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EVERGLADES

National Park



EVERGLADES WILDGUIDE

basic text and concept by
Jean Craighead George

drawings by
Betty Fraser

National Park Service
Natural History Series
Washington, D.C.
1972

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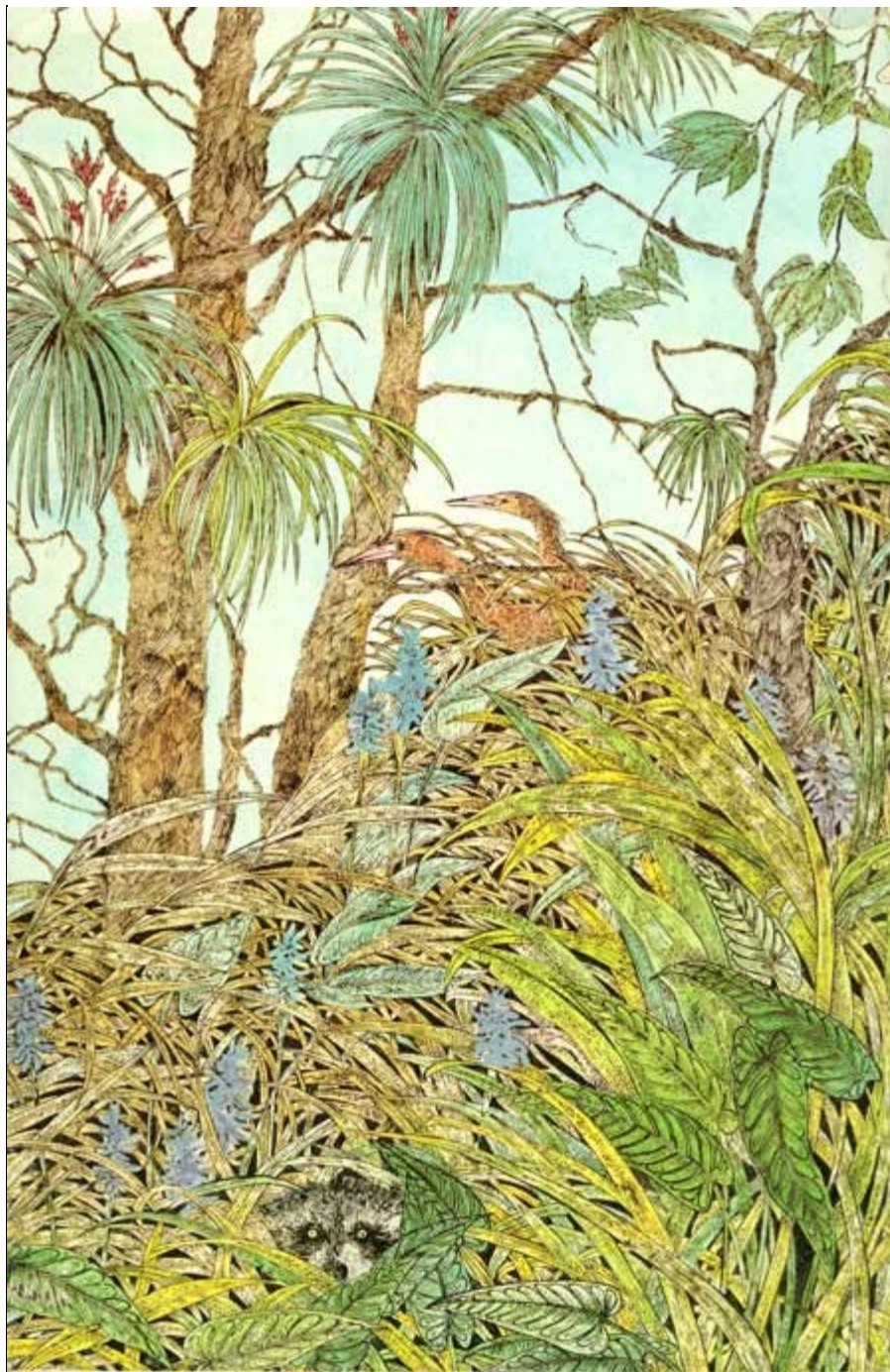
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For additional information, visit the Web site for
[Everglades National Park](http://www.nps.gov/everglades)

Natural History Series
1972

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ADMINISTRATION

Everglades National Park is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. A superintendent, with offices adjacent to the main visitor center, is in immediate charge of the park. For further information, contact the Superintendent, Everglades National Park, P.O. Box 279, Homestead, FL 33030.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, wildlife, mineral, land, park, and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial affairs are other major concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources." The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States—now and in the future.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Rogers C. B. Morton, *Secretary*

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Ronald H. Walker, *Director*

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Preface

The shimmering waters of the everglades creep silently down the tip of Florida under warm subtropical skies. In a vast, shallow sheet this lazy river idles through tall grasses and shadowy forests, easing over alligator holes and under bird rookeries, finally mingling with the salty waters of Florida Bay and the Gulf of Mexico in the mangrove swamps. From source to sea, all across the shallow breadth of this watery landscape, life abounds.

Everglades National Park is to most Americans an Eden where birds, mammals, reptiles, and orchids find sanctuary. Sunshine sparkles on sloughs teeming with fish, and on marshes where wildflowers bloom the year around; it shines on tree islands where birds roost and deer bed down. In this semitropical garden of plant-and-animal communities, every breeze-touched glade, every cluster of trees is a separate world in which are tucked yet smaller worlds of such complexity that even ecologists have not learned all their intricate relationships.

This book has been written to help you see how the many pieces of this ecological puzzle fit together to form a complex, ever-changing, closely woven web of plants, animals, rock, soil, sun, water, and air.



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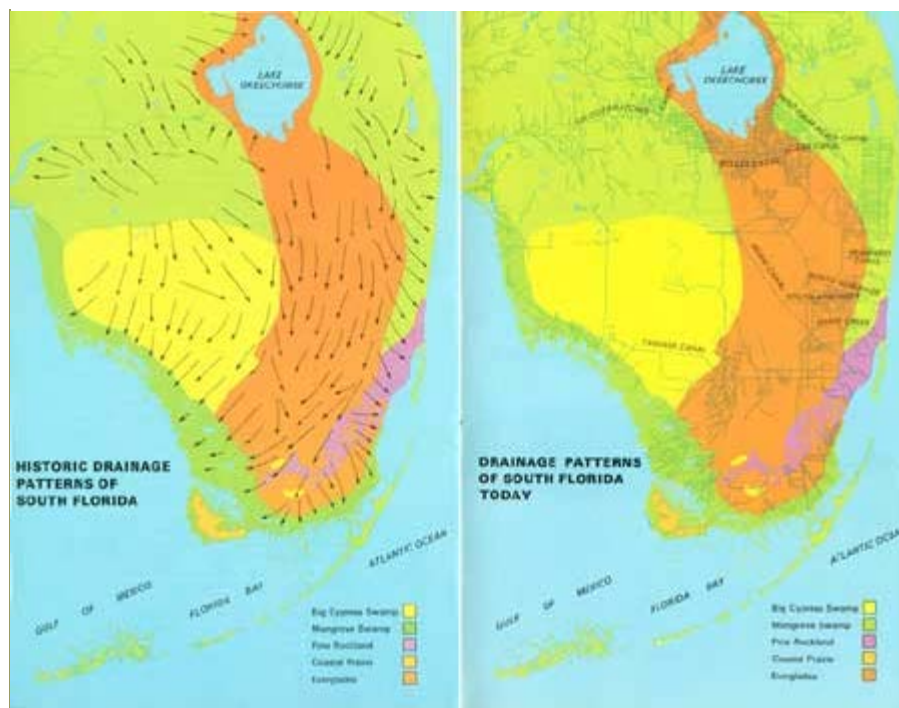
AMERICA'S SUBTROPICAL WONDERLAND

Everglades may not be our largest national park (that honor belongs to Yellowstone, with Mount McKinley a close second) but it is certainly the wettest. During and after the rainy season, when not only the mangrove swamp but also the sawgrass prairie is under water, most of the park abounds in fish and other water life, and even the white-tailed deer leads a semi-aquatic existence.

