

Hunting - Suitability Mapping on CERP Project Lands

In order to quantify the suitability of lands in South Florida for specific recreation purposes, The Corps of Engineers, South Florida Water Management District, and G.E.C., Inc. have conducted a weighted overlay spatial analysis of the region. CERP Project lands were measured for suitability for several types of resource-based recreation.

Modeling lands for hunting suitability focused on key terrestrial species such as deer, turkey, and waterfowl. The Corps of Engineers, South Florida Water Management District, and G.E.C., Inc. have developed criteria for project lands which will aid in selecting locations for hunting as a form of recreation.

The following diagram shows the criteria upon which the suitability map to the left was based, along with the weightings, or importance, of each criterion as a factor in measuring suitability.



Suitability Scoring Breakdown

Each criterion used to develop this suitability map was scored using a scale rating ranging from "unsuitable" to "highly suitable". Ratings were based on factors such as distance, land cover quality, and need. The following key can be used to explain how various factors were rated for this type of recreation.

- HS Highly Suitable
- MS Moderately Suitable
- PS Poorly Suitable
- US Unsuitable

CRITERION: Cover Types Favoring Game Habitat

- HS Cover type highly favors game
- MS Cover type moderately favors game
- PS Cover type has low favorability for game
- US Cover type extremely low favorability for game

CRITERION: Road Accessibility

- HS Over 0.25 mile from a road
- US Within 0.25 mile of a road

CRITERION: Managed Area - Hunting Permitted

- HS Area where hunting is permitted
- US Other areas

CRITERION: SCORP Needs Analysis

- HS Stated Need in SCORP
- US No Stated Need

