in that direction, but that DOF isn't quite there yet. Waltimeyer asked what the volunteers are doing on the Forest. Williams responded that they are leading tours, mowing grass, building fence, etc. Mathews asked what the difference is between 'Chop Tandem' and 'Chopping'. Williams answered that the 'Chop Tandem' is roller chopping with two offset choppers – gives chopping and shearing action. Weis answered that the reason why chopping is mentioned twice on the table is due to one being for site preparation and the other is for timber stand improvement. Mathews asked how many hunting days are available on the Forest. Williams said that it varies per year and is set by FWC. Mathews asked if hogs are counted as small game. Kemmerer said yes they are, and allows MSF to stay as a Small Game Hunting Area. Mathews asked if deer are on the Forest. Flowers said there is probably a population of deer that wander through the Forest, but that none are permanently there.

#### I. D. Goals/Objectives for the Next Ten Year Period

Carusone asked if OHV use would be added as an objective under Goal 2-Public Access and Recreational Opportunities. Hermle responded that any goals pertaining to OHV use could be added there. Kemmerer asked what portions of the Forest were purchased under Save Our Rivers (SOR)? Hermle said that acquisition information is detailed under II.B.1 and II.B.3. Weis said that the Forest, except for the 60 acre Peery Tract, was purchased 50/50 with CARL and SOR funds. Kemmerer said that approval for OHV use on the Forest would have to come from both of those programs. Mathews asked if the Education Pavilion had been built yet. Weis said no. Green asked where the recreational carrying capacity numbers came from? Hermle said that carrying capacity numbers were calculated from DEP's Division of Recreation and Parks

Visitor Carrying Capacity Guidelines. Green asked if the carrying capacity is calculated for each State Forest? Hermle said yes.

Mathews asked if there was a Friends of MSF, and if an objective could be added to the goals/measures to start a Friends of MSF? Flowers said that MSF falls under the statewide Friends of State Forests, and the size of MSF isn't large enough to merit its own state forest specific chapter. Carusone asked what the likelihood was of MSF being expanded across SR 41. Barrow answered that there currently are no funds available for expansion of MSF. She asked if SWFWMD would sell their property adjacent to MSF to DOF. Barrow said no, but that DOF could enter into an agreement with SWFWMD to establish a joint trail system between the two properties. Williams pointed out that all potential acquisitions are shown on Exhibit C – Optimum Management Boundary Map. Mathews asked if there was any talk with Thomas Ranch about acquiring that property. Williams said no, because funds are not currently available to acquire property. Carusone said that the City of North Port and the state of Florida could get together to acquire property, and recommended the City and DOF get together to develop an agreement on jointly acquiring property.

Waltmeyer asked for a status update on any mitigation/restoration work on MSF. Williams gave an update on all projects and that budget constraints had limited some of the work that could be done. Mathews asked if any roads or trails had been closed due to erosion. Flowers answered that there are currently no erosion issues on MSF, and Hermle pointed out that Goal 3, Objective 3 was a standard objective for all State Forests. Mathews asked how much of MSF is currently fenced. Weis said that the Myakkahatchee Tract isn't currently fenced, but that the majority of the Forest is fenced. Mathews asked if it would be possible to get access to the Myakkahatchee Tract? Weis answered that DOF has been unable to find a willing seller, and they have been looking into getting access across county owned property adjacent to the parcel. Williams pointed out that zoning may have been an issue with getting access to the Tract in the past.

Kemmerer asked if monitoring had been done for Red Cockaded Woodpeckers. Flowers said that an official survey hasn't been done yet. Hermle pointed out that such a survey is listed as Goal 8, Objective 1 in the plan. Mathews asked if there were any current acreage numbers available on exotic plants in MSF, and if it would be possible to include those numbers in the plan. Williams answered that the acreages are available in the MSF operational plans. Barrow pointed out that current acreages of exotics could be mentioned in section IV.A.10- Invasive Species.

#### I. E. Management Needs – Priority Schedule and Cost Estimates

Green asked where the 50 acres per year to treat exotics came from and that the number appears low. Flowers answered that the estimate is based on what DOF is currently treating. Williams said that is what DOF treats in-house. If MSF is awarded any grants to assist in exotics removal, then that would be in addition to the 50 acres per year listed in the plan.

Park asked if a hand pump could be added for equestrian use so that horses can have access to water. Waltmeyer asked if cost estimates are just for materials only. Flowers said that estimates are for materials and that DOF does the work.

#### II.A.2 Location, Boundaries and Improvements

Some confusion about the improvements listed for MSF that are currently on the property and that were on the property at time of acquisition. Hermle recommended adding a reference to the

year that the property was acquired when listing improvements that were on the property at time of acquisition.