Despite the fact that it is low, flat, and largely under water, Everglades is a park of many environments: shallow, key-dotted Florida Bay; the coastal prairie; the vast mangrove forest and its mysterious waterways; cypress swamps; the true everglades—an extensive freshwater marsh dotted with tree islands and occasional ponds; and the driest zone, the pine-and-hammock rockland.

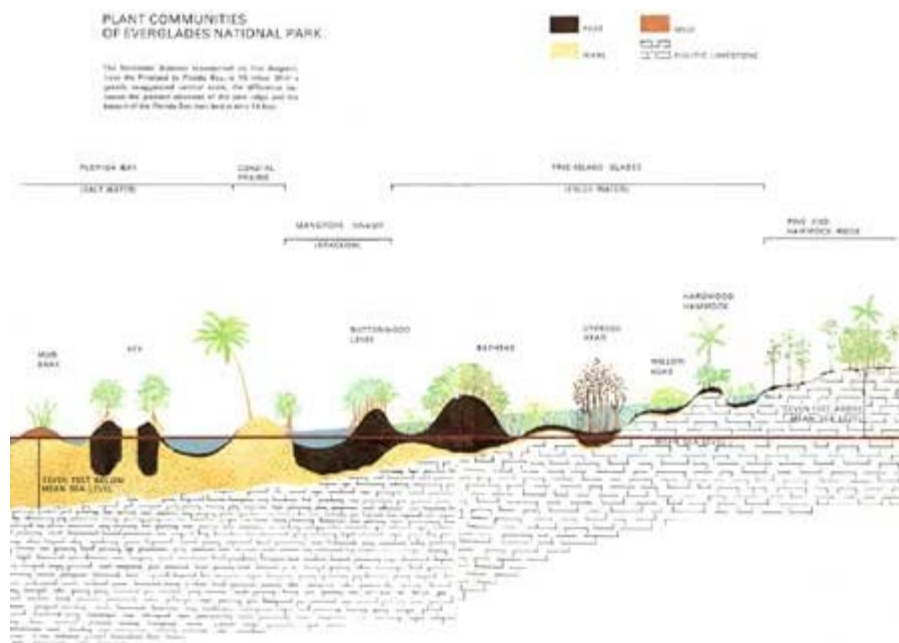
The watery expanse we call "everglades," from which the park gets its name, lies only partly within the park boundaries. Originally this river flowed, unobstructed though very slowly, southward from Lake Okeechobee more than 100 miles to Florida Bay. It is hardly recognizable as a river, for it is 50 miles wide and averages only about 6 inches deep, and it creeps rather than flows. Its source, the area around Lake Okeechobee, is only about 15 feet above sea level, and the riverbed slopes southward only 2 or 3 inches to the mile.

As you can see by the maps on pages 2 and 3, the works of man have greatly altered the drainage patterns and the natural values of south Florida, and you can imagine how this has affected the supply of water—the park's lifeblood.



(click on image for an enlargement in a new window)

The park's array of plants and animals is a blend of tropical species, most of which made their way across the water from the Caribbean islands, and species from the Temperate Zone, which embraces all of Florida. All of these inhabitants exist here through adaptation to the region's peculiar cycles of flood, drought, and fire and by virtue of subtle variations in temperature, altitude, and soil.



PLANTS COMMUNITIES OF EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK. The horizontal distance represented on this diagram, from the Pineland to Florida Bay, is 15 miles. With a greatly exaggerated vertical scale, the difference between the greatest elevation of the pine ridge and the bottom of the Florida Bay marl bed is only 14 feet. (click on image for an enlargement in a new window)

Underlying the entire park is porous limestone (see glossary), which was deposited ages ago in warm seas that covered the southern part of today's

Florida peninsula. Over this limestone only a thin mantle of marl and peat provides soil for rooting plants.

Some of the park's ecosystems (*see glossary*) are extremely complex. For example, a single jungle hammock of a dozen acres may contain, along with giant live oaks and other plants from the Temperate Zone, many kinds of tropical hardwood trees; a profusion of vines, mosses, ferns, orchids, and air plants; and a great variety of vertebrate and invertebrate animals, from tree snails to the white-tailed deer.

Entering the park from the northeast, you are on a road traversing the pineland-and-hammock "ridge." This elevated part of the South Florida limestone bedrock, which at the park entrance is about 6 feet above sea level, is the driest zone in the park. Pine trees, which will grow only on ground that remains above water most of the year, thrive on this rockland.

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PLANT-AND-ANIMAL COMMUNITIES

To know Everglades, you must become acquainted with some of its diverse communities. The physical conditions determining the existence of a particular community may seem subtle—just a few inches difference in elevation, or an accumulation of peat in a depression in the limestone bedrock, for example. But often, the change in your surroundings as you step from one community to another is startling—for it is abrupt and complete. In Everglades, the dividing line between two habitats may separate an almost entirely different association of plants and animals.

Use the trails that have been laid out to help you see the communities. They make access easy for you; the rest is up to you. Be observant: notice the stemlike root of a saw-palmetto in a damp pothole of the pineland; look closely at the periphyton that plays such an important role in the glades food chain. Note the difference in feeding methods of wading birds; each species has its own niche in the habitat. Most of all, get into the habit of thinking of each animal, each plant, as a member of the closely woven web of life that makes up an integrated community.

