

1. World Heritage Property Data

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Everglades National Park

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

United States of America Europe and North AmericanaturalMarine & coastal7619791993-2007,2010

Statement of Significance

Everglades National Park is the largest designated sub-tropical wilderness reserve on the North American continent. Its juncture at the interface of temperate and sub-tropical America, fresh and brackish water, shallow bays and deeper coastal waters creates a complex of habitats supporting a high diversity of flora and fauna. It contains the largest mangrove ecosystem in the Western Hemisphere, the largest continuous stand of sawgrass prairie and the most significant breeding ground for wading birds in North America.


1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates (longitude / latitude)	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Everglades National Park	25.554 / -80.996	567017	0	567017	1979
Total (ha)		567017	0	567017	

Criteria

(viii) The Everglades is a vast, nearly flat, seabed that was submerged at the end of the last Ice Age. Its limestone substrate is one of the most active areas of modern carbonate sedimentation.

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Everglades National Park	01/03/2006	

(ix) The Everglades contains vast subtropical wetlands and coastal/marine ecosystems including freshwater marshes, tropical hardwood hammocks, pine rocklands, extensive mangrove forests, saltwater marshes, and seagrass ecosystems important to commercial and recreational fisheries. Complex biological processes range from basic algal associations through progressively higher species and ultimately to primary predators such as the alligator, crocodile, and Florida panther; the food chain is superbly evident and unbroken. The mixture of subtropical and temperate wildlife species is found nowhere else in the United States.

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

- Jonathan Putnam
US National Park Service Office of International Affairs
World Heritage Program Officer

(x) Everglades National Park is a noteworthy example of viable biological processes. The exceptional variety of its water habitats has made it a sanctuary for a large number of birds and reptiles and it provides refuge for over 20 rare, endangered, and threatened species. These include the Florida panther, snail kite, alligator, crocodile, and manatee. It provides important foraging and breeding habitat for more than 400 species of birds, includes the most significant breeding grounds for wading birds in North America and is a major corridor for migration.

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Dan Kimball
Everglades National Park
Superintendent

2.2 - The criteria (2005 revised version) under which the property was inscribed

(viii)(ix)(x)

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

- [Everglades National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\)](http://www.nps.gov/ever/index.htm)
- ["Everglades National Park / World Heritage Site, Two Anniversaries", World Heritage Newsletter No. 12 \(October 1996\).](#)
- [Virtual Florida Everglades Project \(Digitalo Studios\)](#)
- [Everglades National Park \(U.S. World Heritage\)](#)
- [Natural site datasheet from WCMC](#)
- [World Heritage in the United States](#)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

Criterion viii: water volume and spatial distribution of delivery, timing and spatial distribution of surface water depths, water quality Criterion ix: freshwater ridge, slough, and marl prairies (fish and aquatic invertebrates, periphyton), coastal and estuarine environment (salinity patterns, algal blooms, estuarine fish and invertebrates), Criterion x : American alligator, American crocodile, suite of Everglades wading birds, wood stork, Cape Sable seaside sparrow, Everglades snail kite

Comment

Please remove the current list of links and include these: 1. <http://www.nps.gov/ever/index.htm> 2. <http://www.nps.gov/oia/topics/worldheritage/worldheritage.htm>

1.8 - Other designations / Conventions under which the property is protected (if applicable)

Comment

Florida State designation as Outstanding Florida Water and Outstanding National Resource Water United States: Established Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness in Everglades National Park in 1978 (under the Wilderness Act of 1964) International: UNESCO International Biosphere Reserve, designated in 1976 International: RAMSAR Wetland of International Importance, designated in 1987

2.4 - If needed, please provide details of why the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should be revised

