

looprd@aol.com

05/25/2010 01:59 PM

To pedro\_ramos@nps.gov, Damon\_Doumlele@nps.gov,  
Bob\_DeGross@nps.gov

cc

Subject comments for ORV advisory committee & NPS

To the National Park Service Big Cypress National Preserve May 23, 2010

Subject: Big Cypress Press Release Preserve Seeking Backcountry Volunteers Program

I first thought that this is a harmless program however upon further consideration about it. I have found it to be a flawed program **promoting** NPS interference of our cultural uses. This program may be another violation of the intent of the Preserve legislation. It also highly likely and very possible that this program will be infiltrated by those that wish to destroy our culture.

What system has NPS put in place to screen volunteers to prevent those with Anti-ORV beliefs (e.g. Mathew Swartz, his fellow club members or others like them from the program?

This volunteer program is a federal action.

Have the impacts of this federal action upon all ethnographic communities associated with Big Cypress (e.g. Native Americans, Gladesmen etc.) as specified under the National Historic Preservation Act as amended 2000, Section 110 and Section 106?

Our Gladesmen culture was unknown in 2000 when the ORV plan was signed due to many reasons not the least of which is NPS's lack of professional historic staff. It is known now thus the EIS should be reopened to address cultural issues not addressed because of this major flaw within the EIS.

If this program is implemented without extreme sensitivity to traditional visitor values it will result in a type of visitor conflict of the likes that has never been experienced in the Cypress. Its one thing when a fellow gladesman lets another know he is doing something unacceptable as we have done amongst our selves and gotten straightened out and in one situation I asked Ed Clark for advice how to handle something I brought up to him if we had further problems and your Chief Ranger Ed Clark provided good advice, problem was solved if it had gone further all we had to do was call and he would have sent assistance.

If the NPS wants volunteers out of hunting season to help maintain trails maybe sportsmen groups might volunteer as we have in an abandoned crab trap removals or cleanups but to me I think that this program takes away from our enjoyment.

**I ask that this Big Cypress Press Preserve Backcountry Volunteers Program be scrapped.**

Eric Kimmel 12685 SW 200 ST Miami FL 33177 PH 305-345-4202 email Looprd@aol.com