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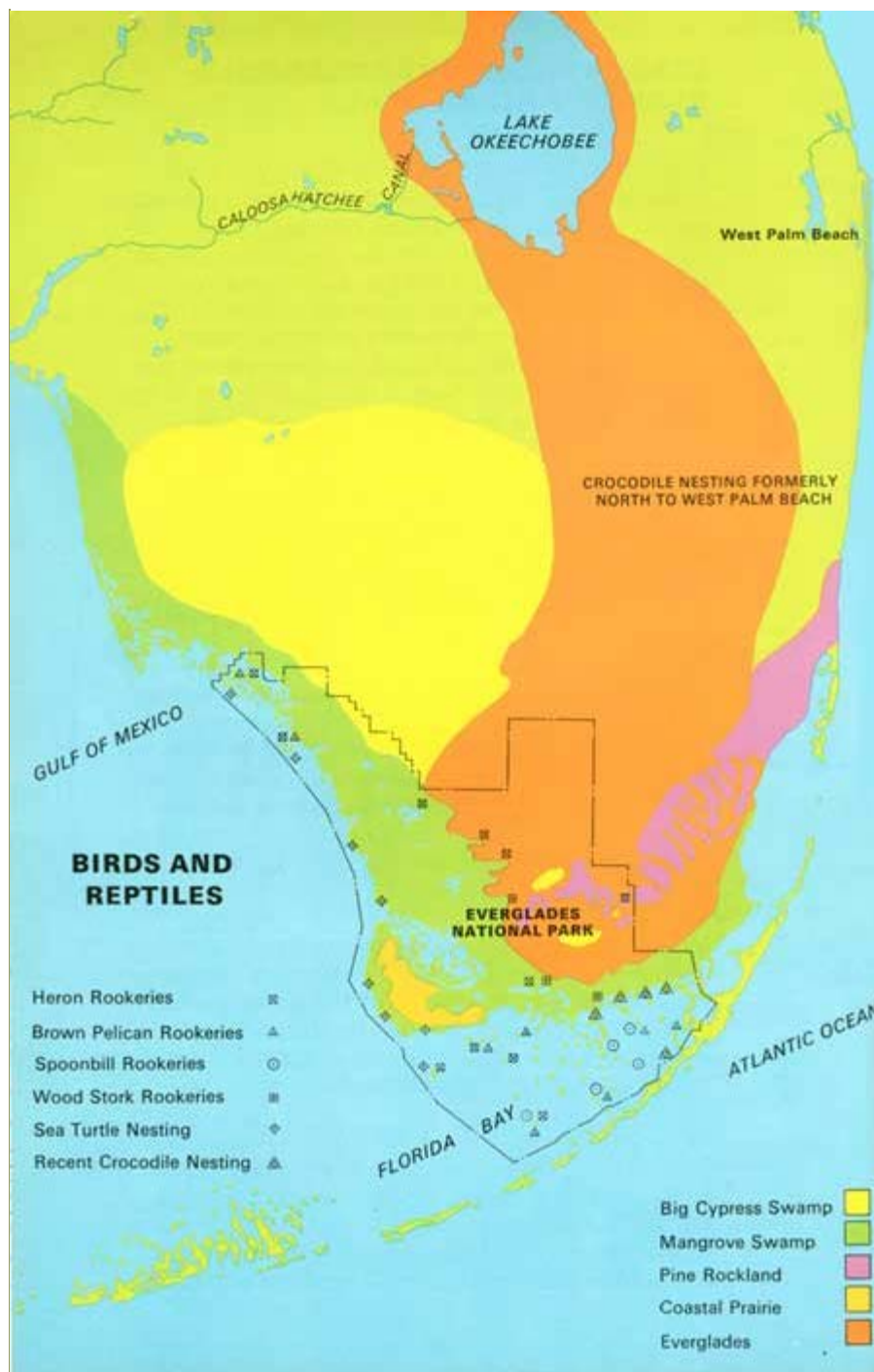


DISCOVERING EVERGLADES PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Everglades National Park, with its array of plant communities—ranging from the pines and palmettos rooted in the pitted limestone bedrock of the park's dry uplands, through the periphyton-based marsh community and the brackish mangrove swamp, to the highly saline waters of Florida Bay—is an amateur botanist's paradise. Many of the park's plants are found nowhere else in the United States. Only here at the southern tip of the Florida peninsula do tropical trees and orchids mingle with oaks and pines.

This book is not intended to be a manual for identification of the Everglades plants. You will need to arm yourself with appropriate field guides to ferns, orchids, aquatic plants, trees, or whatever your special interest may be. The reading list in the appendix suggests a few.

While the park is a mecca for students of plantlife, you must keep one thing in mind: your collecting will be limited to photographs (and, if you're an artist, drawings). *No specimens may be removed or disturbed.* Fortunately, with today's versatile cameras and high-quality color films you can take home a complete and accurate record of your plant discoveries.



BIRDS AND REPTILES. (click on image for an enlargement in a new window)

Much of our present knowledge of Everglades plantlife has been garnered by amateurs. Much more needs to be accumulated before an environmental management program for the park can be perfected, and serious students of botany are invited to make their data available to the park staff.

As for wild animals, one hardly needs to look for them in this park! Most visitors come here, at least partly, for that reason. And even those not seeking wildlife should be alert to avoid stepping on or running down the slower or less wary creatures. But animal watching is a great pastime, and it pays to learn to do it right. A few suggestions may help you make the most of your experience in Everglades.

A notebook in which to record your observations will help you discover

that this park is not just a landscape of grass, water, and trees where a lot of animals happen to live—but a complex, subtropical world of plant-and-animal communities, each distinct and yet dependent upon the others. To gain real understanding of this world you will need certain skills and some good habits. Ability to identify what you see—with the help of good field guides (*see reading list*) and quite a bit of practice—will make things easier and much more enjoyable.

Knowing where to look for the animals helps; this book and the field guides are useful for this. You'll find that some species are seen only in certain parts of the park, while others roam far and wide. Don't look for the crocodile in the fresh-water glades—nor for the round-tailed muskrat in the mangroves. On the other hand, don't be surprised to see the raccoon or its tracks in almost any part of the park.

Keep in mind that all species in the national parks are protected by law. Most wild animals are harmless as long as they are not molested. If you encounter an animal you aren't sure about, simply keep out of its way; don't try to harm it or drive it off. Always remember that each animal is part of the Everglades community; you cannot disturb it without affecting everything else.

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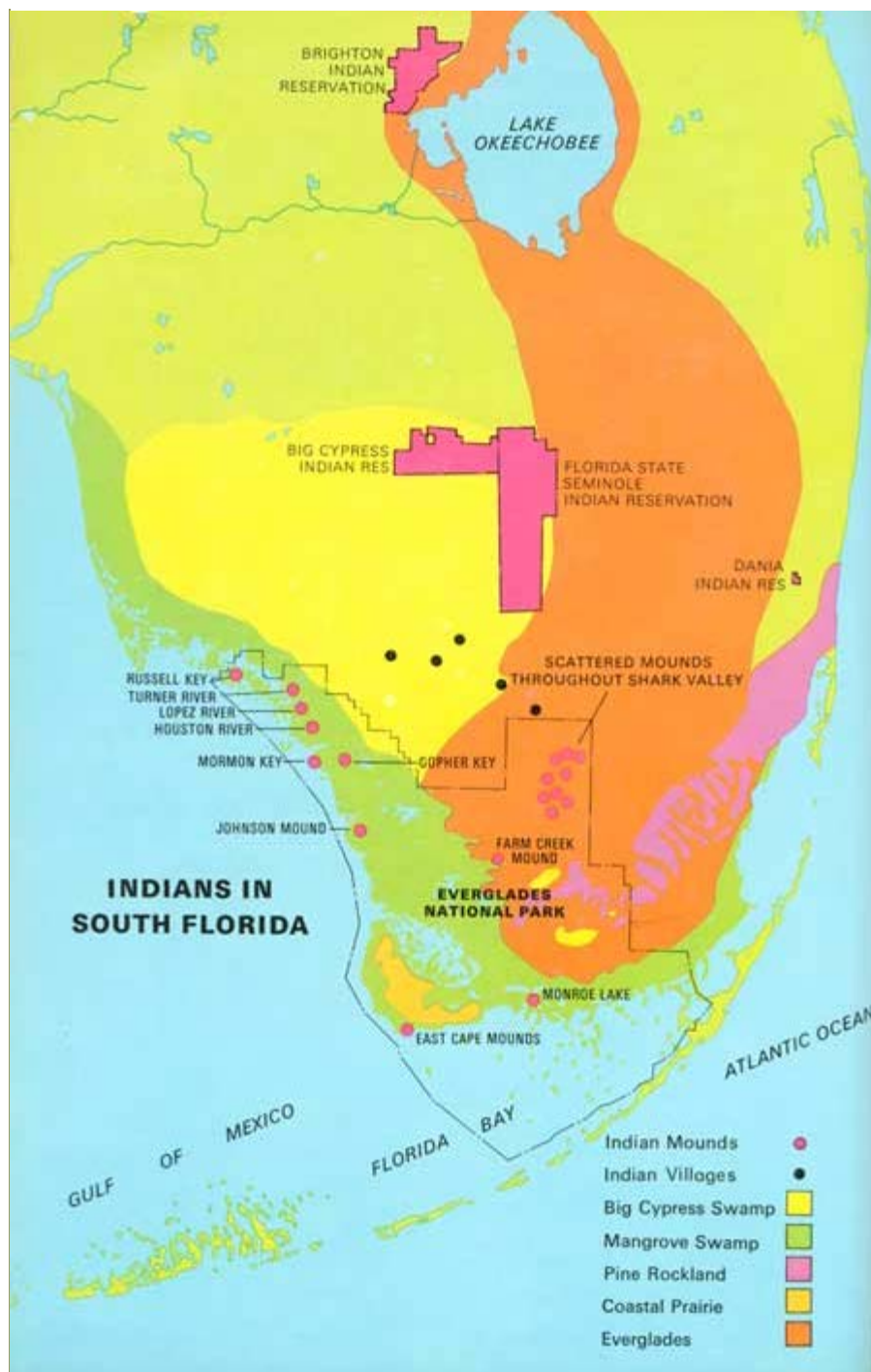
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INDIANS OF THE EVERGLADES