#### II.A.5. Proximity to Other Public Resources

Green asked that Deer Prairie Creek, 3 miles to the North, and co-owned by Sarasota County and SWFMWD be added to the list of properties.

#### II.B.1. Land Acquisition Program

Waltmeyer asked if the Tracts referenced in this section were identified on any of the maps, and that there was some confusion about how many of the Tracts made up MSF. Weis answered that MSF was part of a larger purchase of land, and that MSF only comprises portions of that purchase. Waltmeyer asked that a clarifying statement saying such be added to that section.

#### II.B.5. Alternate Uses Considered

Mathews asked if OHV use would be added to this section. Flowers said it would be only if it was considered and found not to be compatible with MSF.

#### II.C.2. Public and Local Government Involvement

Carusone asked that the city of North Port's response to the plan be added here.

#### III.B.5. Endangered and Threatened Species

Mathews asked that DOF check to be sure the status of Bald Eagle listed on Table 3 was correct, and that the status N be defined. Waltmeyer asked that the Table 3 title be changed to be more explanatory and that this section needed some type of introduction before the table. He also asked if panthers had been confirmed on MSF. Flowers said that there is a potential for them to be on the Forest.

#### IV.A.4. Recreation Management

Mathews asked if there had been any vandalism problems with the iron rangers. Williams said yes, but that it has been very little. Carusone asked that there be a mention that all camp fires be enclosed so as to not spread. Flowers said that is mentioned in DOF rules – all fires must be contained in the fire rings provided and at certain times of years, campfires may not be allowed on MSF.

Parks requested that an additional equestrian campsite with a small corral area for horses be added to MSF. She said that lack of handpumps to get water for the horses makes it difficult to camp with horses anywhere on MSF besides the campsite by the river. Waltmeyer asked if there were any camping facilities with electric or water. Park answered that all camp sites were primitive camping. Waltmeyer asked if electric or water could be added. Flowers said that DOF has looked into it, but that cost is an issue. Carusone requested that OHV use be added as a recreational activity to MSF.

Mathews asked what PSGHA stands for. Williams answered and suggested some type of abbreviations/definitions page at the end of the plan.

#### IV.A.5. Fire Management

Carusone requested that language be added about the city and county's mutual aid agreement to assist with fires. Mathews asked what the smoke screening system was. Flowers explained the system.

#### IV.A.6.c. Timber Inventory Control

Flowers pointed out that a 2010 inventory had just been completed for MSF, and that the inventory numbers listed in the draft plan may change. Waltimeyer recommended adding a date of the inventory from which the numbers were calculated.

#### IV.A.6.e. Reforestation

Green asked if the bahia harvesting was still possible on MSF. Weis said that if was from the last approved plan and would be removed. Waltimeyer recommended adding a mention of groundcover restoration to this section.

#### IV.A.8. Law Enforcement

Carusone requested that the plan also note that law enforcement assistance is offered by the North Port Police Department

#### IV.A.9 Fish and Wildlife

Mathews asked if deer could be reintroduced to MSF. Williams answered that there isn't much habitat on MSF conducive to deer populations. Mathews asked if there were any estimates available for the feral hog population. Kemmerer said that there are no reliable estimates available. Park asked if FWC would be willing to allow feral hog hunting year round. Kemmerer replied that there had been conflicts between user groups about allowing hunting year round. Flowers pointed out that trapping of feral hogs is allowed all year on MSF.

#### IV.A.10 Non-Native Invasive Species

Green requested that the level of invasive species on MSF be quantified in the plan. Waltimeyer asked if an objective could be added to have the Lygodium Strike Team come out to treat *Lygodium* on MSF. Green explained the role of the Lygodium Strike Team and said it was more of a rapid response team. Flowers said it was up to DOF to address recurring issues. Mathews asked when the non-native invasive species management plan would be developed. Flowers said it depends on funding, but that all preliminary data has already been collected and is available to assist with management of MSF.

#### IV.A.16. Cattle Grazing

Mathews asked if anyone was doing this on MSF. Weis answered that interest has been expressed, but that there isn't enough forage and water sources are not easily available. Kemmerer recommended mentioning in the plan that cattle grazing may require watering holes to allow for cattle leases.

#### IV.B. Description of natural Communities and Proposed Management Activities

Mathews asked if it was possible to increase the Scrub acreage listed on Table 4. Flowers pointed out that the acreage given was historical natural community acreages calculated by FNAI. Mathews asked if there was any way to take out a few trees to open up the area for Scrub

Jay habitat. Williams said that removing trees will not change natural community types. Mathews requested that an objective be added to the goals/measures to restore, as possible, Scrub Jay communities.

