

Section 9: Protection Techniques

Current Protection Policies and Techniques

Each State Park located along the Corridor has a developed Management Plan that provides for the protection of their resources. The Florida State Parks system preserves representative portions of the state's original natural lands for all time, and makes them accessible for public enjoyment and recreation. The state park system has grown to encompass over 600,000 acres of diverse conservation lands - a substantial and irreplaceable part of the public's natural heritage. However, simply acquiring land does not ensure preservation of its resources. The lands must be actively managed to retain the values for which they were acquired.

The health of Florida's ecosystems depends on dynamic natural processes associated with fire, hydrology, and a delicate ecological balance between native species. The State Park resource management goal is to restore and maintain the original landscapes of Florida State Parks by reestablishing these processes. In this way we insure that citizens and visitors experience healthy old-growth forests, wildflower-blanketed prairies, free-flowing springs, and an abundance of diverse native wildlife in The Real Florida.

Natural resource management of the uplands in Florida State Park system involves four major activities: prescribed burning, invasive exotic species control, hydrological restoration, and other kinds of habitat restoration. Most of this work is done by park staff as a part of their day to day activities, which also include the many other aspects of providing recreational facilities and opportunities.

The Scenic Highway section of the Transportation Element of Ormond Beach's and Volusia County's Comprehensive Plans specifically provides protection for Scenic Highways. Scenic Highway designation will protect the Corridor from the introduction of Outdoor Advertising Structures (billboards) along roadways that are a part of the State Highway System. Further protection in the form of an overlay Zoning District is one of the adopted Strategies of the Corridor Management Plan.

Volusia County and the City of Ormond Beach have Land Development Regulations that control growth and development and help to protect the Corridor's intrinsic resources. These Codes regulate the removal of trees, the landscape requirements for new developments, the preservation of wetlands, the buffering requirements between different uses, the landscaping requirements for parking areas and the size, number and installation of signage.

The development of the CMP builds upon the hard work completed by stakeholders to date. Volusia County's and City of Ormond Beach's Comprehensive Plans address numerous areas of protection for the eligibility elements (see Appendix D and Appendix E). Volusia County and the City of Ormond Beach Future Land Use elements in their Comprehensive Plans direct growth to maintain the County's/City's character.

The Transportation Element of Volusia County's Comprehensive Plan identifies all the County roadway facilities along the Ormond Scenic Loop & Trail as constrained roads by County Policy. In addition, it designates The Ormond Scenic Loop & Trail Corridor as scenic. The City of Ormond Beach has designated Beach Street and

John Anderson Drive within the City limits as scenic roads. The City of Ormond Beach has also designated John Anderson Drive and North Beach Street within the city limits as Canopy Roads in the Land Development Code and set protections for existing trees allowing for mitigation of tree canopy should the road be expanded.

The Conservation Element of the Volusia Comprehensive Plan supports the Natural Resources Management Areas (NRMA) through special use areas with an Environmental System Corridor (ESC). This element stresses the importance of connectivity of natural resources. This element protects the headwaters of the Tomoka River and Tomoka Basin. It also addresses manatee protection, specifically the importance of protecting critical habitat, regulating and enforcing boat speeds, using signage to designate manatee areas, and the dissemination of educational materials. The ESC encompasses much of the land area around the Intracoastal Waterway.

Additionally, Ormond Beach and Volusia County have a Coastal Management Element in their Comprehensive Plans. The plans purpose is to plan for and, where appropriate, restrict development activities where such activities would damage or destroy coastal resources, protect human life and limit public expenditures in areas that are subject to destruction by natural disaster. The Coastal Management Elements addresses land use, water quality, beach and dune systems, coastal hazards, public access, public services, and intergovernmental coordination. This element specifically protects watersheds/water bodies and includes the Tomoka and Halifax Rivers.

The Recreation, Open Space, and Historic Preservation Elements of the Volusia County Comprehensive Plan provide protection and guidance for historical and recreational resources along the Corridor. Similarly, the City of Ormond Beach's Cultural Affairs Element and Recreation and Open Space Element serve as guidance within the City limits.

Volusia County's Land Development Ordinance provides regulations to implement the Comprehensive Plan for development and management of public and private lands within Volusia County. The City of Ormond Beach implements its Comprehensive Plan through its Land Development Code.

The Street Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) regulates water quality impacts. An Environmental Resources Permit from the SJRWMD is required for every development that adds more than 5,000 square feet of impervious area. These permits are based on the treatment of stormwater runoff based on pre and post conditions and typically require on-site retention and treatment. This is to ensure that stormwater runoff is not carrying pollutants into surface water bodies and to provide aquifer recharge.

Related Goals, Objectives and the specific Strategies are:

- Strategy 1.4.1 Create overlay district.
- Strategy 1.4.2 Coordinate, monitor, and establish public and private signage standards for the scenic corridor.
- Strategy 1.4.3 Bury utilities.

- Strategy 1.4.4 Create and implement a master plan that will strategize and coordinate overall long and short-term activities along the corridor including the management of vegetation, land acquisition, scenic easements, design of improvements and new construction.

The Master Plan shall include:

- Bus shelters;
 - Bike rest stops;
 - Water fountain facilities;
 - Trash receptacles; and
 - Signage/information kiosks indicating location of public facilities (i.e. restrooms and water).
- Strategy 1.4.5 Add Scenic Highway protections to the City of Ormond Beach and Volusia County Comprehensive Plans.
 - Strategy 2.1.1 Develop a standard Ormond-by-the-Sea signage program as part of Overlay District.
 - Strategy 2.1.2 Coordinate with jurisdiction entities to develop/implement the signage program.
 - Strategy 2.2.2 Adopt an Overlay District with design standards.
 - Strategy 5.3.1 Develop a sign inventory.
 - Strategy 5.3.2 Coordinate with jurisdictional entities.
 - Strategy 5.3.3 Develop signage plan for roadway.

Action Plan 1-1, 1-4, 1-5, 3-3, 3-3 and 3-4