2.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

	Name	Impact				Origin	
3.1	Buildings and Development						
3.1.1	Housing						
3.1.2	Commercial development						
3.1.3	Industrial areas						
3.1.5	Interpretative and visitation facilities						
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure						
3.2.1	Ground transport infrastructure						
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure						
3.3	Services Infrastructures						
3.3.1	Water infrastructure						
3.3.2	Renewable energy facilities						
3.3.3	Non-renewable energy facilities						
3.3.4	Localised utilities						
3.3.5	Major linear utilities						
3.4	Pollution						
3.4.1	Pollution of marine waters						
3.4.2	Ground water pollution						
3.4.3	Surface water pollution						
3.4.4	Air pollution						
3.5	Biological resource use/modification						
3.5.1	Fishing/collecting aquatic resources						
3.5.4	Livestock farming / grazing of domesticated animals						
3.5.5	Crop production						
3.6	Physical resource extraction						
3.6.2	Quarrying						
3.6.3	Oil and gas						
3.6.4	Water (extraction)						
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric						
3.7.3	Temperature						
3.7.5	Dust						
3.7.6	Water (rain/water table)						
3.7.7	Pests						
3.7.8	Micro-organisms						
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage						
3.8.1	Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses						
3.8.2	Society's valuing of heritage						
3.8.4	Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system						
3.8.5	Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community						
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation						
3.9	Other human activities						
3.9.1	Illegal activities						
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events						
3.10.1	Storms						

	Name	Impact				Origin	
3.10.2	Flooding						
3.10.3	Drought						
3.10.5	Changes to oceanic waters						
3.10.6	Temperature change						
3.10.7	Other climate change impacts						
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events						
3.11.5	Erosion and siltation/ deposition						
3.11.6	Fire (wildfires)						
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species						
3.12.1	Translocated species						
3.12.2	Invasive/alien terrestrial species						
3.12.3	Invasive / alien freshwater species						
3.12.4	Invasive / alien marine species						
3.12.5	Hyper-abundant species						
3.13	Management and institutional factors						
3.13.1	Low impact research / monitoring activities						
3.13.2	High impact research / monitoring activities						
3.13.3	Management activities						
Legend	Current	Potential	Negative	Positive	Inside	Outside	

3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

	Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend	
3.1	Buildings and Development					
3.1.1	Housing	extensive	on-going	significant	low capacity	decreasing
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure					
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure	extensive	on-going	significant	low capacity	static
3.3	Services Infrastructures					
3.3.1	Water infrastructure	extensive	frequent	significant	medium capacity	static
3.3.3	Non-renewable energy facilities	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	increasing
3.3.4	Localised utilities	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	increasing
3.4	Pollution					
3.4.2	Ground water pollution	extensive	on-going	significant	medium capacity	static
3.4.3	Surface water pollution	extensive	on-going	significant	medium capacity	static
3.4.4	Air pollution	widespread	on-going	significant	low capacity	static
3.5	Biological resource use/modification					
3.5.1	Fishing/collecting aquatic resources	extensive	intermittent or sporadic	significant	medium capacity	static
3.5.4	Livestock farming / grazing of domesticated animals	localised	on-going	significant	medium capacity	static
3.5.5	Crop production	extensive	on-going	significant	medium capacity	static
3.6	Physical resource extraction					
3.6.2	Quarrying	localised	on-going	significant	medium capacity	static
3.6.4	Water (extraction)	localised	on-going	significant	medium capacity	decreasing
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric					
3.7.3	Temperature	widespread	on-going	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.7.5	Dust	widespread	on-going	significant	low capacity	static
3.7.6	Water (rain/water table)	widespread	on-going	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.7.7	Pests	widespread	on-going	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.7.8	Micro-organisms	extensive	on-going	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage					
3.8.2	Society's valuing of heritage	extensive	intermittent or sporadic	significant	low capacity	static

		Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend
3.8.4	Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system	widespread	on-going	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.8.5	Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community	extensive	on-going	significant	low capacity	static
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	localised	on-going	significant	high capacity	static
3.9	Other human activities					
3.9.1	Illegal activities	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	low capacity	static
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events					
3.10.1	Storms	widespread	on-going	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.10.2	Flooding	extensive	intermittent or sporadic	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.10.5	Changes to oceanic waters	widespread	on-going	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.10.6	Temperature change	widespread	on-going	significant	no capacity and / or resources	increasing
3.10.7	Other climate change impacts	widespread	on-going	significant	no capacity and / or resources	increasing
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events					
3.11.5	Erosion and siltation/ deposition	localised	on-going	catastrophic	medium capacity	increasing
3.11.6	Fire (wildfires)	widespread	on-going	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species					
3.12.1	Translocated species	widespread	on-going	significant	medium capacity	increasing
3.12.2	Invasive/alien terrestrial species	widespread	on-going	significant	medium capacity	increasing
3.12.3	Invasive / alien freshwater species	widespread	on-going	significant	medium capacity	increasing
3.12.4	Invasive / alien marine species	extensive	on-going	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.12.5	Hyper-abundant species	extensive	on-going	significant	medium capacity	static
3.13	Management and institutional factors					
3.13.2	High impact research / monitoring activities	localised	frequent	minor	medium capacity	decreasing