Mathews asked if burning in a Depression Marsh would be too destructive. Weis said that any burning would be on the surface, and Waltimeyer pointed out that more wildlife would probably be lost to succession rather than prescribe burning.

Mathews pointed out that the Scrub section mentions that there are no Scrub Jays on MSF, but that other areas of the plan mention Scrub Jays being on the Forest. Weis said that the few Scrub Jays on MSF may be present on the Forest, but may not be present in the scattered Scrub communities of MSF. Green recommended clarifying the statement to reflect that. Mathews requested that language be added to the Scrub restoration detailing how to get Scrub Jays into the Scrub communities on MSF.

#### V.D. Multiple-Use Potential – Income Producing Activities

Waltimeyer said that the reference to sod removal should be removed. He asked if there was any potential to adding dove fields to MSF. Kemmerer said that while dove fields may generate revenue, the inputs needed to have a really good dove field are costly.

#### Exhibit A – Location Map

Weis said that the city limits indicated on the map may not be correct. Kemmerer requested that the different tracts of MSF be indicated on the map.

#### Exhibit B – Proximity Map

Several additional properties were requested to be added or detailed on the map. Flowers recommended zooming the map in closer to MSF so that more details of adjacent properties could be seen.

Green requested that the conservation easement on the Duf inholding be indicated on the map and mentioned in the plan. Weis said it would be discussed in the plan.

#### Exhibit C – OMB Map

Park requested that the Duf inholding be changed to Florida Youth Equestrian Ranch.

#### Exhibit E – Letter of Compliance with County Comprehensive Plan

Green said that the plan needs to be approved by SWFWMD, since they are co-owners of the property.

#### Exhibit H – Flora & Fauna

Green asked that Scrub Jays, *Lygodium*, cogongrass and torpedo grass be added to the list.

#### Exhibit I – Roads

Green requested that the layer comprising the forest service roads be removed from the map. Williams agreed, saying that some of that layer was comprised of fire breaks and not roads.

#### Exhibit J – Public Access and Parking

Carusone asked that kiosks be indicated on the map.

Exhibit K – Camping and Recreational Trails

Waltimayer requested that the arrows indicating trails be in a different color, since it is difficult to tell if it is part of the indicator arrow or part of the trail. Williams said that the arrow color would be changed to show more clearly on the map.

Kemmerer requested that an exotics occurrence map for MSF be included as an exhibit.

Hermle thanked the MPAG members for their participation in the public review process for the MSF Ten-year Resource Management Plan and asked if there were any additional questions or comments. Hermle said that the minutes of the hearing/meetings would be mailed out to everyone within two weeks.

Hermle thanked everyone for their time, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.



# **EXHIBIT E**

## **LETTER OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE COUNTY COMPREHNSIVE PLAN**



**SARASOTA COUNTY**

*"Dedicated to Quality Service"*

July 26, 2010

Corrine Hermle, Land Planning Specialist  
Florida Division of Forestry  
3125 Conner Boulevard/C19  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

**RE: Ten-Year Resource Management Plan for Myakka State Forest**

Dear Ms. Hermle:

Planning Services staff has reviewed the draft Ten-Year Resource Management Plan for the Myakka State Forest for consistency with Sarasota County's Comprehensive Plan. As a result, it has been determined that the proposed plan is consistent with the applicable goals, objectives, and policies contained in the Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan.

If we may be of further assistance, please call this office at (941) 861-5140.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura A. Boyce", with a stylized, cursive script.

