| Project Name | Description | ORV Plan Priority/Justification | Estimated Cost | PMIS Number | Potential Funding Source |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Determine ORV Carrying Capacity of Management Units | Establish the number and types of ORVs that can be sustained in the management units without causing resource degradation. | MEDIUM<br>This information needs to be sequenced after the new designated trail system is in place. | 50,000 | 58776 | NRPP –NRM |
| 2. Analysis of Responses to ORV Use by the Florida Panther | Early studies have suggested that ORVs effect the behavior of panthers. Further studies would help determine the accuracy of these findings. | HIGH<br>The Florida panther is a federally listed species under the ESA. | 109,000 | 58876 | NRPP- NRM<br>NRPP- T&E |
| 3. Impacts of Airboat Use on Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow Habitat | Zone 4 of the Stairsteps unit has known CSSS habitat and additional potential habitat. Direct and indirect effects of the use of airboats in this area would be analyzed. | HIGH<br>The CSSS is a federally listed species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). | 300,000 | 58869 | NRPP –NRM |
| 4. Determine the Effects of ORV Use on Surface Flow | Analysis of sheet flow patterns across the Preserve in reference to ORV use. | MEDIUM<br>The use of designated trails that will be maintained lessens the urgency of this information. However, the need to refine understanding of the effects of rutting on hydrologic regime of the Preserve remains. | 50,000 | 58989 | NRPP –NRM<br>WRD Competitive |
| 5. Determine the Effects of ORV Use on Cultural Resources | Analyze the effects of past use of ORVs on cultural resources. | HIGH<br>This information will be used to site trails. | 100,000 | 59258 | CRPP<br>ARPA |
| 6. Inventory and Map Soils | Baseline Information. | HIGH<br>Soils are an integral environmental component of the Preserve's ecosystem. | 50,000 | 60188 | NRPP –NRM |

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| 7. Determination of Soil Impacts and Restoration Techniques Related to ORV Activity | Analyze soil compaction, oxidation and other properties in reference to ORV effects. | HIGH<br>Soils are an integral environmental component of the Preserve's ecosystem. | 50,000 | 69242 | USGS Biological Research<br>NRPP –NRM<br>NRPP – Disturbed Lands |
| 8. Assess Archeological Resources of the Preserve to Determine Effects from ORV Use | Baseline Information | HIGH<br>All cultural resources are of highest priority given the nature of these resources in that they are not recoverable if adversely impacted. | 100,000 | 59245 | CRPP |
| 9. Effects of ORV Use on Vegetative Communities | Analyze the effects of spread of exotic plant species via ORVs and changes in vegetative community composition along ORV trail areas. | MEDIUM<br>The use of designated trails lessens the urgency of this information, however, vegetative community response to ORV use is needed. | 210,000 | 59000 | NRPP –NRM |
| 10. Determine Disturbance to Wildlife from ORV Use | This would include impacts of noise from ORVs on wildlife. | LOW<br>The CSSS and Florida panther are being studied under high priority research projects. Basic inventories of other wildlife species are needed before this study. | 210,000 | 58997 | NRPP –NRM<br>Vanishing Treasures Project |
| 11. Impact Evaluation of ORV Use on Water Quality | Parameters to evaluate include spatially cumulative aspects of turbidity, and re-suspension of nutrients and metals from soil disturbance. | LOW<br>Other habitat components such as soils and vegetation are believed to be more direct indicators of environmental integrity in relation to ORV use. | 50,000 | 58938 | NRPP –NRM |
| 12. Demonstration Projects for Mitigation/Restoration of Impacts From ORV Use | Determine the efficacy of various restoration methodologies and techniques applied to areas that have been impacted by ORV use. | HIGH<br>Need to know the most appropriate means to restore natural resources impacted by ORVs. | 260,000 | 58809 | NRPP –NRM<br>REPAIR/REHAB |