3.17. Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to factors affecting the property

3.17.1 - Comments

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is **no buffer zone**, and it is not needed

4.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List

4.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.5 - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List

4.1.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

External forces pose key threats (water management structures and operations, invasive exotic species, climate change) to the park. Though no officially recognized buffer zone exists around Everglades National Park, our work with external partners (local, state, and federal partners) is crucial to successful management and restoration of the Greater Everglades and Everglades National Park.

4.2. Protective Measures

4.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and / or traditional)

The property is protected by the following laws and legal provisions:

- Act of 1916 creating the National Park Service
- Act of 1934 authorizing establishment of ENP
- Wilderness Act of 1964
- Endangered Species Act of 1967
- Clean Water Act of 1972
- 1980 Amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act (World Heritage)

- Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1974
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990
- ENP Protection and Expansion Act of 1989
- Miccosukee Reserved Area Act of 1998
- General and park specific sections outlined in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations

4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

An **adequate** legal framework exists for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone, but **there are some deficiencies in its implementation** which undermine the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the property

4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) be enforced?

There is **acceptable** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property but some deficiencies remain

4.2.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to protective measures

While there is an adequate legal framework in place for the area surrounding Everglades National Park and acceptable enforcement of laws and regulations, there are deficiencies in the area of exotic invasives management regulation and enforcement. The park is working with local, state, and federal partners to improve this situation.

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

Administration and management for ENP is provided under the authority and direction of the Superintendent, who reports to a Regional Director, who in turn reports to the Director of the United States National Park Service. The Superintendent directs a staff of about 230 permanent employees.

A total of 610,497 hectares are authorized within the park. This includes 44,354 hectares in the East Everglades expansion area, of which all but approximately 121 hectares have been acquired by the Federal Government. Authorized and acquired park lands are managed by the National Park Service through

the Superintendent, ENP. The World Heritage Property does not include the 44,354 hectares addition. The World Heritage Property total size is therefore 566,143 hectares. The Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida manages affairs within a 267 hectares tract in the park's northern boundary. There is formalized coordination among Federal, State, local, and Tribal governments in efforts at ecosystem restoration and management through the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force and Working Group. The park administration is an active participant in all such efforts. This does not change the legal regime or responsibilities for the park's management and operations, but supports park interests within regional restoration goals. The park's management regime remains essentially the same as at the time of inscription in 1979. The 1989 Park Protection and Expansion Act authorized the addition of 44,354 hectares in the northeastern corner of the park. This expansion was authorized to allow for restored water flows and levels entering the park through the Shark River Slough. All but approximately 121 hectares have been acquired by the Federal Government and are managed and protected as part of the park. This area has not been added to the World Heritage Property to date. The 1998 Miccosukee Reserved Area Act designated 267 hectares within the park for administrative, residential, educational, and cultural uses by the Miccosukee Tribe of 11 Indians of Florida. This legislation replaced the previous arrangement by which activities associated with Tribal occupancy and use of the area were overseen by the park administration. The new law provides for Tribal administration of the land and its planning and development without required oversight by the park administration. The Reserved Area, however, remains a part of ENP and is within the boundary of the World Heritage property. The current "Master Plan" for the park was prepared in 1979. It reaffirmed the park's then current configurations of development areas for visitor services and continued the commitment to limit development to those areas. The Master Plan was the first to firmly place the park in the context of its regional ecosystem setting, and addressed adjacent land and water use issues that affect the park's integrity. It called for a proactive park participation in local and regional planning issues to enhance protection of park resources. The preparation of a new General Management Plan for the park was begun in 2002 as required by law. This process was intended to take four or five-year. However, final General Management Plan is expected in spring 2011 (a total of nine years). The plan is intended to address a new range of internal park issues and regional ecosystem challenges facing the park. A round of public involvement and "scoping" meetings was held in January 2003. The mission was informed that the results have been incorporated into more detailed management prescriptions and park zoning ideas and that major areas of concern include boating, access, facilities, partnering, ecosystem restoration, and education/interpretation.

