

**Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal Peoples
Original Caretakers of this Land – Turtle Island**

Statement
Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Committee/National Park Service Meeting
August 30, 2012

Our Ancestors defended their Rights that we hold onto today. So-called Big Cypress National Preserve, New Addition Lands, Everglades National Park and beyond are illegally established on the Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal Peoples' Soil (Land, Territories), Natural Areas and Systems (resources).

The Creator (God) Himself gave us the Rights to live in His Creation. The Creator (God) Himself created the Original Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples into the Land at the beginning of the Creation of Life and the Creator (God) created into the Original Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples the Natural Law at the beginning of the Creation of Life.

It is not our choice - the Creator (God) chose our Way of Life for us, and gave us the Natural Law at the beginning of the Creation of Life. The Creator (God) chose us and recognized us and gave us the responsibility to care for all Creation. We do not live by the recognition of the immigrant newcomer's papers that do not stand for the Future of all Life. We live by the Creator's (God's) Natural Laws given to us at the beginning of the Creation of Life, and we cannot accept other peoples' laws. You cannot enforce your man-made laws on us. That was the agreement between our Nations. If you do, you are breaking your own law, and that makes you criminals.

In the earlier days before you called it Florida, when there were not too many immigrant newcomers in so-called Florida, Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples lived their Way of Life. We hunted, fished, gathered our materials, and camped through out so-called Florida and beyond. Our Ancestors defended their Rights and struggled and died for us. They never gave up the Land or the Rights that we hold onto today. We still continue those Rights living our Way of Life, as we have always done, in our Aboriginal Indigenous Land (Territories) following the Natural Laws given to us by the Creator (God) at the beginning of the Creation of Life.

We keep telling you, Big Cypress National Preserve, National Park Service, ORV Advisory Committee, Fish and Wildlife Commission and Fish and Wildlife Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Water Management Districts, and the Department of Transportation, the things you are doing on Aboriginal Indigenous Soil (Land, Territories) are illegal, and you must accept responsibility for the devastation, destruction and desecration of the Creator's (God's) Creation that has resulted from your so-called management plans, policies and procedures.

The Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal Peoples strongly objects to what you have done illegally on our Soil (Land, Territories) and strongly objects to your ideas of recreational ORV sports hunting and recreational ORV use in the so-called Big Cypress National Preserve-new addition lands, which is, Aboriginal Indigenous Soil (Land-Territories).

So-called managers of so-called Big Cypress National Preserve-new addition lands, and Everglades National Park come and go, and they always bring the new thoughts and new ideas, but the Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal Peoples is still saying the same thing: The Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal Peoples do not want anymore vehicle trails, bicycle trails, or roads on our Aboriginal Indigenous Soil (Land, Territories) or any more permits issued or anymore disturbances of any kind in our Aboriginal Indigenous Land, including air plane tours over our Aboriginal Indigenous Soil (Land, Territories).

You, the immigrant newcomers are disrupting Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples' Way of Life, and our Spiritual Relationship with our Land, our Waters, Trees, Plants, Animals, and all the others necessary for the continuance of our Way of Life.

All the Natural Areas and Natural Systems that the Wildlife needs to survive on have been squeezed down by the encroachment of cities, and over human population resulting in the devastation, destruction and desecration of the Natural Areas, and Natural Systems (resources). That is one of the reasons the Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal Peoples strongly objects to any recreational ORV sports hunting or recreational ORV use in the So-called Big Cypress National Preserve-new addition lands because that is all that is left for the Wildlife to survive on.

What you call the Animals, they have existed since the beginning of the Creation of Life, they are the ones who have the Customary and Traditional Rights to hunt for food, in order to survive and raise their young and their future generations of unborn Life. Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples acknowledge that all Creations should be in Balance as it was in the beginning, and the Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal Peoples still live in Harmony with all Creation.

The recreational ORV sports hunters need to think about Wildlife Survival and the Survival of the Natural Areas and Natural Systems (resources) and learn to walk in and walk out of Natural Areas, and be Respectful of the Creator's (God's) Creation.

The immigrant newcomers need to understand the damage you are making into your life because you are abusing and living outside of the Natural Law the Creator has given us – you are all about to go over the edge of the cliff. You are going to destroy yourselves through your own man-made system of laws that do not respect the human life or the Creator's (God's) Natural Law or respect the Life, and the Future of Life.

During the ORV Advisory Committee Meeting/National Park Service Meeting held on May 15, 2012:

One of the ORV Advisory Committee members said: We do not make the roads.

You are right, you do not make the roads, but as long as you put the wheels on the buggies on Miccosukee Simanolee soil it does make a trail or road, and the person who is driving that vehicle is responsible for creating that trail or road.

We remind you when they first built 41, they called trail, but now it is a big highway. You do not seem to understand what these words mean, but seeing through the eyes of Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples, to us, it is simple. Airboats, swamp buggies or dirt bikes or bicycles do make a trail or road.

You do not have to be a scientist to understand what makes the trail. The difference is, the word "walking" - that means, we call it step - that does not make a trail or road.

Another members of the ORV Advisory Committee said: We are not your enemy.

Seeing through the eyes of Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples, you are up against everything that is Natural, and causing everything that we do not want to see happen in the future, and you are putting yourselves up against the Creator's (God's) Creations. You are not only our enemies, but you are enemies of the Creator (God) and his Creation.

Another member of the ORV Advisory Committee said: "Our people" are self-regulating and "our people" are necessary in that area to clear the trails for the animals, and airboats, otherwise they would not be there and there is no wilderness in Florida.

