

LOXAHATCHEE RIVER WILD & SCENIC PLAN - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Number	Objectives
1	Objective 1: Preserve and enhance the River's unique natural and cultural values
2	1. Prioritize land acquisition, acquired and manage properties within the National Wild and Scenic Loxahatchee River watershed
3	a) Acquire 2,200 acre parcel east of Atlantic Ridge Preserve State Park to connect to Medalist property
4	b) Acquire remaining private Pal Mar parcels through donations or acquisition of tax deeds
5	c) Apply for land acquisition/restoration grants
6	d) Partner with other stakeholders to leverage funds
7	2. Develop and implement resource protection and enhancement management plans
8	a) Update the Wild and Scenic Management Plan every five years amending strategies, tasks and schedule as needed
9	b) Implement and update the restoration targets (as needed) set forth in the <i>Restoration Plan for Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River (2006)</i>
10	c) Monitor and provide input for management plans of specific properties within the Loxahatchee River and evaluate the effectiveness of actions taken by agencies and provide feedback to management agencies.
11	d) Revise the watershed boundary map of the Loxahatchee River watershed.
12	e) Involve key state, federal, and local agencies, advisory groups, organizations and the public in management decisions.
13	f) Support replacement of septic systems with sanitary sewers where demonstrated to be beneficial to the protection or enhancement of water quality in the Loxahatchee River
14	3. Develop and implement recreation and public use management plans

15	a) Implement and update the <i>Jonathan Dickinson Park Unit Management Plan</i> every 10 years (2010)
16	b) Assess current levels of recreational use on the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River using methods that can be repeated.
17	c) Develop and implement a recreational public use capacity and management plan
18	d) Involve key state, federal and local agencies, advisory groups, organizations and the public in management decisions
19	e) Integrate the riparian protection with recreational demands (e.g. role of downed snag removal in river).
20	4. Ensure relevant local, state and federal policies, regulations, plans, permits and approvals are consistent with objectives of the management plan
21	a) Review and comment on relevant local comprehensive plans
22	b) Review and comment on relevant local water supply plans
23	c) Review and comment on relevant local stormwater master plans
24	d) Review and comment on relevant local park and recreation plans
25	e) Review and comment on relevant development regulations, permit applications and approvals
26	f) Review and comment on relevant existing or needed state and local regulations
27	g) Review and comment on Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Management Plan
28	5. Increase elected official, key stakeholder and public awareness of the need to protect and enhance the unique natural and cultural resources in the Wild and Scenic portion of the Northwest Fork

29	a) Implement and update programs and displays in the Loxahatchee River Environmental Center and Jonathan Dickinson State Park's Elsa Kimbell Education and Research Center, Trapper Nelson's Zoo Historic District and Riverbend Park that highlight the importance of the Wild and Scenic River and watershed.
30	b) Develop and provide information on the river to recreational users and local educational institutions
31	c) Host river tours for elected officials and legislative delegation members
32	d) Encourage and support local initiatives such as Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative (LRPI) and the Northeast Everglades Natural Area (NENA)
33	e) Update the Homeowners " Guide to the Protection of the Loxahatchee River"
34	6. Increase scientific and management understanding of the river's ecosystems

35	a) Develop and implement a Science Plan for the river as identified in the <i>Restoration Plan for the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River</i>
36	b) Support grants to fund watershed research projects
37	c) Encourage agencies to have work peer reviewed and published
38	<i>Objective 2: Restore the river's historical hydrologic regime and reverse deleterious saltwater intrusion</i>
39	1. Improve the quality, quantity, timing and distribution of flows to the Northwest Fork
40	a) Meet minimum flow and level targets set in 2003
41	b) Implement and update the <i>Restoration Plan Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River</i> (2006)
	i) Develop and implement the CERP Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project.
	ii) Begin development of the Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project - Part 2.
	iii) Complete the Mecca storage project and development a conveyance to the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River.
	iv) Develop and implement an Operations Management Plan for Mecca and conveyance structures.
	v) Increase flow to the NW Fork over Lainhart Dam.
	vi) Increase tributary flows to the NW Fork
	vii) Develop MFL's for the tributaries, including Loxahatchee Slough, Cypress Creek, Hobe Grove Ditch and Kitching Creek.
	viii) Develop project water reservations for CERP Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project Part 1 and 2.
	ix) Develop operational protocols for a proposed flow regime for NW Fork.
	x) Continue to monitor, assess and apply adaptive management.
42	c) SFWMD will implement the recommendations in the Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan.
43	d) SFWMD will establish and implement a water reservation for the Northwest Fork
44	e) SFWMD will ensure that the Regional Water Availability Rule is strictly enforced
45	f) Complete the Cypress Creek East Restoration project
46	g) Complete the North Jupiter Flatwoods Restoration Project
47	h) Ensure that all governmental jurisdictions pursue compliance with stormwater management regulations and best management practices with the intent of enhancing the quality of stormwater runoff

48	i) SFWMD, FDEP Parks and LRECD will continue to monitor and evaluate results on an annual basis consistent with the Loxahatchee River Science Plan
49	2. Restore and or/replace natural water storage and conveyance to the Northwest Fork
50	a) Acquire and restore select properties adjacent to the Wild and Scenic River and its tributaries, including, but not limited to Cypress, Moonshine and Kitching Creeks, Pal Mar wetlands and Loxahatchee Slough.
51	b) Develop hydrologic restoration plans for acquired and properties
52	c) Complete the planned Hatcher/Jupiter Indiantown Venture water storage and conveyance project
53	d) Complete a stormwater plan for the Hatcher-Halparin property adjacent to Jupiter Farms
54	e) Complete the planned Mecca Farms Wetland Restoration project

55	f) Complete a survey of Jonathan Dickinson State Park's existing non-functional agricultural and drainage ditches and restore to natural hydrology within the park
56	g) Update the Atlantic Ridge Preserve State Park's survey of existing non-functional agricultural and drainage ditches and restore to natural hydrology
57	h) Construct control structures, fortify berms, plug ditches and create wetland flow through marshes on the Culpepper Ranch property
58	i) Develop and monitor a stage and hydroperiod monitoring plan to be used as an operations schedule for the Culpepper Ranch property
59	j) Restore hydrology on the Martin County portion of the Cypress Creek Natural Area
60	k) Design weir and improvements to Cypress Creek Canal west of Gulfstream Citrus bridge
61	l) Raise PGA Blvd. From SR 710 to the C-18 Canal
62	Kitching Creek Central Flow Way Restoration

63	Kitching Creek Central Flow Way Wetland Restoration
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Palm Beach County provided updates - 3/24/2015

FDEP provided updates - 3/31/2015

Martin County provided update - 9/22/2015

Lead Agencies	Target Completion Date	Status
MC and FDEP Parks	2020	Not Complete
MC	As available	
All	As available	In Process
All	Annually	
FDEP/SFWMD	2015	Tabled
FDEP/SFWMD/LRECD	2011	Updated 2012
LRMCC	Quarterly meetings and special workshops	Ongoing
LRMCC	2012	
LRMCC	Quarterly meetings and special workshops	Ongoing
LRECD	2015	Ongoing

FDEP Parks	Implementation through 2022	Completed 2012/Scheduled update 2022
SFWMD	2011	
SFWMD	2012	
LRMCC	Quarterly meetings and special workshops	Ongoing
FDEP and PBC and SFWMD	2015	
FDEP/SFWMD/LRMCC	As needed	Ongoing
	As needed	
FDEP/SFWMD/LRMCC	As needed	Ongoing
FDEP/SFWMD/LRMCC	As needed	Ongoing
FDEP/SFWMD/LRMCC	As needed	Ongoing
FDEP/SFWMD/LRMCC	As needed	Ongoing
FDEP/SFWMD/LRMCC/LRECD	Draft PIR Scheduled for 2010	PDT to begin summer 2014

FDEP/SFWMD/LRECD	As needed	Ongoing
FDEP/SFWMD/LRECD/LRMCC/JID	As requested	Ongoing
LRMCC	Bi-Annually	
LRMCC	As needed	
LRMCC	2012	

FDEP/SFWMD/LRECD	2010	Completed 2010
All	As available	Ongoing
All	As needed	Ongoing
SFWMD	2010	Ongoing
SFWMD/FDEP/LRECD	2011	Updated 2012
SFWMD	2015	Updated 2013
SFWMD	To be determined	
SFWMD	As needed	
PBC	2011	Completed
PBC	2015	Ongoing
SFWMD/FDEP/LRECD	Annually	In compliance

SFWMD, FDEP Parks and LRECD	Annually	Ongoing
FDEP/FFWCC/MC/PC/SFWMD	As funds and properties become available	
FDEP/FFWCC/MC/PBC/SFWMD	Various dates	
PBC	2015	2015
PBC	2013	On Hold
SFWMD	2015	

FDEP Parks	2020	Survey complete / completing planning phase / dry season FY2015/2016 is planned for construction
FDEP Parks	2020	Working on a Plan
Martin County	2013	Completed 2013
Martin County/SFWMD	2015	Ongoing
Martin County	2014	Completed 2014
Martin County/SFWMD	2016-17 (funding dependent)	
FDOT/PBC	2017	Under contract, 2-yr construction project
Martin County	2015	Completed

Martin County	2015	Scheduled for completion at end of 2015
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Link	Comments
	<p>JDSP currently manages 5,000 acres of The Atlantic Ridge Preserve State Park and the SFWMD manages 800 acres of the Park. A resolution for a land swap was completed by Martin County to obtain a 2, 200 acre parcel of land to connect the JDSP and SFWMD parcels. This Land Swap Resolution was agreed upon, but never fully executed. For further details, please contact MC. JDSP is listed as a lead agency because it was envisioned that they would manage the land once it was obtained by MC.</p>
	<p>Any land acquisition is done through the State Parks in Tallahassee. JDSP does not know the current status of any future land acquisitions. Currently JDSP is conducting a hydrologic restoration project at the Park, which is being funded by FWC and LRPI.</p>
	Addendum to Restoration Plan
http://www.loxahatcheeriver.org/on_going_projects.php ; http://www.loxahatcheeriver.org/future_projects.php	

http://www.dep.state.fl.us/parks/planning/parkplans/JonathanDickinsonStatePark.pdf	Next update is expected to be in approximately 2022.
	Falls under SFWMD
	Falls under SFWMD
	The JDSP portion of the River is more wide open than other areas managed by the SFWMD farther upstream. However, if there is a snag, or navigational hazard to recreation, the Park will remedy the situation on an "as needed" basis.
http://www.evergladesplan.org/pm/projects/proj_17_lox_river.a	Now titled Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project.

	<p>LRECD is continuously working to improve and update environmental education exhibits at the River Center, on our web page, and at Busch Wildlife Sanctuary. JDSP- Currently developing new programs to engage visitors in the River such as featuring a specific Flora/fauna of the month on display at the Education center and highlighting its importance to the river and watershed. Other programs include Campfire nights that will feature stories of the historic loxahatchee River. Additionally tourists of the Loxahatchee River are given daily at 9am, 11am, 1pm, and 3pm, with a guided tour of Trapper Nelsons. The park continues to enhance its exhibits and tours with new ideas and updates.</p>
<p>https://www.floridastateparks.org/sites/default/files/Division%20of%20Recreation%20and%20Parks/documents/Jonathan%20Dickinson%20FINAL%207-2014-PRESS.pdf</p>	<p>The Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative, including several LRMCC member agencies, held a ceremony on May 15, 2010 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the river's National Wild & Scenic designation. As part of this celebration, LRECD produced a Loxahatchee River Guide pamphlet to serve as a brief guide for people canoeing or kayaking from Riverbend to Jonathan Dickinson State Park. JDSP offers weekly guided kayak trips on the Loxahatchee River. Guides educate guests on the ecology and history of the River. Additionally the Park offers a map of the river and an educational booklet on the park that highlights Trapper Nelson's and the River.</p>

	See attached lists of SFWMD and LRD peer reviewed articles
	Continuously monitored and reported to LRMCC quarterly
	Met MFL 100% of the time in 2013
	Addendum to Restoration Plan
	The LEC Water Supply Plan was updated in 2013
	All permit applications within the Loxahatchee Watershed are flagged for coordination and to ensure consistent application of the RWA rule.
	The public use portion of the property will be done within two months. The hydrologic restoration will be done next year

<p>http://www.loxahatcheeriver.org/reports.php http://waterdata.usgs.gov/fl/nwis/uv?site_no=26590608009350 Q</p>	<p>The LRECD continues to monitor the environmental health of the watershed, and make these data freely available on our web page. Also, these data are routinely presented at LRMCC meetings. Publication list attached. RECOVER CERP continues it's monitoring of oysters in the LRE, a new Valisneria Utilization Study was begun in 2013 and will continue thru 2015. JDSP helps the LRECD collect data on the River. The park also partners with the SFWMD to monitor/collect data on groundwater wells within the park quarterly.</p>
	<p>SFWMD acquired 1,896 acre Mecca Farms property in 2013.</p>
<p>http://www.pbcgov.com/erm/natural/natural-areas/; http://www.pbcgov.com/erm/natural/natural-areas/management-plans.htm</p>	<p>Currently JDSP is conducting a Hydrologic Restoration Project within the park to backfill ditches and restore areas of sheetflow. The next planned project is the Atlantic Ridge Preserve State Park Hydrologic Restoration Project, to be completed on the 5,000 acres of State Parks land. Similar to the JDSP Hydrologic Restoration Project, this one will be backfilling up to 20 miles of ditches and restoring sheetflow to the that area of the park. This project is independent of the land swap land mentioned in No. 3 of this table.</p>
	<p>This project has evolved into wetland restoration with increased storage in the wetlands and should be complete in less than a year.</p>
	<p>The large excavation project is on hold</p>
	<p>Mecca is now owned by the SFWMD. Plan is to create an above-ground impoundment to help with MFL's</p>

	This was completed in 2011 in the Hydrologic Restoration Plan for JDSP.
	See the Comments to No. 51. The goal is to start planning the Atlantic Ridge Preserve State Park Hydrologic Restoration Project in FY2017-2018, with construction completed within 5 years. The Park is hoping to obtain funding and help from FWC because of the vast amount of backfilling that is required on that parcel.
	The next step for this project will be to develop an operations schedule for the control structures. This will allow the County to optimize the timing and quantity of water flowing into Cypress Creek and the Loxahatchee River.
	Although this project helped restore on-site hydrology, the on-site wetlands still drain fairly quickly. Wetlands do hold more water, whereas before it would remain relatively dry during the rainy season, but drain quickly once the rains stop. It is suspected that the problem is the adjacent Cypress Creek Canal where the control elevation of the structures is more than 10 feet lower than on the property.
	Submitted for LRPI FY17 Legislative Appropriations Request
	Included creation of a stormwater lake and installation of water control structures

	Included removal of 18 acres of exotic vegetation from a wetland area and re-planting with 20,000 native plants.
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