

## **CERP Master Recreation Plan Public Outreach Meeting**

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### **Summary of Public Input:**

#### **Existing Conditions:**

- Most boat ramps are OK at best.
- The Krome Ave. and L-31 Canal trail gates are closed.
- Boat ramps along Hwy 75 are model ramps (Broward County side), which should be looked at when designing new areas. The only negative is lack of restrooms.
- There needs to be an inventory for all CERP project areas if it hasn't been done already. This will help in determining what is there and what is needed.

#### **Future Issues:**

- There needs to be access to canals for all kinds of activities, from bird watching to fishing.
- There needs to be closer access to drop-off points with respect to kayaks and canoes.
- Canals and levees should be kept non-motorized.
- More trails are needed due to urban development. The trails might help alleviate congestion associated with the development.
- Trails need to be paved. People are less likely to wander off designated trails when they are paved.
- More ATV trails are needed.
- More boatramps are needed. Currently there is 20-30 miles between ramps.
- Parking for kayaking and canoeing needs to be closer to the access areas.
- L-67C will be good for kayaks and canoes once it is plugged. It will offer 27 miles of paddling north of Tamiami Trail.
- Projects close to developed areas should be limited to non-motorized uses.

#### **Emerging Issues:**

- There would be a large economic impact if access to canals is limited or closed. Florida has the best catch ratio in the country. \$40,000 per mile is spent on fisheries.
- Culverts were put in along Alligator Alley in the 1980s. That created contamination and altered flow characteristics of the canals. The decreased flow eliminated the use of some of the boat ramps. The fluctuating levels need to be considered when designing boat ramps.
- Sloping beaches is the best design for kayak access.

- Non-motorized activities should be given higher consideration because they have less impact on the environment.
- Miami-Dade County has less than 200 miles of paved paths. Urban areas of equal size such as Denver Colorado have a much larger trail system.
- Miami-Dade County Parks and Recreation Department is trying to connect greenways and blueways when possible, and would like to include CERP lands in this plan. They are currently conducting an off-highway feasibility study.

### **Recreation Trends:**

- Motorized and non-motorized recreation should be kept separate by limiting access and controlling the areas and their uses.
- A complete Biscayne Bay to Everglades trail is being planned.
- ATV use needs to be considered. Miami-Dade County has more ATV sales than any other county in Florida.
- The oil economy could possibly cause non-motorized activities to grow. This needs to be considered when planning the uses of an area.

### **General Issues/Other Comments:**

- A question was asked about how and who did the suitability scoring. GEC explained the process and the agencies involved in the determinations.
- What is SCORP? Stands for State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan that all states provide this plan every 5-10 years, and that Florida's SCORP can be accessed on the internet.
- Are all CERP projects included in the MRP?
- Was there any kind of mutual incompatibility index used in the suitability studies? Will the MRP give guidance on mutual incompatibility or will it happen at the PDT (Project Development Team) level?