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| 13. Evaluation of Trail Stabilization Techniques | Techniques, methodologies and materials used to harden and maintain trails and access points will be evaluated. | HIGH<br>Need to construct trails with materials appropriate for environmental conditions and use and to continually maintain designated trails. | 200,000 | 58812 | NRPP –NRM |
| 14. Identify and Analyze Cumulative Impacts From Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Use | Evaluation of the impacts of ORV use over time. | HIGH<br>Need to comply with NPS mandate to protect resources in perpetuity. | 400,000 | 3898 | NRPP- NR |
| 15. Improve Topographic Map Resolution | Current available topographic mapping in south Florida is at 5-foot intervals. Because the topographic relief in the Preserve is very minor (<20 feet of variance) this level of detail in minimally useful in defining surface water flows across the Preserve. | HIGH<br>Applications of more refined topographic information include mapping soil rutting, vegetation changes and determination of trail locations to minimize surface water flow impacts. | 210,000 | 3888 | NRPP- NR |
| 16. ORV Specifications and Impacts | Refine current understanding of the type of ORV that minimizes impacts to the Preserve's soils, vegetation and wildlife. | MEDIUM<br>The use of designated trails lessens the urgency of this information. However, future management decisions may factor in vehicle specifications. | 220,000 | 58600 | NRPP - NRM |
| 17. Recreational Use Interactions: Effects on Visitor Experiences | Evaluation of the experiences all visitors have and determination of any use incompatibilities between different user groups. | HIGH<br>Need to respond to numerous public comments regarding user conflicts between ORV and other Preserve visitors. | 300,000 | 59003 | NRPP – NRM<br>RECREATIONAL FEE DEMONSTRATION |
| 18. Rare & Endangered Plant Survey | Baseline Inventory and Mapping | LOW<br>Need to capture changes in dynamic plant communities | 173,000 | 3901 | USGS – Species at Risk |
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| 19. Analysis of ORV Best Management Practices and Their Efficacy | . Evaluate the best management practices that were included in the draft ORV Management Plan. | LOW<br>The management practices adopted in the Final ORV Management Plan will be addressed under other research topics. Evaluating the suggested BMPs in the draft Plan are therefore of lower priority | 500,000 | 58816 | NRPP –NRM |
| 20. Determine the Natural Soundscape of the Preserve | Baseline Information on the "natural quiet" of the Preserve. | LOW<br>Need to compare the noise generated by ORVs to established acceptable levels of noise. | 100,000 | 59004 | NRPP –NRM |
| 21. Update Natural Resources Inventory and Analysis | Baseline Information. | MEDIUM<br>Changes over time can be expected from a dynamic ecosystem such as the Big Cypress Preserve. | 300,000 | 3884 | NRPP - NRM |
| 22. Biological Inventory of Small Mammal Populations – Baseline Information | Baseline Information. | MEDIUM<br>Need to understand dynamics of fauna and habitat needs. | 150,000 | 58962 | NRPP- NRM |
| 23. Biological Inventory of Birds – Baseline Information | Baseline Information | MEDIUM<br>Need to understand dynamics of fauna and habitat needs. | 90,000 | 58992 | NRPP –NRM |
| 24. Biological Inventory of Reptiles/Amphibian Populations – Baseline Information | Baseline Information. | MEDIUM<br>Need to understand dynamics of fauna and habitat needs. | 180,000 | 58950 | NRPP –NRM |
| 25. Biological Inventory of Fishes – Baseline Information | Baseline Information | MEDIUM<br>Need to understand dynamics of fauna and habitat needs. | 120,000 | 58995 | NRPP - NRM |
| 26. Biological Inventory of Invertebrates – Baseline Information | Baseline Information | MEDIUM<br>Need to understand dynamics of fauna and habitat needs. | 180,000 | 58993 | NRPP –NRM |

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| 27. Cultural Landscape Inventory | Baseline Information | HIGH<br>All cultural resources are of highest priority given the nature of these resources in that they are not recoverable if adversely impacted. | 50,000 | 59246 | CRPP – Cultural Landscape Inv. |
| 28. Ethnographic Resources Inventory | Establish baseline information. | HIGH<br>All cultural resources are of highest priority given the nature of these resources in that they are not recoverable if adversely impacted. | 80,000 | 59242 | CRPP |
| 29. Inventory Cemeteries/Sacred Sites | Baseline Information | HIGH<br>All cultural resources are of highest priority given the nature of these resources in that they are not recoverable if adversely impacted. | 75,000 | 59257 | CRPP |
| 30. Determination of How to Apply Aerial Mapping for Monitoring ORV Impacts | Establish a methodology to evaluate trends of ORV use impacts as well as resource recovery. | HIGH<br>To effectively monitor the entire Preserve trail system and resource recovery efforts, aerial techniques will be necessary. | 30,000 could reduce this to 25,000 to meet funding criteria | 58906 | GIS Projects<br>NRPP –NRM<br>REC FEE DEMO<br>REPAIR/REHAB |
| 31. Groundtruth University of Georgia Mapping Data | Verification of the trail database developed from aerial photographs | HIGH<br>Assumptions have been based on the UGA's mapping of trails in the Preserve, therefore there is the need to determine the precision of this information. | 115,000 | 58801 | NRPP –NRM |

Funding Source Codes

NRPP – Natural Resource Preservation Program
REC FEE DEMO – Recreational Fees Demonstration Program
NRM – Natural Resource Management
T&E – Threatened and Endangered Species
WRD – Water Resources Division
CRPP – Cultural Resource Preservation Program
ARPA – Archeological Resource Protection Act
USGS – United States Geological Survey
GIS – Geographic Information Systems