Your first awareness of the south Florida Indians will probably come during a trip along the Tamiami Trail (U.S. 41, the cross-State highway just north of the park). You will notice clusters of Indian homes close to the road. Some are built on stilts, are thatched with palm fronds, and are open-sided so that no walls hamper the flow of cooling breezes. Many of the glades Indians prefer to live as their ancestors did some 150 years ago when they were newcomers to the everglades. Others have adopted the white man's dwellings (as well as his occupations).

The Indians of south Florida—Miccosukees, sometimes called "Trail Indians"; and Muskogees, the "Cow Creek Seminoles"—are separate tribes, not sharing a common language. Today no Indians live inside the park boundaries.



INDIANS IN SOUTH FLORIDA. (click on image for an enlargement in a new window)

The Indians arrived in Spanish Florida after the American Revolution. Many Creeks of Georgia and Alabama, crowded by the aggressive white man, fled south to the peninsula. They first settled in north Florida; when Florida became a State in 1845 they had to retreat farther south. Driven into the interior during the Seminole War of 1835, they eventually settled in the everglades, where deer, fish, and fruit were available. Though their territory is now much more limited, they still retain much of their independent spirit, and have never signed a peace treaty with the U.S. Government.

Many earn their living operating air boats, as proprietors and employees of roadside businesses, and in a variety of jobs on farms and in cities. The

women create distinctive handicraft items, which find a ready market with tourists.

No one is certain when the first Indians—the Calusas and Tequestas—appeared in south Florida; it may have been more than 2,000 years ago. Even more than today's glades Indians, these coastal Indians lived with the rhythm of river and tides, rain and drought. Hunting, fishing, and gathering of shellfish were their means of existence. We have learned this much of their life from artifacts unearthed from the many Indian mounds or washed up along the beaches. They lived on huge shell mounds, made pottery, used sharks' teeth to make saws, and fashioned other tools from conch shells. They even built impoundments for fish—a few remains of these can be seen today. They were ingenious hunters. (Ponce de León and his Spanish explorer-marauders were said to have been turned back from the everglades by the deadly arrows these Indians fashioned from rushes.)



Following the arrival of the Spanish, these early Indians disappeared from the scene. They were apparently wiped out, destroyed by the white man's diseases as much as by his aggression; but some may have escaped to Cuba. Perhaps a handful of them were still in the everglades when the Creeks came down from the north in 1835, and were absorbed into the new tribe. Their known history ends here.

Proud, independent, and ingenious in wresting a living from the land and the water, the Indians knew how to live with nature. Unlike the white man, they fitted into the plant-and-animal communities. Today these communities have been severely disrupted. In the few decades that the white man has been "developing" the region, he has broken every chain of

life described in this book.

Alligator populations have been much reduced in south Florida; their chief prey, the garfish, has in some places become so numerous as to constitute a nuisance (most of all to the fresh-water anglers, some of whom had a hand in the killing of alligators). The pattern of waterflow over the glades, through the cypress swamps, and into the mangrove wilderness has been altered by highways and canals. Much of the habitat has been wiped out by construction of homes and factories and by farming operations. An increasingly alarming development is the pollution of glades waters by agricultural chemicals such as DDT.

Only through complete understanding of this fragile, unique subtropical world can man reverse the destructive trend. Only through carefully applied protective and management practices can we make progress toward restoring to the Everglades some of its lost splendor.

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Glossary

ALGAE: (pronounced "AL-jee") A group of plants (singular: ALGA, pronounced "AL-ga"), one-celled or many-celled, having chlorophyll, without roots, and living in damp places or in water.

BRACKISH WATER: Mixed fresh and salt water. Many species of plants and animals of marine and fresh-water habitats are adapted to life in estuaries and coastal swamps and marshes, where the water varies greatly in degree of salinity. Some animal species can be found in all three habitats.

BROMELIAD: A plant of the pineapple family. Many bromeliads are air plants, growing (not parasitically) on the trunks and branches of other plants, or even, as in the case of "Spanish moss, on telephone wires.

COMMUNITY: The living part of the ecosystem; an assemblage of plants and animals living in a particular area or physical habitat. It can be as small as a decaying log, with its variety of mosses, insect larvae, burrowing beetles, ants, etc.; or as large as a forest of hundreds of square miles.

DECIDUOUS TREES: Trees that shed their leaves annually. Most hardwood trees are deciduous; some conifers, such as larches and baldcypresses, are deciduous.

ECOLOGY: The study of the relationship of living things to one another and to their physical environment.

ECOSYSTEM: A community and its habitat—for example, all the plants and animals of the sawgrass marsh, with the limestone base, soil, water, and other physical components, in an interacting relationship.

ENVIRONMENT: All the external conditions, such as soil, water, air, and organisms, surrounding a living thing.

ESTIVATION: A prolonged dormant or sleeplike state that enables an animal to survive the summer in a hot climate. As in hibernation, breathing and heartbeat slow down, and the animal neither eats nor drinks.

ESTUARY: The portion of a river or coastal wetland affected by the rise and fall of the tide, containing a graded mixture of fresh and salt water.

EVERGLADE: A tract of marshy land covered in places with tall grasses. (In this book, "the everglades" refers to the river of grass; "Everglades" refers to the park, which contains other habitats besides everglades.)

FOOD CHAIN: A series of plants and animals linked by their food relationships, beginning with a green plant and ending with a predator.

HABITAT: The place where an organism lives; the immediate surroundings, living and unliving, of an organism. The habitat of the pine warbler is the pinelands; the habitat of an internal parasite of this bird is the body of the warbler.

HAMMOCK: A dense growth of broad-leaved trees on a slightly elevated area, not wet enough to be a swamp. In the park, hammocks are surrounded either by pineland or by marshland (glades).

HARDWOOD TREES: Trees with broad leaves (as opposed to conebearing trees, which have needles or scales). Most hardwood trees are deciduous, though many in south Florida retain their leaves throughout the year.

KEY: A reef or low-lying island. In south Florida, the term "key" is often also applied to hammocks or pinelands, which occupy areas where the limestone is raised above the surrounding wetlands.

LIMESTONE: A sedimentary rock derived from the shells and skeletons of animals deposited in seas, and consisting mostly of calcium carbonate. Soluble in water having a slight degree of acidity, it is often characterized by caverns and, in the everglades, by a very pitted surface. The rock underlying most of the park is the Miami Oolite (pronounced OH-uh-lite), formed during a recent glacial period. Oolitic limestone is composed of tiny round concretions, only indirectly derived from marine shells.

MANGROVE: Any of a group of tropical or subtropical trees, growing in estuaries and other low-lying coastal areas, usually producing aerial roots or prop roots and often forming dense growths over a large area. In south Florida there are four species, belonging to three different families.

MARSH: A wetland, salt or fresh, where few if any trees and shrubs grow, characterized by grasses and sedges; in fresh-water marshes, cattails are common.

