

Big Cypress National Preserve Visitor Study



**The
Visitor Services
Project**

superintendent's letter goes here

DIRECTIONS

One adult in your group should complete the questionnaire. It should only take a few minutes. When you have completed the questionnaire, please seal it with the sticker provided and drop it in any U.S. mailbox. We appreciate your help.

PRIVACY ACT and PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT statement:

16 U.S.C. 1a-7 authorizes collection of this information. This information will be used by park managers to better serve the public. Response to this request is voluntary. No action may be taken against you for refusing to supply the information requested. Your name is requested for follow-up mailing purposes only. When analysis of the questionnaire is completed, all name and address files will be destroyed. Thus the permanent data will be anonymous. Please do not put your name or that of any member of your group on the questionnaire. Data collected through visitor surveys may be disclosed to the Department of Justice when relevant to litigation or anticipated litigation, or to appropriate Federal, State, local or foreign agencies responsible for investigating or prosecuting a violation of law. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Burden estimate statement:

Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 12 minutes per response. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503; and to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Audits and Accountability Team, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240.

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VISITING BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE

1. Prior to this visit, how did you and your group get information about Big Cypress National Preserve? Please check () **all** that apply.

- RECEIVED NO INFORMATION PRIOR TO VISIT **➡ GO ON TO QUESTION 2**
 STATE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER
 HIGHWAY INFORMATION/SIGNS
 CONVENTION/VISITOR BUREAU OR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 FRIENDS OR RELATIVES
 HOTEL/MOTEL
 OTHER NATIONAL PARK (Please specify: _____)
 OTHER TOURIST ATTRACTION
 TRAVEL GUIDE/TOUR BOOK
 WORLD WIDE WEB SITE
 CONTACTED THE PARK BY PHONE OR MAIL
 NEWSPAPER/MAGAZINE (Please specify: _____)
 SOUTH FLORIDA PARKS NEWSPAPER
 TV/RADIO
 PREVIOUS VISIT(S)
 OTHER (Please specify: _____)

2. How was Big Cypress National Preserve part of your travel plans? Please check () only **one**.

- BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE WAS THE PRIMARY DESTINATION
 BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE WAS ONE OF SEVERAL DESTINATIONS
 BIG CYPRESS NP WAS NOT A PLANNED DESTINATION

3. On this trip, where did you and your group spend the night prior to arriving at Big Cypress National Preserve? Please check () **only** one.

AT MY PLACE OF RESIDENCE
 A FLORIDA STATE PARK
 EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
 EVERGLADES CITY HOTEL/MOTEL
 MIAMI AREA HOTEL/MOTEL
 NAPLES AREA HOTEL/MOTEL
 MARCO ISLAND HOTEL/MOTEL
 OTHER (Please specify: _____)

