

APPENDIX A: LETTER FROM FRANK  
DENNINGER



From: no-reply@evergladesplan.org  
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2006 11:11 PM  
To: cerpmrp  
Subject: EvergladesPlan.org - MRP Comment

County: Not Selected

Project: Not Selected

Email: dbryan38@earthlink.net

Comment: To: Mr. Stuart Appelbaum, Chief  
c/o Shauna Allen  
Planning Division  
Attn: Paul Stevenson CESAJ-PD-PN  
Dept. of the Army  
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers  
Box 4970  
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

From: Frank Denninger  
461 E. 40 St.  
Hialeah, FL 33013  
Ph/Fax: 305-836-9281

Date: 10-16-06

Re: Comments regarding Master Recreational Plan for CERP and its 9 Regions

**PREAMBLE:**

Having lived in South Florida on the same street for 58 years and exploring most of the 9 CERP regions in excess of 40 years I consider it my responsibility to assist with this planning process. Feel free to call me regarding any penmanship challenges. These comments will focus on document title deficiency, cultural issues, traditional vehicular access and activities plus historic sites.

**I. Title Deficiency:**

This documents title should be revised to read "Master Traditional Activity and Recreation Plan". This is due to the defective State comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) data not including any mention of vehicles used to support culturally traditional activities within the 9 CERP regions (e.g.,

swamp buggies, airboats, track vehicles, ATV's). This fact was acknowledged\* at 3 out of 3 input MRP meetings I attended 10-2, 3, 4, 2006. Modification of the plan title would promote plan acceptance and remove current perception of governmental bias against these cultural community members or the vehicles that sustain their culture.

## II. Cultural Issues.

The Gladesman Folk Culture (GFC) is or could be imperiled by this plan if full intent of the National Historic Preservation Act as amended through 2000 and Florida Statutes Chapter 266 & 267 are not enthusiastically and fully complied with.

What is the FC you ask? This culture today includes those of us who fish, hunt, frog, etc. and utilize specialized motorized or non-motorized transportation systems to engage in traditional cultural activities and access traditional cultural properties throughout the 9 CERP regions. Today's modern cultural community members have evolved from predecessors like Marshall Jones—owner of Mack's Fishing Camp—located on the bank of the Miami River and his familial forefathers who arrived at this traditional cultural property (top) by ox-cart prior to any highways about a century ago. Studies such as "Swamp Culture" in 2005 by Laura Ogden for Florida Division of Historical Resources, US Army Corps contract #W912EP004-D-0030 Surveyed Cultural Community for Modified Waters/Tamiami Trail project in Miami –Dade County recommended that "a research design focused on documenting the cultural heritage of all of the groups who use this area . . . as well as to assess the Everglades as a whole as a potential traditional Cultural Property (TCP)" Monroe County has passed a formal resolution #301-2006 in recognition and support of our Gladesman Folk Culture on August 16, 2006. Everglades City in Collier County, Florida produced a resolution admonishing NPS at Big Cypress National Preserve to comply with NHRA as amended through 2000 to protect their component of the GFC. GFC is very similar to indigenous culture. Native Americans have tribes—GFC has different vehicles that formerly caused separate groups/tribes to compete with one another for access to lands. Regulatory pressure over the last 30 years have brought these groups together in organizations (e.g. Everglades Coordinating Council) that unite all tribes/groups for mutual support at local, state, and national levels. Colonel Custer caused Indian tribes to unite at Little Big Horn—unjustified regulatory restrictions have united our cultural community members to resist the subversion of our US constitution and destruction of our Gladesman Folk Culture through subtlety installing totalitarian control upon Americans by using the tools produced by the International Environmental agenda currently penetrating every facet of life in America (e.g. Rio Summit, Agenda 21 CERP/Farm Bill Framework Agent).

