

**Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service****Land Management Plan Amendment  
to the  
Tate's Hell State Forest Ten-Year Land Management Plan**

May 2021

The Florida Forest Service (FFS) is requesting ARC approval of a Land Management Plan Amendment to the Tate's Hell State Forest (THSF) Ten-Year Land Management Plan (LMP) to expand the Cash Creek Recreation Area. The improvements contemplated in this amendment were approved at the THSF Management Plan Advisory Group public meetings on March 7, 2019 and discussed at the THSF liaison meeting on February 23, 2021. The proposed expansion will improve the forest visitor experience at the Cash Creek Recreation Area. The FFS-managed THSF is an approximately 202,000-acre, multiple-use state forest, located in Franklin and Liberty Counties. The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida (BOT) hold title to the affected portion of the state forest.

The proposed expansion will consist of installing 2,800 feet of underground electric utility within an existing road corridor, an electrical service panel, a water well with pumphouse, a 30' by 40' campground host site, a 30' by 40' bathroom/shower facility with a 20' by 120' septic system, a lime rock access road to the campsites that's a minimum of 12' by approximately 1,100', and 16 primitive campsites (each having parking pad, campfire ring, grill and picnic table). The parking area for each campsite will be 12' by 32' and lime rock will be used for stabilization. Each primitive campsite will be a raised 12' by 24' lime rock pad. Six (6) of the existing primitive campsites will be converted to RV sites. Access will be achieved via connection with existing roads on the forest.

The project will require permits for the well and septic system; the planned well falls under "Regulation of Consumptive Uses of Water" (Chapter 40A-2, F.A.C.) and 'Regulation of Wells' (Chapter 40A-3, F.A.C.) for permitting requirements. FFS will review the intended use of the well with the Franklin County Health Department to determine the appropriate use classification. Once that use classification is determined, FFS will review the intended use and quantity of use with the Northwest Florida Water Management District's (NFWFMD) Water Use Program to determine if a General Water Use Permit or Individual Water Use Permit is required. Prior to construction, the licensed well contractor will obtain a permit to construct the well from the NFWFMD's Well Regulation Program. A permit to construct a septic system will be obtained from the Franklin County Health Department.

The project footprint will occur on a slash pine plantation with typical mesic flatwoods soils. FFS staff and a certified archaeological resource monitor surveyed each proposed site area for threatened or endangered species and possible historical and/or archaeological evidence, and concluded no known archeological sites occur in the project area. FFS additionally consulted with the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI), the Division of Historic Resources (DHR) and the NFWFMD regarding the proposed activities. No known historical or archaeological resources are known to exist within the project footprints. The Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) reported

there are two (2) state listed rare plant occurrences within or close to the footprint of the project area: pineland false sunflower (*Phoebanthus tenuifolius*) and Florida beargrass (*Nolina atopocarpa*). The plans may be slightly modified to avoid harming these plants. Where impacts to state listed plants are unavoidable, every effort will be made to relocate the plant(s) to suitable habitat nearby. Consulting agency (FNAI, DHR, NFWFMD) response letters are included with this request, as are applicable supporting documents.



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Suite 200-C  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
850-224-8207  
fax 850-681-9364  
www.fnai.org

To: Todd Knapp  
From: Dan, Hipes, Director, FNAI  
Date: November, 12, 2020  
RE: Proposed Cash Creek Recreational Area Expansion at Tates Hell State Forest

We have reviewed the materials for the proposed Cash Creek Recreational Area expansion including electric utility, a water well with pumphouse, and campground loop. There are two state listed rare plant occurrences in the FNAI database within (or close to) the footprint of the proposed plan (table below).

Scientific Name	Common Name	GRANK	SRANK	FEDERAL Status	State Status
Phoebanthus tenuifolius	narrow-leaved phoebanthus	G3	S3	N	T
Nolina atopocarpa	Florida beargrass	G3	S3	N	T

The records for these occurrences are from 2003, but given the continued management of the site, these plants are expected to remain. There were many individuals reported for both species, so it is possible that the bulk of the population falls outside of the plan. The mapped locations for the plants are provided below. We recommend a site visit by the FFS Ecologist or other person with botanical knowledge to assess the potential impact on the populations at the site. We recommend continued use of prescribed fire in the vicinity of the campground to maintain the flatwoods and these plant populations.

Thank you for the review request.