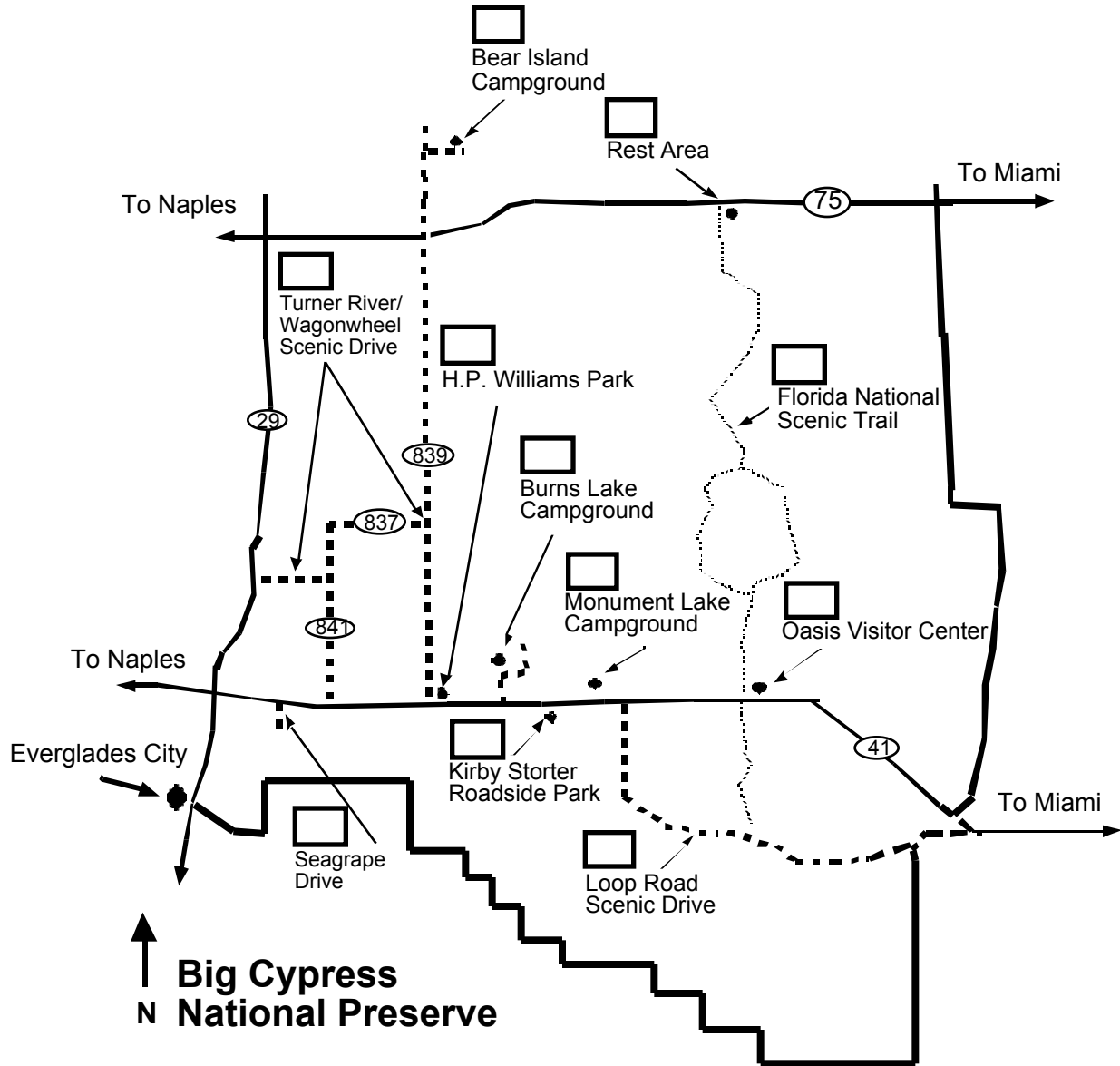
4. On this trip, what other places did you visit in addition to Big Cypress National Preserve? Please check () **all** that apply.

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
 FAKAHATCHEE STRAND STATE PRESERVE
 CORKSCREW SWAMP SANCTUARY
 COLLIER-SEMINOLE STATE PARK
 MICCOSUKEE VILLAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER
 FLORIDA KEYS
 EVERGLADES CITY
 NAPLES
 MIAMI
 FORT LAUDERDALE
 FORT MEYERS
 TAMPA/ST. PETERSBURG
 MARCO ISLAND
 OTHER (Please specify: _____)

PLEASE GO ON TO NEXT PAGE



5. The map below shows many of the sites that make up Big Cypress National Preserve. Please mark the **order** in which you and your group visited these sites **during this visit**. Simply write 1 (for first site visited), 2 (for second site visited), and so forth in the boxes beside the sites on the map. If you did not visit a site, please leave the box blank.



6. a) On this trip, did you and your group use an off-road vehicle (airboat, swamp buggy, ATV, 4X4, etc.)? Please check () **only** one.

_____ YES

_____ NO ➔ **GO ON TO QUESTION 7**



- b) If YES, what type(s) of off-road vehicles did you and your group use?
Please check () **all** that apply.

_____ AIR BOAT (on a commercial tour)

_____ AIR BOAT (privately owned)

_____ SWAMP BUGGY

_____ ATV (all-terrain vehicle)

_____ 4X4 (four-wheel drive truck or jeep)

_____ OTHER (Please describe: _____)

7. a) On the list below, please check () **all** of the activities that you and your group participated in during this trip to Big Cypress National Preserve.

_____ DRIVE ON HIGHWAY 41

_____ SIGHTSEE

_____ VISIT THE VISITOR CENTER

_____ CAMP

_____ VIEW BIRDS

_____ VIEW WILDLIFE (other than birds)

_____ PICNIC

_____ CANOE/BOAT

_____ HIKE

_____ FISH

_____ HUNT

_____ OTHER (Please describe: _____)

PLEASE GO ON TO NEXT PAGE



8. To help managers plan for the future of Big Cypress National Preserve, please rate the importance (from 1 to 5) of the following park features and activities to you and your group during this visit. Circle your answers below.