WHC Note (July 2012):

If the mentioned General Management Plan to be finished in 2011 is in force, please submit an electronic version to WHC. The submission (CD-Rom or web-link) should be accompanied by a cover letter to DIR/WHC.

Comment

The new General Management Plan (GMP) is not yet final. The latest draft of the plan was presented for public comment this spring (2013) and revisions to the plan are underway. The plan is now expected to be completed in 2014.

4.3.2 - Management Documents

Comment

The Draft GMP provides broad guidance and describes desired conditions to be achieved and maintained over time regarding natural and cultural resource protection, appropriate types and levels of visitor activities, and facility development. <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/showFile.cfm?projectId=11170&docType=public&MIMEType=application%252Fpdf&filename=EVER%5FDraftGMP%5FWildernessStudy%5FEIS%2822FEB2013%29%2Epdf&clientFilename=EVER%5FDraftGMP%5FWildernessStudy%5FEIS%2822FEB2013%29%2Epdf>

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional / provincial / state; local / municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is **excellent coordination** between all bodies / levels involved in the management of the property

4.3.4 - Is the management system / plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value ?

The management system/plan is only **partially adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is **only partially** being implemented

4.3.6 - Is there an annual work / action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work / action plan exists and **many activities** are being implemented

4.3.7 - Please rate the cooperation / relationship with World Heritage property managers / coordinators / staff of the following

Local communities / residents	Fair
Local / Municipal authorities	Good
Indigenous peoples	Fair
Landowners	Fair
Visitors	Good
Researchers	Good
Tourism industry	Good
Industry	Fair

4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Local communities **directly contribute** to some decisions relating to management

4.3.9 - If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Indigenous peoples directly contribute to **some decisions** relating to management but their involvement could be improved

4.3.10 - Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area

surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?

There is contact but only **some cooperation** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone

4.3.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

The park management system/plan was identified as only partially adequate and only partially being implemented because the General Management Plan is still in draft form. The GMP is expected to be finalized in 2014. However, even with the final GMP in place, full implementation of the plan will rely on availability of funding.

4.3.12 - Please report any significant changes in the legal status and / or contractual / traditional protective measures and management arrangements for the World Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report

4.4. Financial and Human Resources

4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (relative percentage of the funding sources)

Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc)	
International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	
Governmental (National / Federal)	96%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	1%
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	1%
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	1%
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	1%
Other grants	

4.4.2 - International Assistance received from the World Heritage Fund (USD)

Comment

Not Applicable

4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available budget is **inadequate** for basic management needs and presents a serious constraint to the capacity to manage

4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

The existing sources of funding **are secure** in the medium-term and planning is underway to secure funding in the long-term

4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

There is a **major flow** of economic benefits to local communities from activities in and around the World Heritage property

4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

There are **adequate** equipment and facilities

4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

There is **basic** maintenance of equipment and facilities

4.4.8 - Comments, conclusion, and / or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

Federal and Florida State funding of Everglades Restoration projects is oriented toward water projects outside of Everglades National Park borders and supports restoration of the entire ecosystem. ENP is a major environmental beneficiary of these water projects. Though Park-specific funding is relatively secure, the park faces a backlog of maintenance projects, and is searching for new funding sources to address new and emerging threats such as invasive exotic species and climate change.

4.4.9 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Full-time	100%
Part-time	0%

4.4.10 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Permanent	75%
Seasonal	25%

4.4.11 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Paid	60%
Volunteer	40%

4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

A range of human resources exist, but these are **below optimum** to manage the World Heritage Property.