MARL: In this book, used in the sense of a deposit of mixed limestone and smaller amounts of clay; south Florida marls are sometimes called lime muds.

PEAT: Partly decayed, moisture-absorbing plant matter accumulated in bogs, swamps, etc.

PREDATOR: An animal that lives by capturing other animals for food.

SLOUGH: A channel of slow-moving water in coastal marshland. The

Shark River Slough and Taylor Slough are the main channels where the glades water flows in the park. Generally remaining as reservoirs of water when the glades dry in the rainless season, they are important to survival of aquatic animals.

SWAMP: Wetland characterized by shrubs or trees such as maples, gums, baldcypresses, and, in south Florida coast areas, mangroves. Fresh water swamps are usually not covered by water the year around.

TREE ISLAND: An island of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants growing on an elevation, in a depression, or at the same level as the surrounding glades. Includes hammocks, willow heads, cypress heads, and bayheads.

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Appendix (continued)

Rare and Endangered Animals

The following species and subspecies found in Everglades National Park and Fort Jefferson National Monument are listed in *Rare and Endangered Fish and Wildlife of the United States*.

MAMMALS

Rare and Endangered

- Florida Panther (Cougar)
- Florida Manatee (Sea Cow)

Status Undetermined

- Florida Water Rat (Round-tailed Muskrat)
- Everglades Mink

BIRDS

Rare and Endangered

- Florida Great White Heron
- Florida Everglade Kite (Florida Snail Kite)
- Short-tailed Hawk
- Southern Bald Eagle
- American Peregrine Falcon
- Florida Sandhill Crane
- Cape Sable Sparrow

Peripheral

- Eastern Reddish Egret
- Wood Stork
- Roseate Spoonbill
- Atlantic Sooty Tern
- Atlantic Noddy Tern
- Florida Mangrove Cuckoo
- West Indian Nighthawk
- Cuban Black-whiskered Vireo
- Cuban Yellow Warbler

Status Undetermined

- American Osprey

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

Rare and Endangered
American Alligator

Peripheral
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Checklist of Mammals

In this list, mammals not recorded but believed to occur in the park since they are known to occur in nearby parts of southern Florida, are marked (•). Introduced species (not native to the park) are marked (••).

MARSUPIALS

Opossum Family

Didelphis marsupialis pigra: Opossum.

INSECTIVORES

Shrew Family

Blarina brevicauda peninsulae: Short-tailed Shrew.

Cryptotis parva floridana: Florida Least Shrew.

BATS

A few bats have been seen in the park, but not collected or identified with certainty. Those listed below are definitely known from Dade, Monroe, or Collier Counties.

Vespertilionid Family

- *Dasypterus floridanus*: Florida Yellow Bat.
- *Myotis austroriparius*: Southeastern Myotis.
- *Nycticeius humeraills subtropicails*: Evening Bat.

Molossid Family

- Eumops glaucinus*: Wagner's Mastiff Bat.
- *Tadarida brasiliensis cynocephala*: Brazilian Free-tailed Bat.

EDENTATES

Armadillo Family

- *Dasypus novemcinctus mexicanus*: Nine-banded armadillo.

LAGOMORPHS

Hare and Rabbit Family

- *Sylvilagus floridanus paulsoni*: Eastern Cottontail.
- Sylvilagus palustris paludicola*: Marsh Rabbit.

RODENTS

Squirrel Family

- *Glaucomys volans querceti*: Southern Flying Squirrel.
- *Sciurus carolinensis matecumbei*: Gray Squirrel. (Occurs in the park only in hammock at Key Largo.)
- *Sciurus niger avicennia*: Fox Squirrel.

New World Rats and Mice Family

- *Neofiber alleni struix*: Round-tailed Muskrat.
- *Neotoma floridana smalli*: Eastern Wood Rat. (May occur in hammock at Key Largo.)
- *Oryzomys palustris coloratus*: Marsh Rice Rat.
- *Peromyscus floridanus*: Florida Mouse.
- *Peromyscus gossypinus*: Cotton Mouse.
- *Sigmodon hispidus*: Hispid Cotton Rat.

Old World Rats and Mice Family

- • *Mus musculus brevirostris*: House Mouse.
- • *Rattus rattus*: Black Rat.

CETACEANS

Beaked Whale Family

- *Mesplodon gervaisi*: Gervais' Beaked Whale.
- *Ziphius cavirostris*: Goose-beaked Whale.

Porpoise and Dolphin Family

- *Delphinus delphis*: Atlantic Dolphin.
- *Globicephala macrorhyncha*: Pilot Whale.
- *Grampus orca*: Atlantic Killer Whale.
- *Pseudorca crassidens*: False Killer Whale.
- *Stenella frontalis*: Cuvier's Porpoise.
- *Tursiops truncatus*: Atlantic Bottle-nosed Dolphin.

Fin-backed Whale Family

- *Balaenoptera acutirostrata*: Little Piked Whale.

Baleen Whale Family

- *Eubalaena glacialis*: Atlantic Right Whale.

CARNIVORES

Dog Family

- *Urocyon cinereoargenteus*: Gray Fox.

Bear Family

- *Ursus americanus*: Black Bear.

Raccoon Family

- *Procyon lotor*: Raccoon.

Weasel Family

- Lutra canadensis*: River Otter
- Mephitis mephitis*: Striped Skunk.
- Mustela vison evergladensis*: Everglades Mink.
- *Spilogale putorius ambarvalis*: Eastern Spotted Skunk.

Cat Family

- Fells concolor coryi*: Cougar (Florida Panther).
- Lynx rufus floridanus*: Florida Bobcat.

PINNIPEDS

Earless Seal Family

- *Monachus tropicalis*: West Indian Seal.

SIRENIANS

Manatee Family

- Trichechus manatus latirostris*: Manatee.

EVEN-TOED UNGULATES

Deer Family

- Odocoileus virginiana*: White-tailed Deer.

Pig Family

- • *Sus scrofa*: Domestic Pig. (Pigs from feral populations to the north occasionally get into the park.)

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Checklist of Birds

Key to Symbols Used

- W Winter occurrence in park.
- S Summer occurrence in park.
- P Permanently occurring in park.
- T Fall and/or spring transient.
- C Common: Found on all visits to the proper habitat, during the proper season(s); often in large numbers.
- FC Fairly common: seen on a majority of visits to the proper habitat, during the proper season(s).
- UC Uncommon: present each year in proper habitat and season(s), but in small numbers.
- R Rare: irregular occurrence in small numbers, not predictable, and overlooked on many visits to the proper habitat, in the proper season(s).
- Known to have nested in the park.
- I— Irregular: status varies year to year.

