



- National Parks
- + New National Parks
- Proposed National Park



PROPOSED
TROPIC EVERGLADES
NATIONAL PARK

COUNTY COURT HOUSE
MIAMI, FLORIDA
TELEPHONE

PRESIDENT, DR. DAVID FAIRCHILD
VICE-PRESIDENTS, CLAYTON SEDGWICK COOPER
DAVID SCHOLTZ
JOHN O. SHARES
TREASURER, F. L. WALL

January 13, 1930

BULLETIN NO. 14

ERNEST F. COE, CHAIRMAN
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE INVESTIGATION OF
THE CAPE SABLE REGION OF SOUTH FLORIDA

A special Staff of the National Park Service is to begin its official investigation of the Cape Sable region of South Florida and surrounding territory starting in the early part of February next, in compliance with the appended Act.

It is the belief of this Association that the National Park Service will take under consideration, in making up its report to the Interior Department, any and all information obtainable, including the experience and points of view of individuals who are familiar with the territory under consideration from any and every angle, as well as personal opinions as to why this area does or does not type up to National Park acceptance and should or should not be made into a National Park.

This Association urges you to address Mr. Horace M. Albright, Director of National Park Service, Washington, D. C. at an early date, extending to him the benefit of information you may have on this subject and your points of view from a National Park Standpoint.

(Public--No. 897--70th Congress)
(S. 4704)

An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to investigate and report to Congress on the advisability and practicability of establishing a national park to be known as the Tropic Everglades National Park in the State of Florida, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, directed to investigate and report to Congress as to the desirability and practicability of establishing a national park to be known as the Tropic Everglades National Park, in the everglades of Dade, Monroe, and Collier Counties of the State of Florida, for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the United States and to preserve said area in its natural state, including in his report full information as to the ownership, value, estimated cost to acquire and character of the lands involved and his opinion as to whether such areas measure up to national park standards. Any appropriations for the National Park Service shall be available for the necessary expenses of such investigation.

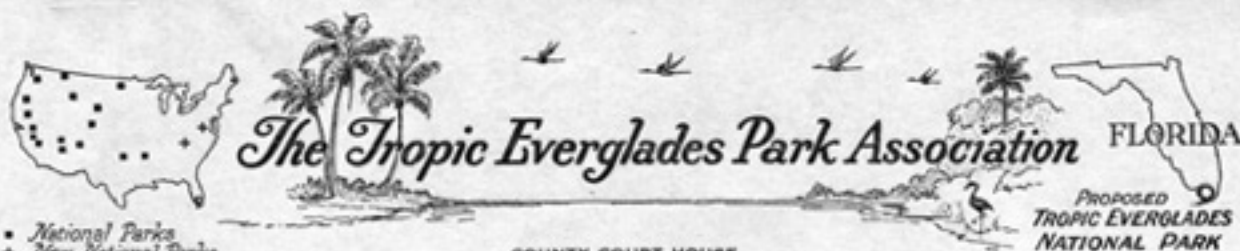
Approved March 1, 1929.

Very truly yours,

Ernest F. Coe, Chairman.

EFC/R

AN ASSOCIATION TO PROMOTE ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE WONDERS OF AMERICAN TROPICS IN THE CAPE SABLE REGION OF SOUTH FLORIDA AND ADJACENT AREAS...ITS SCENIC INTERESTS INCLUDING ITS VARIED PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE; MUCH OF IT UNIQUE TO THIS SECTION.
TO CO-OPERATE WITH MEASURES FOR THIS CAPE SABLE COUNTRY'S PRESERVATION AS A GREAT NATIONAL PARK, WHERE ALL FORMS OF LIFE WILL BE PRESERVED, AND ITS VARIED OTHER CHARMS OF TROPIC GLADES, JUNGLES, AZURE SEAS, EMERALD ISLES, LAKES, RIVERS AND BEACHES WILL BE FOREVER CONSECRATED TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL MANKIND.
MEMBERSHIP...FREE TO ALL WHO WRITE OR OTHERWISE COMMUNICATE TO THE ASSOCIATION EXPRESSING THEIR INTEREST IN THE OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.
SUSTAINING MEMBERS...COMPOSED OF THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTE FUNDS.
HONORARY MEMBERS
ALL MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE BULLETINS AND OTHER PRINTED MATTER FROM TIME TO TIME.