4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Fair
Promotion	Fair
Community outreach	Fair
Interpretation	Fair
Education	Fair
Visitor management	Fair
Conservation	Fair
Administration	Fair
Risk preparedness	Fair
Tourism	Fair
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Fair

4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Low
Promotion	Low

Community outreach	Low
Interpretation	Low
Education	Low
Visitor management	Low
Conservation	Low
Administration	Low
Risk preparedness	Low
Tourism	Low
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Low

4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

A capacity development plan or programme is **in place and fully implemented**; all technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally, who are assuming leadership in management

4.4.16 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

There has been a 10% reduction in personnel (unfilled vacancies) that has resulted from budget cuts over the last few years.

4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient** for most key areas **but there are gaps**

4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme of research**, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared widely** with the local, national and international audiences

4.5.4 - Please provide details (i.e. authors, title, and web link) of papers published about the World Heritage property since the last Periodic Report

National Academy of Sciences. Progress Toward Restoring the Everglades. First Biennial Review - 2006.
http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=11754&page=1
 Second Biennial - 2008.
http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=12469&page=1
 Third Biennial - 2010.
http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=12988&page=1
 Fourth Biennial - 2012.
http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=13422&page=1

4.5.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

Knowledge of the resource and processes is excellent however gaps do exist, for example in the areas of management of invasive exotic plant and animal species and in the area of climate change science, mitigation, and adaptation.

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In **many locations and easily visible** to visitors

4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

Local communities / residents	Poor
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Average
Local Indigenous peoples	Poor
Local landowners	Poor
Visitors	Average
Tourism industry	Average
Local businesses and industries	Poor

4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

There is a **planned and effective** education and awareness programme that contributes to the protection of the World Heritage property

4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

World Heritage status has influenced education, information and awareness building activities, **but it could be improved**

4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

There is **excellent presentation and interpretation** of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property

4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property

Visitor centre	Excellent
Site museum	Poor
Information booths	Adequate
Guided tours	Excellent
Trails / routes	Adequate
Information materials	Adequate
Transportation facilities	Poor

Other	8 -
	array
	1 4
	2 2
	3 3
	4 4
	5 3
	6 3
	7 2
	array
	1 Rating on a 4 point scale on adequacy
	2 Not needed
	3 Not provided but needed
	4 Poor
	5 Adequate
6 Excellent	

4.6.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

4.7. Visitor Management

4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

Last year	Minor Increase
Two years ago	Minor Increase
Three years ago	Minor Increase
Four years ago	Minor Increase
Five years ago	Decreasing

4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

Entry tickets and registries
Visitor surveys

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

This information is captured in annual Superintendent's Compendia and is governed by the General Management Plan. A Long-Range Interpretive Plan for Everglades National Park is also under development (Draft 2009) to support visitor management.

4.7.4 - Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is managed but **improvements could be made**

4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

There is **limited co-operation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation

4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

The fee is collected and makes a **substantial contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

4.7.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to visitor use of the World Heritage property

Eighty percent of fees collected contribute to the management of the park.

4.8. Monitoring

4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme** of monitoring, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used to monitor how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is sufficient and key indicators have been defined but **monitoring the status of indicators could be improved**

4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

World Heritage managers / coordinators and staff	Excellent
Local / Municipal authorities	Excellent
Local communities	Average
Researchers	Excellent
NGOs	Excellent
Industry	Average
Local indigenous peoples	Average

4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

Implementation is **underway**

4.8.5 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee

Everglades National Park has been actively implementing corrective measures to bring park habitats toward the Desired State of Conservation. See the following report: Mitchell, C. and R. Johnson. 2013. Everglades National Park State of Conservation: Report to the World Heritage Committee of the IUCN in response to 36COM7a.14. <http://www.nps.gov/ever/naturescience/worldheritage.htm>

4.8.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to monitoring

The thorough and coordinated interagency monitoring program (Monitoring and Assessment Program of the CERP RECOVER group), in place for many years, has now been substantially reduced in size and scope due to funding cuts occurring in various agencies . This has happened at the same time that monitoring needs are expanding for issues such as the effect of sea level rise along the park's coastline.