Feature/Activity	Importance?					
	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Moderately important	Extremely important	Don't know
SCENIC VIEWS	1	2	3	4	5	0
EXPERIENCING WILDERNESS	1	2	3	4	5	0
EXPERIENCING SOLITUDE	1	2	3	4	5	0
CAMPING	1	2	3	4	5	0
BIRDWATCHING	1	2	3	4	5	0
VIEWING WILDLIFE (other than birds)	1	2	3	4	5	0
HUNTING	1	2	3	4	5	0
FISHING	1	2	3	4	5	0
AIR BOATING	1	2	3	4	5	0
OFF-ROAD VEHICLE USE (other than air boating)	1	2	3	4	5	0

9. a) On this trip, did you and your group arrive in Florida on an airplane?
Please check () **only** one.

_____ YES

_____ NO ➔ **GO ON TO QUESTION 10**

- ↓
b) If YES, at which Florida airport did you and your group arrive? Please write in the name of the airport.

10. On this trip, what forms of transportation did you and your group use to arrive at **Big Cypress National Preserve**? Please check () **all** that apply.

_____ PRIVATE VEHICLE

_____ RENTAL CAR

_____ TOUR BUS/ VAN

_____ AIR BOAT

_____ OTHER (Please specify: _____)

11. On this trip, from which direction did you and your group first enter Big Cypress National Preserve? Please check () **only** one.

_____ FROM NAPLES (East on Highway 41)

_____ FROM MIAMI (West on Highway 41)

_____ FROM INTERSTATE 75 (South on Highway 29)

_____ FROM EVERGLADES CITY (North on Highway 29)

_____ TRAVELED ON INTERSTATE 75 **ONLY** (East or West)

_____ OTHER (Please describe: _____)

12. On this trip, how much time did you and your group spend at Big Cypress National Preserve?

If **less** than 24 hours: _____ NUMBER OF HOURS

If 24 hours or **more**: _____ NUMBER OF DAYS

13. On this visit, how many people were in your group, including yourself?

_____ NUMBER OF PEOPLE

14. a) On this visit, were you with a guided tour?

_____ YES _____ NO

- b) On this visit, were you with an educational group?

_____ YES _____ NO

15. On this visit, what kind of group were you with? Please check () **only** one.

_____ ALONE

_____ FAMILY

_____ FRIENDS

_____ FAMILY AND FRIENDS

_____ OTHER (Please describe: _____)

PLEASE GO ON TO NEXT PAGE



16. For you and each member of your group on this visit, please indicate:

	CURRENT AGE	U.S. ZIP CODE OR NAME OF FOREIGN COUNTRY	NUMBER OF VISITS TO BIG CYPRESS NP (INCLUDING THIS VISIT)
YOURSELF	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #2	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #3	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #4	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #5	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #6	_____	_____	_____
MEMBER #7	_____	_____	_____

17. If this was your **first** visit to Big Cypress National Preserve, would you consider visiting Big Cypress National Preserve again?

_____ NOT A FIRST TIME VISITOR ➡ **GO ON TO QUESTION 18**

_____ YES, LIKELY

_____ NO, UNLIKELY

_____ NOT SURE

18. a) Is English the primary language used by you and your group?

_____ YES ➡ **GO ON TO QUESTION 19** _____ NO

↓

b) If NO, please list your primary language: _____

19. As a result of your visit, do you feel you have a better understanding of why Big Cypress National Preserve is nationally significant?

_____ YES _____ NO _____ NOT SURE

20. a) Please check () the visitor facilities and services which you or your group **used** at Big Cypress National Preserve during this visit.
- b) Next, for only those facilities and services which you or your group used, please rate their **importance** from 1-5.
- c) Finally, for only those facilities and services which you or your group used, please rate their **quality** from 1-5.

a) Used facility/service in Big Cypress NP?	b) If used, how important?					c) If used, what quality?				
	Not important		Extremely important			Very poor		Very good		
Check (✓)	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
_____ RESTROOMS										
_____ CAMPGROUNDS										
_____ BOAT LAUNCHES										
_____ VISITOR CENTER										
_____ TRAILS										
_____ ROADS										
_____ KIRBY STORTER BOARDWALK										
_____ PICNIC AREAS										
_____ VISITOR CENTER MOVIE										
_____ VISITOR CENTER EXHIBITS										
_____ CAMPFIRE PROGRAM										
_____ RANGER TALK (other than campfire program)										
_____ WET WALK										
_____ RANGER-LED WALKING TOUR (other than wet walk)										
_____ CANOE TOUR										
_____ BICYCLE TOUR										

PLEASE GO ON TO NEXT PAGE



21. a) In your opinion, were the current number of signs in Big Cypress National Preserve adequate to direct you **within** the preserve?

