

frank denninger  
<gladesman@gmail.com>

To Damon Doumlele <Damon\_Doumlele@nps.gov>

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cc

Subject Comment to ORVAC members and web site

Having reviewed the ORV trail maps supplied at the June 2010 ORVAC meeting and discussions with attendees and NPS staff, some concerns have arisen.

The main concern is that many folks who recommended trails in Turner River Unit may be disappointed when they find out that trails or large segments of trails they recommended will not be included in the system. They may want answers as to why a particular trail was disqualified from inclusion in the trail system.

Concerned participants in this process have been told by NPS repeatedly that files will be kept by NPS for all trails and these files will contain all pertinent data about each trail.

So far in this ORVAC implementation process maps depicting trails have never had any form of fixed reference to a trail (e.g. trail number).

Due to the above I would recommend the following to be accomplished **prior to the next ORVAC meeting** on August 17, 2010 :

1 All maps from this point on should include a simple reference system for each trail (primary P-1 etc. and secondary S-1 etc.) on a map. These ORV trail numbers should be applied to the original map containing **all** the trails recommended by the public at NPS meetings that the ORVAC sub-committee began their work with, the map forwarded to NPS by the full FACA committee for groundtruthing, and any subsequent maps produced relevant to ORV trails in any area of Big Cypress National Preserve. Once established these trail numbers should not change.

2 Maps with trail reference numbers as recommended here and all of the trail data files should be made available for the public. This could be done via NPS's web site **and/or** by setting aside a small space at headquarters so someone could drop by to review the trail data files and/or maps.

3 An agenda item should be included in the Aug. 17, 2010 meeting agenda to answer trail disqualification questions some may have. This is not intended to open the door for debates just answers to specific questions about specific trails some attendees may have.

4 All of these maps and trail data files should be on public display or available for reference at the August 17, 2010 meeting occurring 11 days after implementation of designated trails in Turner River Unit. After 11 days of designated trail use there will undoubtedly be some attendees with a desire to see it.