Florida Resources  
and Environmental  
Analysis Center

Institute of Science  
and Public Affairs

The Florida State University





Mr. Todd Knapp  
Florida Forest Service  
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
3125 Conner Boulevard  
Suite I-266, Mail Stop C-25  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1650

December 8, 2020

RE: DHR Project File No.: 2020-7113  
Project: Improve Existing Cash Creek Recreation Area  
Tate's Hell State Forest, Franklin County

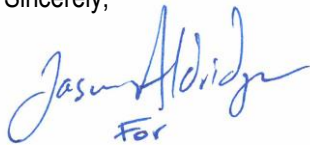
Dear Mr. Knapp:

Our office reviewed the referenced projects in accordance with Chapter 267, Florida Statutes, and implementing state regulations, for possible effects on historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), or otherwise of historical, architectural or archaeological value.

It is the opinion of this agency that ground disturbing activities be monitored by someone who has completed our Archaeological Resource Management (ARM) training program. Once a project is complete, the monitor should submit the appropriate monitoring forms to this agency. In the event that unmarked human remains are encountered during permitted activities, all work shall stop immediately and the proper authorities notified in accordance with Section 872.05, Florida Statutes.

For any questions concerning our comments, please contact Robin Jackson, Historic Preservationist, Compliance and Review, by electronic mail at [robin.jackson@dos.myflorida.com](mailto:robin.jackson@dos.myflorida.com), or at 850.245.6496, or 800.847.7278.

Sincerely,



Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D.  
Director, Division of Historical Resources and  
State Historic Preservation Officer

November 18, 2020

Mr. Todd Knapp  
State Lands Supervisor, Florida Forest Service  
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
3125 Conner Boulevard, Suite I-266, Mail Stop C-25  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1650

Dear Mr. Knapp:

District staff have reviewed the Florida Forest Service's ground disturbance project description for enhancements and improvements to the Cash Creek Recreation Area in Tate's Hell State Forest, Franklin County. No regionally significant water resource impacts were identified based on the information provided. The project, however, is subject to permitting under the District's well construction, water use, and environmental resource permitting rules.

The proposed well will fall under water use (Chapter 40A-2, F.A.C.) and well construction permitting (Chapter 40A-3, F.A.C.) requirements. Forestry Service should review the intended use of the well with the County Health Department to determine the appropriate use classification. Once the use classification has been determined, Forestry Services will need to review the intended use, and quantity of use, with the District's Water Use Program to determine if the use qualifies under a General Water Use Permit or will require an Individual Water Use Permit (see <https://nwfwater.com/Permits/Water-Use-Permits>); the District recommends a pre-application meeting prior to submitting any application for water use permit. Upon approval of the water use permit, the Forestry Service's licensed water well contractor may make application to the District's Well Regulation Program for a permit to construct the proposed well.

Based on the submitted information, the project appears to meet the exemption criteria for Environmental Resource Permitting as established in Chapter 62-330.051, Florida Administrative Code (utilities). For exemption verifications, the following information can be submitted via our e-permitting portal along with a \$100.00 processing fee. In accordance with section 62-330.050, F.A.C., such request must include:

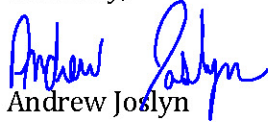
- (a) The processing fee prescribed in rule 62-330.071, F.A.C.;
- (b) A location map(s) of sufficient detail to allow someone who is unfamiliar with the area to locate the site of the activity;
- (c) Drawings, calculations, and other supporting information to clearly depict and describe the proposed activities;
- (d) The tax parcel identification number from the local government tax rolls;
- (e) Contact information for the person requesting the verification; and,
- (f) Authorization signed by the property owner allowing Agency staff to inspect the location of the proposed activities.

The District's permitting portal may be accessed here: <https://permitting.sjrwmd.com/nwep/#/ep>.