- Common Loon—R-W
- Horned Grebe—UC-W
- Pied-billed Grebe—C-W; FC-S
- White Pelican—C-W; R-S
- Brown Pelican—C-P
- Double-crested Cormorant—C-P
- Anhinga—C-P
- Magnificent Frigate-bird—UC-W; FC-S
- Great White Heron—C-P
- Great Blue Heron—C-P
- Green Heron—C-P
- Little Blue Heron—C-P
- Cattle Egret—FC-P
- Reddish Egret—UC-P
- Common Egret—C-P
- Snowy Egret—C-P
- Louisiana Heron—C-P

- Black-crowned Night Heron—FC-P
- Yellow-crowned Night Heron—FC-P
- Least Bittern—UC-P
- American Bittern—FC-W; R-S
- Wood Stork—C-W; R-S
- Glossy Ibis—UC-W; I-S (sometimes FC)
- White Ibis—C-W; FC-S
- Roseate Spoonbill—C-W; FC-S
- American Flamingo—I-P (escaped birds?)
- Fulvous Tree Duck—R or UC-W
- Mallard—R-W
- Mottled Duck—FC-P
- Gadwall—UC-W
- Pintail—C-W
- Green-winged Teal—FC-W
- Blue-winged Teal—C-W
- American Widgeon—C-W
- Shoveler—C-W
- Wood Duck—R-W
- Redhead—R-W Ring-necked Duck—C-W
- Canvasback—R-W
- Lesser Scaup—C-W; R-S
- Bufflehead—R-W
- Ruddy Duck—FC-W
- Hooded Merganser—UC-W
- Red-breasted Merganser—C-W; R-S
- Turkey Vulture—C-P
- Black Vulture—C-P
- Swallow-tailed Kite—C-S (late Feb. to Aug.)
- Everglade Kite—I-P (no recent nesting in park)
- Sharp-shinned Hawk—UC-T & W
- Cooper's Hawk—R-W
- Red-tailed Hawk—UC-W; R-S (pines)
- Red-shouldered Hawk—C-P
- Broad-winged Hawk—FC-T; UC-W
- Swainson's Hawk—R-W
- Short-tailed Hawk—UC-W; R-S
- Bald Eagle—C-P
- Marsh Hawk—C-W
- Osprey—C-P
- Peregrine Falcon—UC-T & W
- Pigeon Hawk—UC-T & W
- Sparrow Hawk—C-W
- Bobwhite—C-P (pines)
- Turkey—R-P
- Sandhill Crane—UC-P
- Limpkin—UC-P
- King Rail—FC-P
- Clapper Rail—FC-P
- Virginia Rail—R-W
- Sora—FC-W
- Purple Gallinule—UC-P
- Common Gallinule—FC-P
- American Coot—C-W; R-S

Semipalmated Plover—FC-W; UC-S
 Piping Plover—UC-W D Wilson's Plover—C-S; UC-W
 Killdeer—C-W
 Black-bellied Plover—C-W; UC-S
 Ruddy Turnstone—C-W; UC-S
 Woodcock—R-W
 Common Snipe—FC-W
 Long-billed Curlew—UC-W; R-S Whimbrel—UC-T & W
 Spotted Sandpiper—FC-W
 Solitary Sandpiper—UC-T; R-W
 Willet—C-P
 Greater Yellowlegs—C-W; UC-S
 Lesser Yellowlegs—C-W; UC-S
 Knot—UC-W; R-S
 Pectoral Sandpiper—C-T; R-W
 White-rumped Sandpiper—UC-T (spring)
 Least Sandpiper—C-W; UC-S
 Dunlin—C-W
 Short-billed Dowitcher—C-W UC-S
 Long-billed Dowitcher—UC-T; R-W
 Stilt Sandpiper—FC-T; UC-W
 Semipalmated Sandpiper—C-W; UC-S
 Western Sandpiper—C-W; UC-S
 Marbled Godwit—FC-W; UC-S
 Sanderling—UC-W
 American Avocet—FC-W; UC-S
 • Black-necked Stilt—C-S; R-W
 Herring Gull—C-W; UC-S
 Ring-billed Gull—C-W; UC-S
 • Laughing Gull—C-P
 Bonaparte's Gull—R-W
 Gull-billed Tern—UC-P
 Forster's Tern—C-W; UC-S
 Common Tern—UC-T & W
 Roseate Tern—R-W (may formerly have nested)
 • Least Tern—C-S
 Royal Tern—C-W; FC-S (may formerly have nested)
 Sandwich Tern—UC-P
 Caspian Tern—FC-W; UC-S
 Black Tern—FC-T
 Black Skimmer—C-P
 • White-crowned Pigeon—C-S; R-W
 White-winged Dove—R-W
 • Mourning Dove—UC-P; C-T
 • Ground Dove—FC-P
 • Mangrove Cuckoo—UC-P
 • Yellow-billed Cuckoo—C-S; R-W
 Smooth-billed Ani—UC-P
 Barn Owl—FC-W; R-S
 • Screech Owl—UC-P
 • Great Horned Owl—UC-P
 Burrowing Owl—R-W
 • Barred Owl—FC-P
 Short-eared Owl—R-W

- Chuck-will's-widow—C-S; UC-W
- Whip-poor-will—FC-W
- Common Nighthawk—C-S
- Chimney Swift—R-T
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird—FC-W
- Belted Kingfisher—C-W; R-S
- Yellow-shafted Flicker—FC-P
- Pileated Woodpecker—FC-P
- Red-bellied Woodpecker—C-P
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—FC-W
- Hairy Woodpecker—UC-P
- Downy Woodpecker—UC-P
- Eastern Kingbird—C-S; R-W
- Gray Kingbird—C-S; R-W
- Western Kingbird—UC-T & W
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher—UC-T & W
- Crested Flycatcher—C-P
- Eastern Phoebe—C-W
- Least Flycatcher—UC-T & W
- Eastern Wood Pewee—UC-T; R-W
- Tree Swallow—C-W (irregular)
- Bank Swallow—UC-T
- Rough-winged Swallow—UC-T; R-W
- Barn Swallow—C-T; R-W
- Cliff Swallow—UC-T (fall)
- Purple Martin—C-T
- Blue Jay—C-P
- Common Crow—C-P
- Fish Crow—R-W
- House Wren—C-W
- Carolina Wren—C-P
- Long-billed Marsh Wren—UC-W
- Short-billed Marsh Wren—FC-W • Mockingbird—C-P
- Catbird—C-W
- Brown Thrasher—C-W; R-S
- Robin—I-W (absent to common)
- Hermit Thrush—UC-W
- Veery—FC-T
- Swainson's Thrush—UC-T; R-W
- Gray-cheeked Thrush—UC-T
- Eastern Bluebird—R-P (decreasing)
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—C-W (Aug. to March)
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet—UC-W
- Cedar Waxwing—I-W (absent to fairly common)
- Loggerhead Shrike—UC-S; FC-W
- White-eyed Vireo—C-P
- Yellow-throated Vireo—UC-T & W
- Solitary Vireo—UC-W
- Red-eyed Vireo—FC-T
- Black-whiskered Vireo—C-S
- Black & White Warbler—FC-W & T
- Prothonotary Warbler—UC-T
- Swainson's Warbler—U C-T
- Worm-eating Warbler—UC-T & W

Blue-winged Warbler—R-T & W
 Tennessee Warbler—U C-T (fall)
 Orange-crowned Warbler—C-W
 Parula Warbler—C-T & W
 • Yellow Warbler—C-P (West Indian race); FC-T (U.S. races)
 Magnolia Warbler—UC-T; R-W
 Cape May Warbler—FC-T; R-W
 Black-throated Blue Warbler—C-T; UC-W
 Myrtle Warbler—I-W (rare to fairly common)
 Black-throated Green Warbler—U C-T & W
 Blackburnian Warbler—UC-T; R-W
 Yellow-throated Warbler—C-T & W
 Black-poll Warbler—C-T (spring)
 • Pine Warbler—C-P (pines)
 • Prairie Warbler—C-P (Fla. race) C-T; FC-W (other races)
 Palm Warbler—C-W
 Ovenbird—C-T; UC-W
 Northern Waterthrush—FC-T & W
 Louisiana Waterthrush—FC-T; R-W
 Kentucky Warbler—R-T & W
 • Yellowthroat—C-P
 Yellow-breasted Chat—UC-T & W
 Wilson's Warbler—R-T
 American Redstart—C-T; UC-W
 • House Sparrow—C-P
 Bobolink—C-T
 • Eastern Meadowlark—C-P
 • Red-winged Blackbird—C-P
 Orchard Oriole—UC-T
 Baltimore Oriole—UC-T & W
 • Boat-tailed Grackle—C-P
 • Common Grackle—C-P
 Brown-headed Cowbird—UC-W
 Summer Tanager—U C-T
 • Cardinal—C-P
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak—UC-T
 Blue Grosbeak—UC-T; R-W
 Indigo Bunting—FC-T; UC-W
 Painted Bunting—FC-T & W
 American Goldfinch—I-W
 • Rufous-sided Towhee—C-P
 Savannah Sparrow—C-W
 Grasshopper Sparrow—FC-W
 Sharp-tailed Sparrow—UC-W
 • Cape Sable Sparrow—UC-P
 Lark Sparrow—UC-T & W
 Chipping Sparrow—R-W
 Field Sparrow—UC-W
 White-throated Sparrow—R-W
 Lincoln's Sparrow—R-W
 Swamp Sparrow—C-W
 Song Sparrow—R-W

(Birds of questionable occurrence, or recorded in the park less than 10

times, are not included.)