Laura A. Boyce, Planning Professional  
Planning and Development Services

**EXHIBIT F**

**SOILS MAPS**

# Myakka State Forest Soils Map

## Soil Series

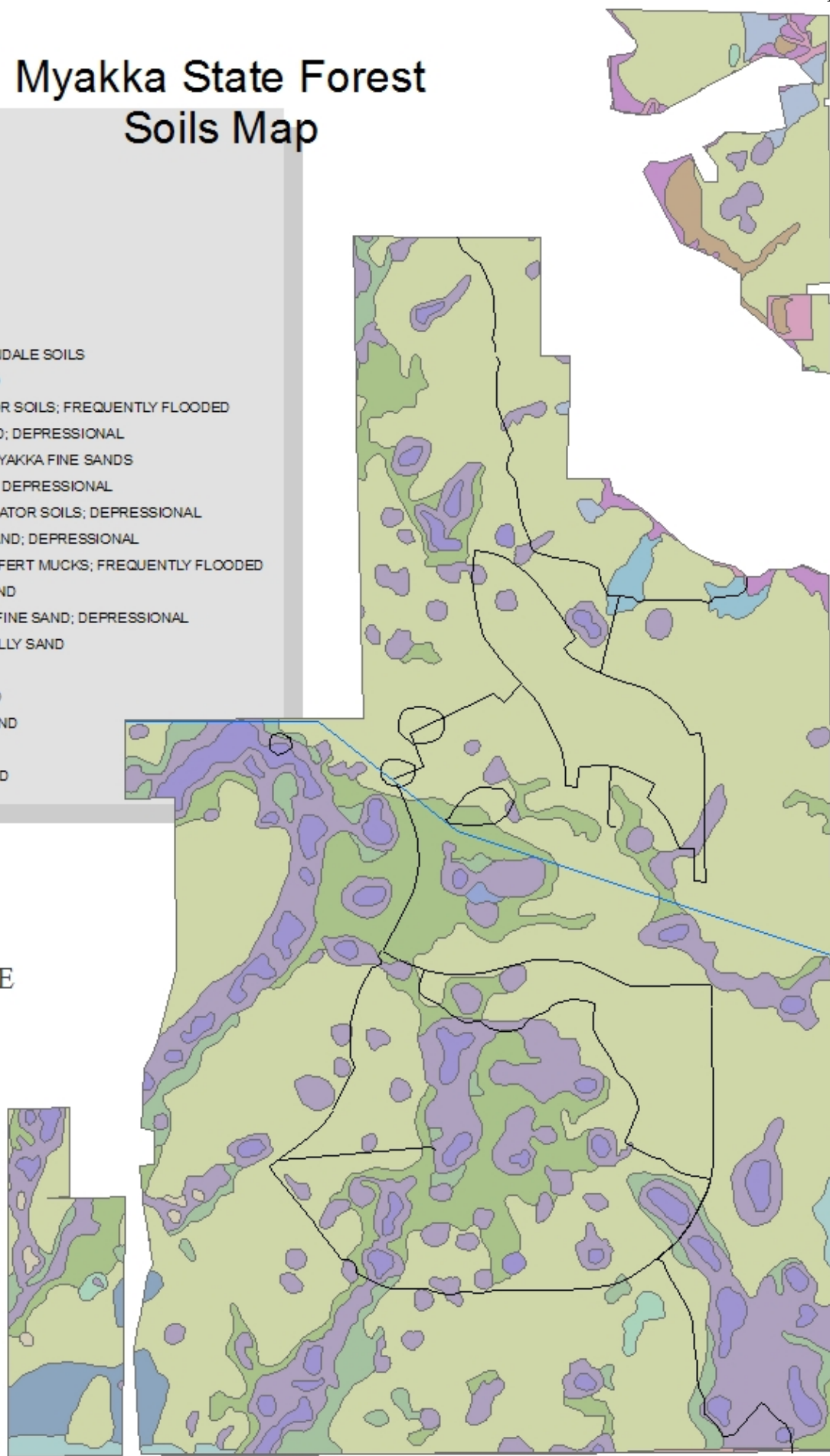
- Forest trails
- Shell Grade Road
- recreation

## sarasota\_soils\_Clip

- <all other values>

## MUNAME

- 
- BOCA AND HALLANDALE SOILS
- CASSIA FINE SAND
- DELRAY AND ASTOR SOILS; FREQUENTLY FLOODED
- DELRAY FINE SAND; DEPRESSIONAL
- EAUGALLIE AND MYAKKA FINE SANDS
- FELDA FINE SAND; DEPRESSIONAL
- FLORIDANA AND GATOR SOILS; DEPRESSIONAL
- HOLOPAW FINE SAND; DEPRESSIONAL
- KESSON AND WULFERT MUCKS; FREQUENTLY FLOODED
- MALABAR FINE SAND
- MANATEE LOAMY FINE SAND; DEPRESSIONAL
- MATLACHA GRAVELLY SAND
- ONA FINE SAND
- PINEDA FINE SAND
- POMELLO FINE SAND
- POPLE FINE SAND
- SMYRNA FINE SAND



0 0.35 0.7 1.4 Miles

A brief description of the soil types occurring on Myakka State Forest follows, listed in order of most prominent to least prominent:

**EauGallie and Myakka fine sand** – These nearly level (0-2% slope), poorly drained soils are on broad flatwoods. The natural vegetation is slash pine, South Florida slash pine, longleaf pine, and scattered cabbage palm and oak. The understory includes inkberry, saw palmetto, chalky bluestem, creeping bluestem, pineland threeawn, and various other grasses.

