



CONSERVATION CHARLOTTE



Environmentally Sensitive Lands Oversight Committee

Conservation Charlotte is a program of Charlotte County Government

Minutes

May 20, 2024

Community Services/Centennial Park
Large Administration Conference Room
1120 Centennial Boulevard
Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Members Present: Jack Pryor - Chair
Dianne Quilty – Vice Chair
Shaun O’Rourke
Derek Miller
Cody Oleckna
Rocco Pennella

Members Absent: None

County Staff: Tina Powell
Jason Thomason
Jamie Scudera
Jamie Boies

Call to Order / Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes:

The draft minutes from May 20, 2024, were approved as submitted.

New Business:

Capital Improvement Projects on Environmentally Sensitive Lands – Ms. Powell discussed capital improvement projects planned for our parks over the next 6 years. This fiscal year’s (2024) projects are a littoral shelf at Oyster creek, a design is in place for Prairie Creek kayak launch. Next year (2025) will have boardwalk repairs for Ann & Chuck Dever and Oyster Creek. For fiscal year 2026 design of replacement boardwalks at Tippecanoe and replacing playground equipment at

Cedar Point. Fiscal year 2027 will have construction on boardwalk replacement at Tippecanoe as well as design for an observation platform at Charlotte Flatwoods. 2028 we will be funding the observation platform construction at Charlotte Flatwoods and design for pavilion/pull barn at Shell Creek.

Staff Reports:

Land Management – Mr. Thompson stated that his group is completing scrub jay observations and preparing for the summer. They have been rehabbing fire breaks and doing exotic treatments at Tippecanoe, Oyster Creek, and an acquired parcel and we are also sending out contracts for bid for additional treatments. June and July staff will be focused on scrubs jays and trail maintenance. Once this is complete, they begin working on their annual FCT reports.

Coastal –

HCP - Ms. Scudera let the group know that acquisitions have slowed down considerably. We were able to close on a property in February 2024 on a five-acre property in Prairie Creek Park. Real Estate Services is sending out letters to property owners around the Biscayne Trust Property area.

Sea Turtles - 95 sea turtle nests so far. 94 logger heads nests, and 1 leatherback on Manasota Key.

Shore birds – least terns 73 nests 18 chicks

Black skimmers – 20 nests 0 chicks

Wilsons Clover – 2 chicks

Kill Deer – 4 chicks

Managers Comments – Explained how HCP acquisitions differ with public access verses nonpublic access.

Advisory Board Open Discussion: Mr. Pryor stated Prairie Creek only has one sign coming down 17 heading south. He also wanted to know if bridges at Amber Jack had been repaired and staff explained that they are FEMA projects, and we are awaiting funding.

Meeting Schedule / Items for Next Agenda:

September 16, 2024

The meeting adjourned at 4:22PM

Submitted by: Jamie Boies
Community Services Department