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Checklist of Reptiles

CROCODILIANS

Crocodylus acutus: American Crocodile
Alligator mississippiensis: American Alligator

TURTLES

Chelydra osceola: Florida Snapping Turtle
Stern othaerus odoratus: Common Musk Turtle
Kinosternon bauri palmarum: Paradise Key Mud Turtle
Kinosternon subrubrum steindachneri: Florida Mud Turtle
Terrapene carolina bauri: Florida Box Turtle
Malaclemys terrapin rhizophorarum: Mangrove Terrapin
Malaclemys terrapin macrospilota: Ornate Diamondback Terrapin
Pseudemys floridana peninsularis: Peninsular Turtle
Pseudemys nelsoni: Florida Red-bellied Turtle
Deirochelys reticularia chrysea: Florida Chicken Turtle
Gopherus polyphemus: Gopher Tortoise
Chelonia mydas mydas: Atlantic Green Turtle
Eretmochelys imbricata imbricata: Atlantic Hawksbill Turtle
Lepidochelys olivacea kemp: Atlantic Ridley
Dermochelys coriacea coriacea: Atlantic Leatherback
Caretta caretta caretta: Atlantic Loggerhead Turtle
Trionyx ferox: Southern Soft-shelled Turtle

LIZARDS

Anolis carolinensis carolinensis: Green Anolis
Sphaerodactylus cinereus: Ashy Gecko
Sphaerodactylus notatus: Reef Gecko
Hemidactylus turcicus turcicus: Turkish Gecko
Chamaeleo sexlineatus: Six-lined Racerunner
Lygosoma laterale: Ground Skink
Eumeces inexpectatus: Southeastern Five-lined Skink
Eumeces egregius egregius: Striped Red-tailed Skink
Eumeces egregius onocrepis: Brown Red-tailed Skink
Ophisaurus compressus: Island Glass Lizard

Ophisaurus ventrals: Eastern Glass Lizard

SNAKES

Natrix cyclopion floridana: Florida Green Water Snake

Natrix taxispota: Brown Water Snake

Natrix sipedon pictiventris: Florida Water Snake

Natrix sipedon compressicauda: Mangrove Water Snake

Seminatrix pygaea cyclas: South Florida Swamp Snake

Storeria dekayi victa: Florida Brown Snake

Thamnophis sirtails sirtails: Eastern Garter Snake

Thamnophis sauritus sackeni: Southern Ribbon Snake

Liodytes alleni: Striped Swamp Snake

Heterodon platyrhinos: Eastern Hognose Snake

Diadophis punctatus punctatus: Southern Ringneck Snake

Farancia abacura abacura: Eastern Mud Snake

Coluber constrictor paludicola: Eastern Racer

Masticophis flagellum flagellum: Eastern Coachwhip

Opheodrys aestivus: Rough Green Snake

Drymarchon corais couperi: Eastern Indigo Snake

Elaphe guttata guttata: Corn Snake

Elaphe obsoleta rossaileni: Everglades Rat Snake

Elaphe obsoleta deckerti: Key Rat Snake

Lampropeltis getulus brooksi: South Florida Kingsnake

Lampropeltis triangulum doilata: Scarlet Kingsnake

Cemophora coccinea: Scarlet Snake

Tantilla coronata wagneri: Florida Crowned Snake

Micrurus fulvius fulvius: South Florida Coral Snake

Agkistrodon piscivorus piscivorus: Eastern Cottonmouth

Sistrurus miliarius barbouri: Dusky Pigmy Rattlesnake

Crotalus adamanteus: Eastern Diamond back Rattlesnake

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Checklist of Amphibians

SALAMANDERS

Siren lacertina: Greater Siren

Pseudobranchius striatus belli: Everglades Dwarf Siren

Amphiuma means means: Amphiuma

Diemctylus viridescens piaropicola: Peninsula Newt

FROGS and TOADS

Scaphiopus holbrooki: Eastern Spadefoot

Eleutherodactylus ricordi planirostris: Greenhouse Frog

Bufo terrestris terrestris: Southern Toad

Bufo quercicus: Oak Toad

Acris gryllus dorsalis: Florida Cricket Frog

Hyla cinerea: Green Treefrog

Hyla squirella: Squirrel Treefrog

Hyla septentrionalis: Cuban Treefrog

Hyla ocularis: Little Grass Frog

Pseudacris nigrita verrucosa: Florida Chorus Frog

Gastrophryne carolinensis carolinensis: Narrow-mouthed Toad

Rana gryio: Pig Frog

Rana pipiens sphenocephala: Southern Leopard Frog

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Checklist of Trees

In the following checklist, the scientific names are as given in *Checklist of Native and Natural Trees of the United States*, Agricultural Handbook No. 41, E. L. Little, Jr. (1953).

"Tree" as used here is any plant reaching a minimum height of 12 feet and a minimum diameter (at 4-1/2 feet above ground level) of 3 inches, wherever it may occur naturally.

Localities refer to the main trails of the park, including Bear Lake Road, and are so indicated by their initials:

AT—Anhinga Trail.
GLT—Gumbo Limbo Trail—including the rough extension.
PT—Pinelands Trail.
PO—Pa-hay-okee Overlook.
MHT—Mahogany Hammock Trail.
MT—Mangrove Trail.
BLR—Bear Lake Road. Other locations as indicated.

If no location is given, tree is within the park but not convenient to any of the listed trails or roads.

PINACEAE: Pine Family

Pinus eliotti var. *densa*: South Florida Slash Pine. (PT, MHT)
Taxodium distichum: Baldcypress. (PO)
Taxodium distichum var. *nutans*: Pondcypress.

PALMAE: Palm Family

Roystonea elata: Royal Palm. (GLT, MHT)
Sabal palmetto: Cabbage Palmetto; Cabbage Palm. (GLT, PT, MHT, BLR)
Paurotis wrightii: Paurotis Palm; Saw Cabbage Palm. (MHT)
Serenoa repens: Saw-palmetto. (GLT, PT)
Thrinax parviflora: Jamaica Thatch Palm. (BLR)
Coccothrinax argentata: Florida Silver Palm; Brittle Thatch. (GLT, PT)
Cocos nucifera: Coconut. (Flamingo area)

SALICACEAE: Willow Family

Salix caroliniana: Coastal Plain Willow. (AT, GLT, PO)

FAGACEAE: Beech Family

Quercus virginiana: Live Oak. (GLT, PT)

ULMACEAE: Elm Family

Celtis laevigata: Sugarberry; Hackberry. (AT, GLT, BLR)

Trema micrantha: Florida Trema. (AT, GLT)

Trema lamarckiana: West Indies Trema.