**Holopaw fine sand depressional** – This nearly level, very poorly drained soil occurs in depressions. The soil is ponded for six to nine months or more each year. The natural vegetation is maidencane, broomsedge, St Johnswort, wax myrtle, panicum, sand cordgrass, white bracted sedge, pipewort, stiff paspalum, and various other water tolerant weeds and grasses.

**Delray fine sand Depressional** – This nearly level poorly drained soil is in depressions on flatwoods. Under natural conditions, the soil is ponded for six to nine months or more each year. The natural vegetation of these soils includes pickerelweed, maiden cane, arrowhead, cutgrass, sand cordgrass, sedges, ferns, and other water tolerant grasses.

**Pineda fine sand** – This nearly level, poorly drained soil is on low hammocks and in broad, poorly defined sloughs. The natural vegetation is scattered slash pine, South Florida slash pine, longleaf pine, cabbage palm, wax myrtle, scattered saw palmetto, blue maiden cane, pineland threeawn, low panicum, bluestems and various weeds and grasses.

**Ona fine sand** – This nearly level, poorly drained soil is on broad flatwoods. The natural vegetation on this soil includes slash pine, South Florida slash pine, longleaf pine, scattered live oak, inkberry, fetterbush, wax myrtle, pineland threeawn, bluestem, panicum and various other grasses.

**Pople fine sand** – This nearly level, poorly drained soil is on low hammocks and in poorly defined drainage ways and broad sloughs. The natural vegetation is slash pine, South Florida slash pine, longleaf pine, cabbage palm, wax myrtle, scattered saw palmetto, laurel oak, blue maiden cane, pineland threeawn, creeping bluestem, South Florida bluestem, sand cordgrass, low panicum, and various other grasses.

**Cassia fine sand** – This nearly level, poorly drained soils are on low ridges that are slightly higher than the adjacent flatwoods and on shoulder slopes adjacent to drainage ways. The natural vegetation types are slash pine, South Florida slash pine, sand live oak, sand pine and a few longleaf pine. The understory includes saw palmetto, running oak, creeping bluestem, broomsedge bluestem, lopsided Indian grass, pineland threeawn, cinnamon fern, panicum, and various other grasses.

**Kesson and Wulfert mucks, frequently flooded** – These nearly level, very poorly drained soils are tidal marshes and tidal swamps adjacent to coastal islands and estuaries.

The native vegetation is red, black and white mangroves, with sea rocket, saltwort, perennial glasswort, seashore salt grass, and seashore paspalum growing in some areas.

**Manatee loamy fine sand** - This nearly level poorly drained soil is in depressions. The soil is ponded for six to nine months or more during most years. The natural vegetation is sawgrass, maiden cane and pickerelweed. Some areas support red maple, cypress, blackgum, cabbage palm, loblolly-bay, sweetbay, scattered wax myrtle, sedges, ferns, and other water tolerant grasses.

**Smyrna fine sand** - This nearly level, poorly drained soil is on broad flatwoods. Most support natural vegetation of slash pine, South Florida slash pine, longleaf pine, live oak, and water oak. The understory is saw palmetto, running oak, inkberry, fetterbush, wax myrtle, pineland threeawn, bluestems, panicum and various other grasses. These nearly level, very poorly drained soils are on the flood plain along the Myakka River and in the swamps adjacent to Lake Myakka. The soils are frequently flooded after prolonged heavy rains.

**Delray and Astor soils, frequently flooded** – These level and nearly level, very poorly drained soils are on the flood plain along the Myakka River and in the swamps adjacent to Lake Myakka. The soils are frequently flooded after prolonged heavy rains. The natural vegetation includes sweetgum, water oak, laurel oak, red maple, cabbage palm and pine. The understory is scattered saw palmetto, wax myrtle, greenbrier, poison ivy, maiden can, chalky bluestem, sedges, and other water tolerant grasses.

**Floridana and Gator soils, depressional** - these very poorly drained, nearly level soils are in depressions. The natural vegetation includes sand cordgrass, maiden cane, St Johnswort, scattered wax myrtle, and other water tolerant weeds and grasses.

**Pomello fine sand** - This nearly level, moderately well drained soil is on low ridges and knolls on flatwoods. Most areas support the natural vegetation of slash pine, South Florida slash pine, longleaf pine, scrub live oak, saw palmetto, fetterbush, rusty lyonia, running oak, Indian grass, pineland threeawn, grassleaf goldaster, flag pawpaw, mosses, lichens, panicum, bluestems, and various other grasses.