

July 15th, 1936

EXCERPT FROM RADIO ADDRESS BY HONORABLE HAROLD L. ICKES,  
SECRETARY OF INTERIOR, ON NATIONAL PARKS  
MARCH 30, 1935

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"Just a week ago I returned from Florida, where I had my first view of the Everglades. I have always considered the national parks great outdoor temples for communion with nature and the Everglades region belongs in that category. Stately palms provide the temple columns, with abundance of mangroves for decoration. This area has served, as did the churches in medieval times, as a sanctuary. Both man and beast have taken refuge in it. Within the Everglades is a remarkable semi-tropical bird life fast disappearing in the United States, and an interesting tropical vegetation. I trust that every effort will speedily be made by the people of Florida to establish this Park under the authority granted by Congress, in order to preserve the primitive beauty of the Everglades region and its biologic and botanical treasures."

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