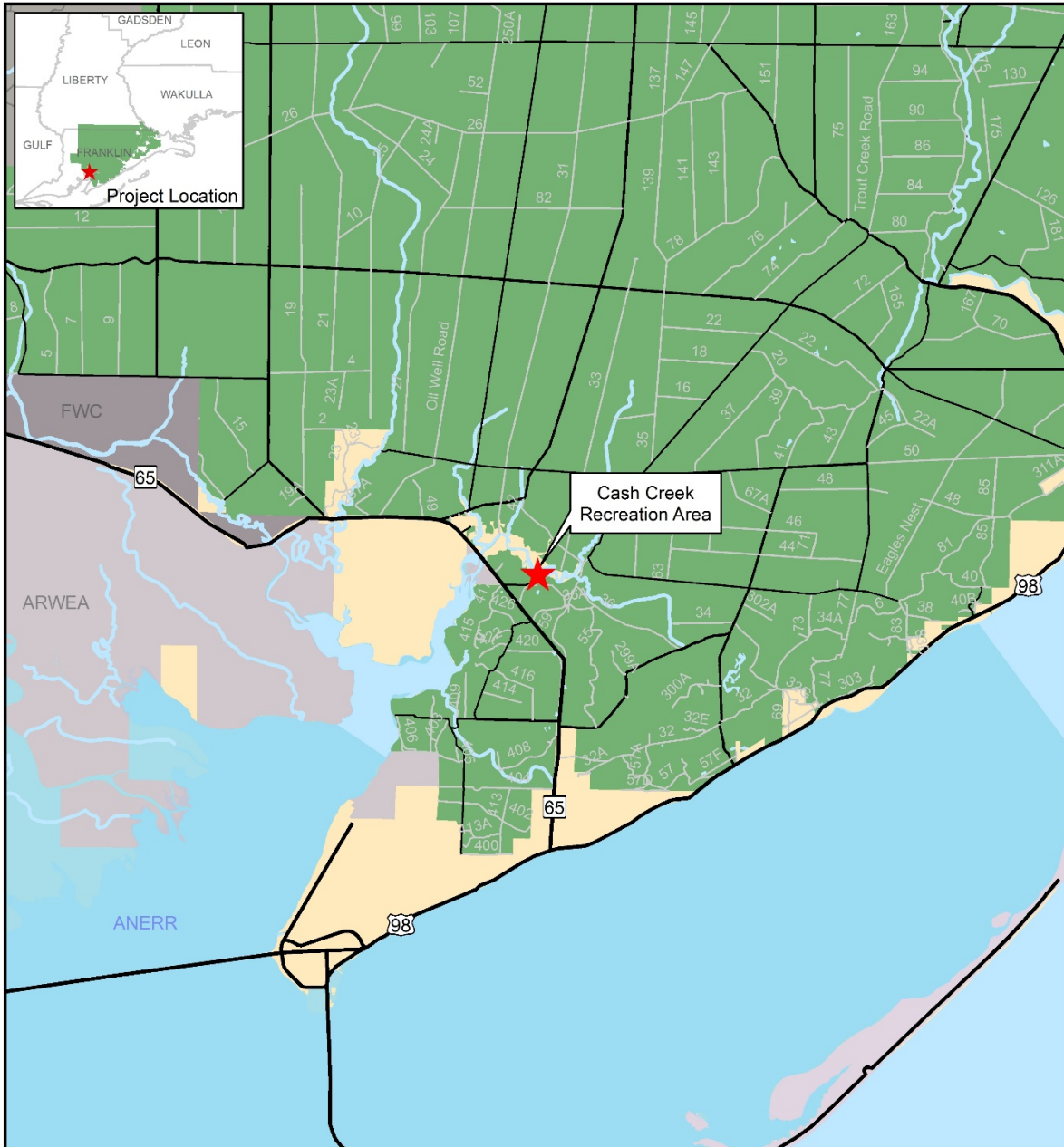
Please note that other regulatory requirements established by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Health, and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposed action. Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Andrew Joslyn  
Director, Regulatory Services Division



0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
 Florida Forest Service - Tate's Hell State Forest  
 High Bluff Tract - Cash Creek Recreation Area  
 Proposed Primitive Campsite Additions  
 Section 34 of Township 7S, Range 6W  
 1:125,000 Scale

DISCLAIMER: This map is the product of Florida Forest Service.  
 There are no warranties made as to the fitness of this map for any listed purpose.  
 Furthermore, no warranties are provided for the data therein, its use, or its interpretation.

Map Created: Feb 21 2018



Tate's Hell State Forest





0 250 500 1,000 Feet

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
 Florida Forest Service - Tate's Hell State Forest  
 High Bluff Tract - Cash Creek Recreation Area  
 Proposed Power Line Addition  
 Section 33 & 34 of Township 7S, Range 6W  
 Section 4 of Township 8S, Range 6W  
 1:4,400 Scale