The words self-regulating are another trick in order to have your way. You are right. There is no wilderness in Florida and beyond. It is a perfect answer what you have said, but not needed. It is just in your mind. It can be a Wilderness if you leave things alone - that is the problem, you cannot leave it alone, and you try to use the so-called law to keep destroying what is left.

And, you said: The law says you have to hunt. To us, the newcomers, the white people and the others enrolled in the system of the U.S., seeing through the eyes of Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples, you do not have to hunt, as you think you do. You can go to the grocery stores. Everything you want, you create, in order to continue destroying the natural areas, and natural systems (resources).

The Natural Wildlife needs the Natural Areas and Natural Systems (resources) to survive and live. They do not need buildings, man-made trails or roads, or off road vehicles. Because, we have seen, through the eyes of Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples, the Natural Life can go anywhere they need to go. They have been going back and forth from generation to generation to generation-to-generation, long before the Europeans and the others came into this Land. They can go anywhere they need to be. They do not need so-called "our people" to put the trails or roads into the Natural Areas. They can go through the woods or the water in areas that we cannot go through. They do not need peoples' trails, people's stop signs, or the signs telling them where to go. The Animals cannot read the peoples' black and white. And the Animals do not need so-called ORV users to tell them where they need to exist or where they need to be or so-called landowners to take care of them.

The Natural Life has existed for thousands, and thousands of years. We are sure if the Natural Life could speak to you they would tell you more than we are telling you because all the Natural Areas and Natural Systems (resources) they rely on are disappearing - the Water, Trees, Bushes, and Natural Water Flow - What is causing this? Digging up the ditches, the canals, and building trails or roads, highways and concrete buildings, telephone lines, electrical lines, digging for oil and gas and so-called tourist attractions and so-called money-making - all killing the Life of Creation. That is why you are enemies towards the Creator's (God's) and the Creator's (God's) Creation. Do not call yourselves Christians.

Another member of the ORV Advisory Committee asked: What is it you want from us? Is it recognition?

We do not need recognition from you. We don't need it. We have been recognized long before you came up with so-called recognition from the system of the U.S. I guess you don't really understand what we have been saying. It has only been a short time, only a little over 500 years since you came onto our Land (Soil, Territories). Maybe that is why you do not understand. Maybe this will help you to understand. We don't really need anything from you. You all are the ones that want something from us, in our Land, illegally. So, that is why we are going to continue coming back.

Another member of the ORV Advisory Committee talked about having Simanolee Pumpkins in his garden.

A lot of things have been removed from us, the Simanolee pumpkins need to come back into our hands, not only that, our burials and belongings have been removed, and our old canoes and old villages and what was left, have been removed. Our belongings need to be returned back into our hands.

Another member of the ORV Advisory Committee Members said: You cannot go back 100 years.

The natures can come back if you leave them alone, and we not going anywhere. We are going to be around because you are in our Living Area.

The Big Cypress National Preserve Enabling Act states that the Preserve as a unit of the National Park System is to be administered in a manner that will insure its Natural and Ecological Integrity in Perpetuity.

The So-called Big Cypress National Preserve is continuously in violation of what was enacted by Congress and was illegally established on the Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal Peoples' Land (Soil, Territories). And, as long as there is no one from the Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal People sitting on the Big Cypress National Preserve's ORV Advisory Committee, the Committee is functioning illegally.

You are refusing to take the Life of the Water, the Wetlands, the Fish, the Animals, the Birds, the Insects, the Trees or the Plants into account and the fact that these Life Systems and Wildlife have "God Given Rights" created into them into them into the Land. You are deepening the hole in the in the heart of the natural world, and it is all going to disappear faster than you think, and you will be going with it.

The Creator's Gift is in us, which is: Our Way of Life, and the Natural Law, and all His Creation, which is: The Air, the Water, the Trees, the Plants, the Animals, the Fish, the Birds, the Reptiles, the Insects, and all the others, and that is the reason we cannot accept other peoples' way of life or their man-made laws.

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples recognizes Indigenous Peoples and the urgent need to Respect and Protect the Inherent Rights of Indigenous Peoples which derive from their politics, economic and social structures and from their cultures, spiritual traditions, histories and philosophies, especially their rights to their Lands, territories and resources and Promotes the Rights of Indigenous Peoples affirmed in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements with States and recognizes that control by Indigenous Peoples over development affecting Them and their Lands and Resources will enable them to maintain and strengthen their institutions, cultures and traditions and to promote their development in accordance with their aspirations and needs.

Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples that follow the Natural Laws created into the Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples by the Creator (God) Himself at the beginning of the Creation of Life were born into and have Rights that go way beyond these words created by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This Declaration is considered a "minimum standard" for non-indigenous people to begin working towards fulfilling their obligation to Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples.

Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples will continue to Defend the Future of Life against your attacks on their Way of Life, and the Natural World: the Sunlight, the Water, the Air, the Land, the Trees, the Birds, the Animals, the Fish, the Insects, and all that is Sacred to us, as our Elders have done since the illegal, aggressive and brutal immigration of the European Americans, and the other immigrants into our Aboriginal Indigenous Land.

The Creator (God) Himself gave us the Rights to live in His Creation. The Creator (God) Himself created the Original Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples into the Land at the beginning of the Creation of Life and the Creator (God) created into the Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples the Natural Law at the beginning of the Creation of Life.

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