_____ YES, ADEQUATE ➡ **GO ON TO QUESTION 22**

_____ NO, NOT ADEQUATE



b) If NO, why were the signs not adequate?

22. a) During this visit to Big Cypress National Preserve, was there anything specific which you or your group expected to see or do, but were not able to?

_____ YES _____ NO ➡ **GO ON TO QUESTION 23**



b) If YES, what was it you expected to see or do? _____

c) What kept you from seeing what you expected to see or do?

23. a) Prior to your visit, were you aware that Big Cypress is a national preserve, and **not** a national park?

_____ YES _____ NO _____ NOT SURE

b) Prior to your visit, were you aware that hunting, oil exploration, and off road vehicle use are accepted activities in Big Cypress National Preserve?

_____ YES _____ NO _____ NOT SURE

c) Prior to your visit, were you aware that national preserves, including Big Cypress National Preserve, are managed differently than national parks?

_____ YES _____ NO _____ NOT SURE

24. a) Are you and your group interested in learning about Big Cypress National Preserve's natural and cultural resources?

_____ YES



_____ NO



_____ NOT SURE



GO ON TO QUESTION 25

- b) If YES, on a future visit to Big Cypress National Preserve, what subjects would you be most interested in learning about? Please check () **all** that apply.

_____ NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE

_____ ECOSYSTEMS (plants, animals, etc.)

_____ RESEARCH STUDIES IN THE PRESERVE

_____ WATERSHED RESTORATION/WATER QUALITY

_____ FIRE MANAGEMENT/PRESCRIBED BURNING

_____ WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

_____ OTHER (Please specify: _____)

- c) On a future visit to Big Cypress National Preserve, how would you and your group prefer to learn about the preserve's natural and cultural resources? Please check () **all** that apply.

_____ PRINTED MATERIALS (books, brochures, maps, etc.)

_____ AUDIO-VISUAL PROGRAMS (videos, movies, slide shows, etc.)

_____ RANGER-GUIDED WALKS/TOURS

_____ RANGER-LED EVENING PROGRAMS AT CAMPGROUND

_____ ROVING RANGERS AVAILABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS

_____ VISITOR CENTER PERSONNEL

_____ VISITOR CENTER EXHIBITS

_____ ROADS/TRAILSIDE EXHIBITS

_____ OTHER (Please specify: _____)

PLEASE GO ON TO NEXT PAGE



25. To help managers plan for the future Big Cypress National Preserve, please rate the importance (from 1 to 5) of the following issues to you and your group. Circle your answers below.

Issue Importance?	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Moderately important	Extremely important	Don't know
WATER QUALITY	1	2	3	4	5	0
WILDLIFE HABITAT	1	2	3	4	5	0
ENDANGERED SPECIES	1	2	3	4	5	0
NON-NATIVE PLANTS	1	2	3	4	5	0

26. a) On the scale below, please indicate from 1 to 5 how safe you and your group felt on this visit to Big Cypress National Preserve? Please circle only **one**.

How safe did you feel?

Extremely safe				Extremely unsafe
1	2	3	4	5

b) If you felt unsafe (if you circled 4 or 5), please explain why:

27. a) What did you like **most** about your visit to Big Cypress National Preserve?

b) What did you like **least** about your visit to Big Cypress National Preserve?

28. Overall, how would you rate the quality of the visitor services provided to you and your group at Big Cypress National Preserve during this visit? Please circle only **one**.

VERY GOOD GOOD AVERAGE POOR VERY POOR

29. If you were a manager planning for the future of Big Cypress National Preserve, what would you propose? Please be specific.

30. Is there anything else you and your group would like to tell us about your visit to Big Cypress National Preserve? Please be specific.

Thank you for your help! Please seal the questionnaire with the sticker provided and drop it in any U.S. mailbox.



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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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