MORACEAE: Mulberry Family

Ficus aurea: Florida Strangler Fig. (AT, GLT, PT, MHT, MT, BLR)

Ficus laevigata: Shortleaf Fig. (PT)

Morus rubra: Red Mulberry. (GLT)

OLACACEAE: Olax Family

Ximenia americana: Tallow Wood; Hog Plum. (GLT, PT, BLR)

Schoepfia chrysophylloides: Gulf Graytwig. (GLT)

POLYGONACEAE: Buckwheat Family

Coccoloba diversifolia: Doveplum; Pigeonplum. (AT, PO, MHT, BLR)

Coccoloba uvifera: Seagrape. (Flamingo Area)

NYCTAGINACEAE: Four-o'clock Family

Torrubia longifolia: Longleaf Blolly. (PT, BLR)

MAGNOLIACEAE: Magnolia Family

Magnolia virginiana: Sweetbay. (AT, GLT, PO)

ANNONACEAE: Custard Apple Family

Annona glabra: Pond Apple. (AT, GLT, PT, PO, MHT)

LAURACEAE: Laurel Family

Nectandra coriacea: Jamaica Nectandra; Lancewood. (GLT, MHT, BLR)

Persea borbonia: Redbay. (AT, GLT, PT, PO, MHT, BLR)

CAPPARIDACEAE: Caper Family

Capparis flexuosa: Limber Caper. (BLR)

ROSACEAE: Rose Family

Chrysobalanus icaco: Icaco Cocoplum; Cocoplum. (AT, GLT, PT, PO, MHT)

Prunus myrtifolia: Myrtle Laurelcherry.

LEGUMINOSAE: Legume Family

Acacia farnesiana: Sweet Acacia. (GLT, PT, BLR)

Lysiloma bahamensis: Bahama Lysiloma; Wild Tamarind. (GLT, PT)

Pithecellobium unguis-cati: Catclaw Blackbead; Catclaw. (BLR)

Pithecellobium guadalupense: Guadeloupe Blackbead. (BLR)

Erythrina herbacea: Eastern Coralbean; Coralbean. (GLT, BLR)

Piscidia piscipula: Florida Fish-poison Tree; Jamaica Dogwood. (BLR, park roadside)

RUTACEAE: Rue Family

Amyris elemifera: Sea Amyris; Torchwood.

Zanthoxylum fagara: Lime Prickly-ash; Wild Lime. (GLT, BLR)

SIMAROUBACEAE: Ailanthus Family

Simarouba glauca: Paradise-tree. (GLT)

Suriana maritima: Bay Cedar.

Alvaradoa amorphoides: Mexican Alvaradoa.

BURSERACEAE: Bursera Family

Bursera simarouba: Gumbo-limbo. (GLT, PT, MHT, BLR)

MELIACEAE: Mahogany Family

Swietenia mahagoni: West Indian Mahogany.

MALPIGHIACEAE: Malpighia Family

Byrsonima lucidum: Long Key Byrsonima. (PT)

EUPHORBIACEAE: Spurge Family

Hippomane mancinella: Manchineel. (BLR)

Gymnanthes lucida: Oysterwood; Crabwood.

Drypetes lateriflora: Guiana Plum. (GLT)

Drypetes diversifolia: Milkbark.

ANACARDIACEAE: Cashew Family

Rhus copaiina var. *leucantha*: Shining Sumac. (GLT, BLR)

Metopium toxiferum: Florida Poisons tree; Poisonwood. (GLT, PT, MHT, BLR)

AQUIFOLIACEAE: Holly Family

Ilex cassine: Dahoon. (AT, GLT, PT, PO)

Ilex krugiana: Tawnyberry Holly. (GLT)

CELASTRACEAE: Bittersweet Family

Maytenus phyllanthoides: Guttapercha Mayten.

ACERACEAE: Maple Family

Acer rubrum: Red Maple.

SAPINDACEAE: Soapberry Family

Exothea paniculata: Butterbough; Inkwood. (GLT, PT, MHT, BLR)
Sapindus saponaria: Wingleaf Soapberry; Soapberry. (GLT, BLR)

RHAMNACEAE: Buckthorn Family

Colubrina cubensis: Cuba Colubrina. (PT)
Colubrina arborescens: Coffee Colubrina. (PT, BLR)
Krugiodendron ferreum: Leadwood; Black Ironwood. (BLR)

MALVACEAE: Mallow Family

Gossypium hirsutum: Upland Cotton; Wild Cotton. (BLR)

CANELLACEAE: Canella Family

Canella winterana: Canella; Cinnamonbark. (BLR)

CARICACEAE: Papaya Family

Carica papaya: Papaya. (GLT, BLR)

RHIZOPHORACEAE: Mangrove Family

Rhizophora mangle: Red Mangrove. (MT, BLR)

COMBRETACEAE: Combretum Family

Laguncularia racemosa: White-mangrove. (MT, BLR)
Conocarpus erectus: Button-mangrove; Buttonwood. (GLT, PT, PO, MT, BLR)

MYRTACEAE: Myrtle Family

Eugenia myrtoides: Boxleaf Eugenia; Spanish Stopper. (MHT, BLR)
Eugenia axillaris: White-stopper Eugenia; White-stopper. (GLT, MHT, BLR)
Eugenia simpsonii: Simpson Eugenia. (PT, PO, MHT)
Eugenia dicrana: Twinberry Eugenia.

Eugenia bahamensis: Bahama Eugenia.
Calyptranthes zuzygium: Myrtle-of-the-river. (GLT, MHT)
Calyptranthes pallens: Pale Lidflower. (GLT, MHT)

MYRICACEAE: Wax Myrtle Family

Myrica cerifera: Southern Bayberry, Wax Myrtle. (GLT, PT, PO)

MELASTOMATACEAE: Melastome Family

Tetrazygia bicolor: Tetrazygia. (GLT, PT)

THEOPHRASTACEAE: Theophrasta Family

Jaquinia keyensis: Joewood.

MYRSINACEAE: Myrsine Family

Ardisia escallonioides: Marbleberry; Mariberry. (GLT, PT, MHT, BLR)
Rapanea guianensis: Guiana Rapanea. (GLT, PT, MHT)

SAPOTACEAE: Sapote Family

Diphoils sailcifolia: Willow Busic. (GLT, MHT)
Achras emarginata: Wild Dilly.
Bumelia celastrina: Saffron-plum; Antswood. (BLR)
Chrysophyllum oliviforme: Satin Leaf. (GLT, PT)
Sideroxylon foetidissimum: False Mastic; Mastic. (GLT, BLR)

EBENACEAE: Ebony Family

Diospyros virginiana var. *mosieri*: Persimmon. (GLT)

OLEACEAE: Olive Family

Fraxinus caroilniana: Carolina Ash; Swamp Ash.
Forestiera segregata: Florida-privet. (BLR)

BORAGINACEAE: Borage Family

Cordia Sebestena: Geiger-tree. (Royal Palm Hammock)
Bourreria ovata: Bahama Strongbark. (BLR)

VERBENACEAE: Verbena Family

Avicennia nitida: Black-mangrove. (BLR)
Citharexylum fruticosum: Florida Fiddlewood; Fiddlewood. (GLT)

SOLANACEAE: Nightshade Family

Solanum verbascifolium: Mullein Nightshade; Potato-tree. (BLR)

RUBIACEAE: Madder Family

Cephalanthus occidentalis: Button bush. (AT)
Guettarda elliptica: Everglades Velvetseed. (GLT)
Guettarda scabra: Rough leaf Velvetseed. (GLT, PT, BLR)
Psychotria undata: Seminole Balsamo; Wild Coffee. (GLT)
Exostema caribaeum: Caribbean Princewood.
Genipa clusiaefolia: Seven-year Apple.

COMPOSITAE: Composite Family

Baccharis hailmifoila: Eastern Baccharis. (PT, PO, MHT, BLR)

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