



# Draft Backcountry Access Kiosk Panel Layout

### Big Cypress National Preserve

**Oasis Backcountry Access**

25° 51.464'N 81° 1.950'W

Backcountry access into the Preserve provides an opportunity to explore the beauty and solitude of the Big Cypress Swamp. People can access the backcountry by hiking, biking, and off-road vehicle. Everyone accessing the backcountry of the Preserve must fill out a backcountry permit. Permits may be found online, at visitor centers, and at backcountry access points. **All off-road vehicles and their operators must have the appropriate, current permits and registration.** For more information on off-road vehicle permits, visit the Off-Road Vehicle Office, located at the Quicks Visitor Center, or call 239-495-1205.

**Off-Road Vehicle Use in the Preserve**  
Off-road vehicle operation on designated trails for hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, utility, observation, transportation to private property, and the National Scenic Trail is permitted in accordance with the Big Cypress National Preserve Management Plan and the Additional Act, and is restricted to certain areas of the Preserve.

**Hunting**  
Various hunting seasons occur within the Preserve from September through early April. All hunters are responsible for meeting regulations. Visit [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov) for details related to the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area.

**Pets**  
Within the backcountry the possession of dogs and other pets (other than birds kept and released) is prohibited. Landowners may transport pets to private property.

**Trail Lightly and Leave No Trace**  
Respect the rights of all recreational trail users, visitors, and those who wish to enjoy their recreational activities, undisturbed. Do your part by leaving the area better than you found it by properly disposing of waste, avoiding the use of fire, and avoiding the trampling of native species.

**Firearms**  
People who can legally possess firearms under applicable federal, state, and local laws may legally possess firearms in the Preserve. It is the responsibility of the holder to understand and comply with all applicable state, local, and federal laws before entering the Preserve. Firearms may be possessed in certain facilities within the Preserve. These items are not to be left in any vehicle.

**Emergency Contacts**  
All off-road vehicle users must carry a fully charged cell phone with them and should call only on their cell phone. Be sure to let a family member or friend know where you are going and when you are expected to return. Office hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information on backcountry permits, visit [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov) or call 239-495-1205.

**Report hunting violations to - 800-694-FWCC (3922)**

### You Are Here

Access to the backcountry from the Oasis Access Point is allowed by leaving bicycles, all-terrain vehicles, and bicycles along designated off-road vehicle trails. Hiking is allowed on designated trails and cross-country.

The Florida National Scenic Trail is for hiking only.

Dispersed camping is allowed within the Turner River and Com Dance Units. Suitable camping spots may be found along the secondary and primary off-road vehicle trails. There are identified recommended campsites located along the Florida National Scenic Trail.

### Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area

**Dona Drive Check Station**

**Good Hunting, Be Safe**

Hunting within Big Cypress National Preserve and the Wildlife Management Area is a long standing customary activity. Hunters should be familiar with all rules and regulations related to the Wildlife Management Area.

Regulations brochures are available at Wildlife Management Area check stations, Big Cypress National Preserve visitor centers, and online at: [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com).

**For your safety, and the safety of others:**  
All hunters must check in and out at one of the Wildlife Management Area check stations located at Dona Drive, Monroe Station, 40-Mile Bend, or in the Bear Island Area.

### Park or Preserve?

Big Cypress National Preserve does not offer a spectacle different than its neighbor, Everglades National Park. The fact that it is a Preserve allows for a broader spectrum of uses than does a national park. Oil and gas exploration and production, hunting, off-road vehicle access, retention of private property, and the traditional and customary use and occupancy by the Miccosukee and Seminole people are acceptable activities managed within the Preserve.

## 36"x24" Bulletin Case

Panels will be placed at all backcountry access points into the Preserve. The Wildlife Management Area panel will be installed at check station sites only. Panels will be modified as needed for each site.