4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs

4.9.1 - Please select the top 6 managements needs for the property (if more than 6 are listed below)

Please refer to question 5.2

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

		World Heritage criteria and attributes affected	Actions	Monitoring	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric						
3.7.7	Pests	ix and x	Everglades National Park participates in the Everglades Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (EvergladesCISMA.org).	Everglades National Park staff monitors lands and waters for early detection of new invasive species.	continuous	National Park Service and other Everglades CISMA partners.	none.
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage						
3.8.4	Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system	While this is an important issue, we do not have control over this issue and have not prepared any actions for it.	none	none	none	none	none
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events						
3.10.6	Temperature change	viii, ix, and x	We are participating in climate change and research initiatives of the federal government, such as the Florida Peninsular Landscape Conservation Cooperative.	Ongoing physical and ecological monitoring will allow us to track temperature effects.	Ongoing	National Park Service, US Geological Survey, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the State of Florida	none
3.10.7	Other climate change impacts	Sea level rise affects viii, ix, x	We are participating in climate change and research initiatives of the federal government, such as the Florida Peninsular Landscape Conservation Cooperative	Ongoing physical and ecological monitoring will allow us to track sea level rise effects.	ongoing	National Park Service, US Geological Survey, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the State of Florida	none
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events						
3.11.5	Erosion and siltation/deposition	Erosion effects along the coast line of Everglades National Park are associated with sea level rise: viii, ix, x	Everglades National Park has implemented a canal plugging project in the Cape Sable area of the park that should help to perpetuate coastal marshes. Other canals in the area remain to be plugged.	Cape Sable project will be monitored for 5 years post project.	The Cape Sable project was implemented in 2011. Everglades National Park is searching for funding to support the remaining projects within the next 5 years.	National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service	none
3.11.6	Fire (wildfires)	Fire influences criteria ix and x.	Everglades National Park will continue its wildland fire program.	Fire effects monitoring is conducted by the Wildland Fire Program.	ongoing	National Park Service	There is uncertainty as to how fire patterns and intensity will be influenced by climate change.

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

Answers provided have not outlined any serious management need.

5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

Not applicable (for sites inscribed exclusively under criteria vii to x)

5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

The integrity of the World Heritage property has been **compromised** by factors described in this report

5.3.3 - Current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **impacted** by factors described in this report, but this situation is being **addressed through effective management actions**.

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values are being **partially degraded** but the state of conservation of the World Heritage property has not been significantly impacted

5.4. Additional comments on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.4.1 - Comments

The park remains a Site in Danger and a focused effort by the United States and State of Florida to complete 3 major restoration projects (Tamiami Trail Next Steps, Everglades Restoration Strategies, and Central Everglades Planning Project) within the next 10 years is required if we are to expect a slowing of ecosystem degradation and tangible improvements to indicators of site integrity.

6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

Conservation	Very positive
Research and monitoring	Very positive
Management effectiveness	Very positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	Positive
Recognition	Very positive
Education	Very positive
Infrastructure development	Negative
Funding for the property	No impact
International cooperation	Very positive
Political support for conservation	Positive
Legal / Policy framework	Positive
Lobbying	Not applicable
Institutional coordination	Positive
Security	Not applicable
Other (please specify)	Not applicable

6.2 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to World Heritage status

6.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

Governmental institution responsible for the property
Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff

6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

yes

6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

Section 5.1.1 Summary of factors affecting the property. The set of factors identified in this automatically generated table do not reflect the most important issues affecting Everglades National Park. It was not evident how the table resulted from questions answered in section 3. Some of the factors appearing in table 5.1.1 are very important, other not so important, and the most important factor facing the park, water management, did not appear at all.

6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

UNESCO	Good
State Party Representative	Very good
Advisory Body	Good

6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

Most of the required information was accessible

6.8 - The Periodic Reporting process has improved the understanding of the following

The World Heritage Convention
The concept of Outstanding Universal Value
The property's Outstanding Universal Value
The concept of Integrity and / or Authenticity
The property's Integrity and / or Authenticity
Managing the property to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value
Monitoring and reporting
Management effectiveness

6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

UNESCO	Satisfactory
State Party	Satisfactory
Site Managers	Satisfactory
Advisory Bodies	Satisfactory

6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

Automatically generated in online version

6.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise