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December 13th, 1918.

Dixie Highway Association,
Chattanooga, Tenn.

Gentlemen:

At the request of the Secretary of the Miami Motor Club, after a conversation regarding the article to appear in your December number concerning the Ingraham Highway running from Miami down through the everglades to Cape Sable, he requested us to send you the same information we gave him, particularly with reference to a large game preserve with which we are more or less familiar, which might be of interest in connection with the road article.

This tract of land which would make one of the finest sub-tropical game preserves in the world, comprises about 55,000 acres and is located about twenty-four miles southwest of the town of Homestead by way of the Ingraham Highway and three miles from Florida Bay on the south by the same Highway, and while the Ingraham Highway gives ready access to this hunting paradise it does not run closer than one and half miles at the nearest point.

About 10,000 acres of the area is a combination of high rocky pine land and high prairie in part thickly dotted with clumps of dense hammock and covered with grasses that at present feed large numbers of deer, this part of the tract gives plentiful range for the class of animals that demand open range and plenty of high dry land; adjoining this and running down into the White Water Bay district is an area of some twenty thousand acres varying in class from low ~~marshy~~ prairie of swamp grass in part covered with small mangrove to high and dense hammocks of the varied tropic hard woods furnishing cover for coons, otter, bear, wild turkey and other animals and birds of like nature, wild cats and some panther are also found. This portion of the tract is out up and intersected in all directions by good navigable streams which open out here and there into bays and lakes of clear pure water full of all kinds of fish and alligators.

The most southerly portion of the tract opens up into the famous White Water Bay, a large tide water bay dotted with large and small islands covered with a thick growth of sub-tropical trees and undergrowth. From White Water Bay one has direct access or connection with the Gulf of Mexico through channels and natural waterways that will carry a boat of seven feet draught.

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In addition to the game already mentioned, this area is also well stocked with various kind of plume birds such as white heron, and egrets, pink curlew and flamingo, and also during the winter season ducks and coot are very plentiful, as well as the pellican the year around.

Fishing: The different waterways in this tract are well stocked with many varieties of fish and fresh water fishing is splendid, while in White Water Bay, there are a great variety of salt water fish, including the ~~great~~ wonderful silver tarpon.

Mr. O'Conner, Secy. of our Motor Club, expressed his regret at not having a good photograph showing work being done on this great highway, and while I am afraid that it may reach you too late for the article, I am at the same time enclosing four small photographs showing different stages of this road construction which were just recently taken, and if you should be able to get them in, would assist in giving an idea of the scope of this road work.

Trusting that I am not too late with this information and that you may be able to use it, or parts of it to advantage in connection with the Ingraham Highway article. I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

FJP

Director Miami Chamber of Commerce.