Examples of cumulative impacts damaging the GFC are:

Year	Place	Acres	Impact
1980's	Fakahatchee Strand	75,000	Closed to our hunters
1980's	Fl. Panther Nat'l Wildlife Refuge	25,000+	Closed to public & GFC
2000	Big Cypress National		

	Preserve	582,000	ORV trails cut 99.995%
1988	Addition Lands/ Big Cypress	128,000	ORV/hunting banned
10/3/96	*CERP/Picayune Restoration	75,000	ORVs/ATVs banned human Access severely curtailed to Provide **Habitat Units so as to "B.S." Congress that the Picayune Restoration will pay the county back \$\$\$ being squandered there.

Since the Picayune debacle of CERP extorting 279+ miles of roads from Collier County inside and outside the Restoration site, subsequent expulsion of traditional ORV supported hunters, failure of state CERP partners to keep contractual promises to Collier County to mitigate taking of their roads for CERP etc. etc. etc. our culture is endangered considering Picayune is the first major CERP project.

So far from our first hand, real time experience, CERP can only heap more bad impact upon the GFC. In fact the "Framework Agreement" of October 3, 1996" that gave land management authority over Florida lands for CERP to USFWS and USCOE in return for \$300,000,000 has already been used to obliterate the GFC. I believe this was accomplished through full "Framework Agreement" (FA) partner cooperation as they lay the groundwork to "B.S." Congress and reek havoc upon S. Florida's long lived Gladesman Folk Culture.

Hopefully this synopsis of our culture will assist the planning team to conduct an ethnographic cultural survey of all 9 CERP regions designed to formally understand the GFC and CERPS eventual impact to it. According to the NHPA, Title I, Section 110(2)g associated costs could be funded by USACOE or billed to Federal licensees or permittees.

### III. Traditional Vehicles and Activities.

All CERP regions have been, are currently and are intended by the Gladesman Folk Culture (GFC) to remain open to the public and utilizable by our specialized vehicles. Those vehicles would include airboats, swamp buggies, go-devils, ATV's (passive at minimum) track vehicles. So Florida's diverse terrain and fluctuating water levels dictate what vehicles is used when and where. Our knowledgeable GFC members should be solicited for input when site specific info will benefit planning. Agencies do not have staff qualified to determine the issues due to diverse use and terrain capabilities of our equipment. Even factory built ATV's undergo customization to operate in specific situations and substrates (e.g., special or dual mufflers, site specific tires and special gearing). Many activities conducted by GFC are totally dependent upon traditional vehicles that have evolved forming the bond of our culture.

Cultural activities include hunting (large and small game and ducks, alligators, and frogs). Hunting deer

in particular requires unfettered access from all directions due to variable wind direction carries sound and scent. Alligator and duck hunting require access to all of the 9 CERP regions wetlands since both and frogs inhabit the same areas.

Fishing is very traditional whether by motorboat or bank fishing. The canals lakes and wetlands are critical to sustaining the GFC for future human generations. This plan should see to it that any CERP caused opportunity loss is mitigated at a rate of 1.5:1 or 2:1 to make up for emotional response GFC community members will be subjected to. CERP impoundments must integrate fishery development into all design and conceptual stages.

Other traditional activities symbiotically related to aforementioned ones are bird watching, wildlife observation, camping, hiking, canoeing, bicycling and botanical study.

All types of the GFC specialized transport vehicles also engage unbreakable symbiotic relationship. This relationship is critical to GFC sustainability.

Although some of our activities are seasonal, consumptive, and regulated, be aware that non-consumptive activities including family day and week-end trips or longer continue year round so as to enjoy the treasures we've known about for the last century such as wildlife observation, exploring, new areas, camping and in large part the comradery of the fantastic folks we meet throughout the 9 CERP regions many of whom we've known for decades.

Newly emerging recreational uses of CERP regions shouldn't conflict to the point of deeming them incompatible with one another. This plan must promote a permanent forum or orientation system for newcomers to these areas of CERP. Newcomers as well as old timers should be brought together routinely by some means to get to know and understand each others needs, desires etc. and to dispel old stereotypes and myths that are not true.

Realistically people other than our GFC community members don't usually flock to the more remote areas of CERP's 9 regions. Many newcomers aren't eager to expose themselves to lethal threats from alligators and disease transmitting mosquitoes or poisonous snakes. Public lands should be open to all of the people without any discrimination against any group (e.g. GFC) as has happened at Picayune Strand Restoration to GFC. Not a good one for CERP's future especially since the Picayune crimes have formed a basis for CERP being defined by many as meaning—

Everybodies  
Recreation  
Plan.

To conclude I will wish the planning team good luck in spite of the Framework Agreement of October 3, 1996, that is a dark, ominous, CERP support vaporizing product of a greed ridden state government and a totalitarian power hungry Federal Department of Interior.

# APPENDIX B: LIST OF GLADESMEN INTERVIEWED

GLADESMEN ETHNOGRAPHIC INTERVIEWEES		
INTERVIEWEE	DATE(S)	INTERVIEW LOCATION
Adams, Franklin	June 12, 2008	Naples, FL (Collier)
Balman, Dave	July 22, 2008	Pinecrest, FL (Monroe)
Barton, Don R.	June 20, 2008	Everglades City, FL (Collier)
Bergeron, Ronnie	June 21, 2008	Weston, FL (Broward)
Brantley, James D.	June 18, 2008	Lake Kissimmee, FL (Osceola)
Cavas, Costas	June 19, 2008	Arcadia, FL (DeSoto)
Denninger, Frank	May 8 & July 25, 2008	Hialeah, FL; Turner River Rd., FL (Dade & Collier)
Dombroski, Mark	June 16, 2008	West Palm Beach, FL (Palm Beach)
Hampton, Charles W.	June 19, 2008	Arcadia, FL (DeSoto)
Hampton, Harold	June 19, 2008	Arcadia, FL (DeSoto)
Hampton, Sheri	June 19, 2008	Arcadia, FL (DeSoto)
Harben, Frank	June 26, 2008	Clewiston, FL (Hendry)
Hauser, Sean	June 19, 2008	Fort Myers, FL (Lee)
Howell, Christine E.	June 26, 2008	Clewiston, FL (Hendry)
Jenkins, Wayne	June 23, 2008	Naples, FL (Collier)
Jones, Marshall	July 24, 2008	Broward County, FL
Jones, Nicole	July 24, 2008	Broward County, FL
Kimmel, Eric	July 22, 2008	Pinecrest, FL (Monroe)
Lucky, Larry	June 25, 2008	Clewiston, FL (Hendry)
Lanier, William	July 26, 2008	Fisheating Creek, FL (Glades)
Maharrey, Byron	June 18, 2008	Lake Kissimmee, FL (Osceola)
Marco, Joel	May 9 & May 12, 2008	Dade County, FL
Nesbitt, Charles	June 26, 2008	Clewiston, FL (Hendry)
Onstad, Donald E.	July 23, 2008	Miami, FL (Dade)
Postell, Wilbur	June 26, 2008	Clewiston, FL (Hendry)
Scharmm, Martha H.	June 20, 2008	Everglades City, FL (Collier)
*Shealy, David	July 25, 2008	Ochopee, FL (Collier)
Shirley, William T.	July 19, 2008	Southwest Ranches, FL (Broward)
Spaulding, Jim	July 25, 2008	Ochopee, FL (Collier)
Switzer, James V.	May 8, 2008	Hialeah, FL (Dade)
Waggoner, Lillian P.	June 24, 2008	Naples, FL (Collier)
Waggoner, Robert A.	June 24, 2008	Naples, FL (Collier)
Wilson, Arthurine	June 25, 2008	Clewiston, FL (Hendry)
Wilson, Butch	July 26, 2008	Fisheating Creek, FL (Glades)
Wright, Bishop Jr.	June 17, 2008	West Palm Beach, FL (Palm Beach)

\*Written Interview