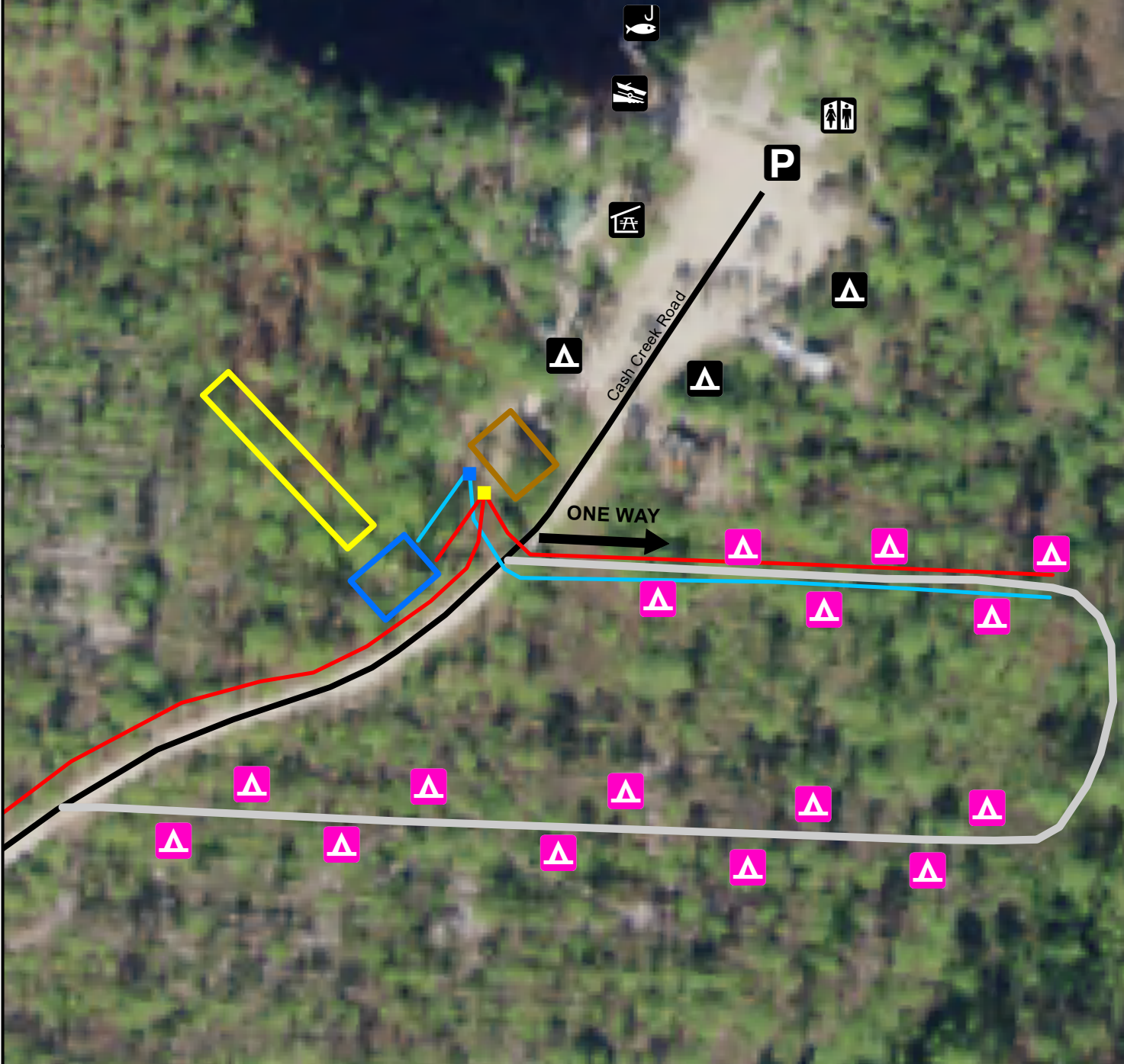
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Map Created: 09.11.2020 BPM



	Proposed Campsites		Existing Campsites
	Proposed Utility Service Panel		Existing Boat Ramp
	Proposed Well		Existing Dock
	Proposed Power Line		Existing Pavilion
	Proposed Water Line		Existing Restroom
	Proposed Campsite Access Road		Existing Parking
	Proposed Septic System 20'x120'		
	Proposed Bathhouse 30'x40'		
	Proposed Campground Host Pad 30'x40'		





0 75 150 300 Feet

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
 Florida Forest Service - Tate's Hell State Forest  
 High Bluff Tract - Cash Creek Recreation Area  
 Proposed Campground Loop Addition  
 Section 33 & 34 of Township 7S, Range 6W  
 1:1,000 Scale

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	Proposed Campground Host Pad 30'x40'		





**Location of Campground Host Pad, Well and Utility Service Panel**



**Location of Campsite Access Road (Entrance)**





**Location of Campsites along Access Road (North)**



**Location of Campsites along Access Road (South)**





**Location of Underground Powerline along Cash Creek Road**