- National Parks
- + New National Parks
- Proposed National Park

COUNTY COURT HOUSE
MIAMI, FLORIDA
TELEPHONE

PRESIDENT, DR. DAVID FAIRCHILD
VICE-PRESIDENTS, CLAYTON SEDGWICK COOPER
DAVID SCHOLTZ
JOHN O. SHARES
TREASURER, F. L. WALL

January 13, 1929

BULLETIN NO. 15

ERNEST F. COE, CHAIRMAN

The following paragraphs are from article in Geographic Magazine, January, 1930, FLORIDA, THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH, By John Oliver LaGorce. Author of "Porto Rico, the Gateway of Riches"; "Jamaica, Isle Of Many Rivers"; "Treasure House of The Gulf Stream"; "Pennsylvania, The Industrial Titan"; "Warfare on Our Eastern Coast", etc., in The National Geographic Magazine.

Paragraphs appended are selected with special reference to the National Park Project in Florida.

"A NATIONAL PARK PROJECT FOR FLORIDA"

"On the southern tip of Florida, in that most nearly tropical of all areas in the United States, a new national park is planned. This romantic region includes part of the Everglades and is the retreat of many nearly extinct, beautiful birds, and a widely varied animal life found nowhere else in America. Such creatures as the heron, the alligator, crocodile, and manatee are all found here; yet, under present unprotected conditions, they are being slowly exterminated. Were this area set aside as a national park, the wild life could be protected as in all great Federal and State parks."

"Likewise in this amazing region there now exists a plant life of wild and superbly beautiful palms, orchids, bromeliads, and fascinating climbing liamas, but, like the bird and animal life, these colorful glades and hummocks are threatened with destruction from fires, often left by careless hunters and others, unless the protecting hand of the Government is raised in time to save them."

"Set apart, preserved, and made accessible as the Everglades National Park, this area would be visited in time by millions--millions eager for subtropical adventure, but adventure under American skies, amid American customs, and the comforts and excellent direction extended to all by the governmental supervision of the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior. The leading citizens of Florida and many residents of other States are urging this important and needed project, which of course is for all the people of the Nation."

"A NATURALIST'S DELIGHT"

"Giant ferns, with fronds 10 feet long, gorgeous orchids, many kinds of air plants and waterlilies, are among the wide variety of wild flowers. A unique flora, indeed, with no doubt many plants as yet unclassified. Though vandal plume-hunters in years gone by ravaged the bird life, egrets and the roseate spoonbill still breed here. Today the naturalist who scans the ground and sky sees the migratory duck, an occasional heron, the bittern, coot, cormorant, Everglades kite, crane and other waders. Bear, deer, panther and otter were once abundant."

Conservationist, scientist, sportsman, nature lover, and tourist can well be seriously concerned as to the destiny of this region, unless it comes under the protecting control of the federal government. The opportunity now presents itself to acquire this great Cape Sable region referred to by Mr. La Gorce for a National Park

Ernest F. Coe, Chairman.

AN ASSOCIATION TO PROMOTE ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE WONDERS OF AMERICAN TROPICS IN THE CAPE SABLE REGION OF SOUTH FLORIDA AND ADJACENT AREAS...ITS SCENIC INTERESTS INCLUDING ITS VARIED PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE; MUCH OF IT UNIQUE TO THIS SECTION.

TO CO-OPERATE WITH MEASURES FOR THIS CAPE SABLE COUNTRY'S PRESERVATION AS A GREAT NATIONAL PARK, WHERE ALL FORMS OF LIFE WILL BE PRESERVED, AND ITS VARIED OTHER CHARMS OF TROPIC GLADES, JUNGLES, AZURE SEAS, EMERALD ISLES, LAKES, RIVERS AND BEACHES WILL BE FOREVER CONSECRATED TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL MANKIND.

MEMBERSHIP...FREE TO ALL WHO WRITE OR OTHERWISE COMMUNICATE TO THE ASSOCIATION EXPRESSING THEIR INTEREST IN THE OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

SUSTAINING MEMBERS...COMPOSED OF THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTE FUNDS.

HONORARY MEMBERS

ALL MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE BULLETINS AND OTHER PRINTED MATTER FROM TIME TO TIME.



The Tropic Everglades Park Association FLORIDA

- National Parks
- + New National Parks
- o Proposed National Park

COUNTY COURT HOUSE
MIAMI, FLORIDA
TELEPHONE

PROPOSED
TROPIC EVERGLADES
NATIONAL PARK

PRESIDENT, DR. DAVID FAIRCHILD
VICE-PRESIDENTS, CLAYTON SEDGWICK COOPER
DAVID SCHOLTZ
JOHN O. SHARES
TREASURER, F. L. WALL

ERNEST F. COE, CHAIRMAN

BULLETIN NO. 16

CONSTRUCTIVE WORK HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED BY THIS ASSOCIATION AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN THE ESTABLISHING OF A NATIONAL PARK IN AMERICA'S ONLY TROPICS, BY GETTING TOGETHER AND FURNISHING INFORMATION DESCRIPTIVE OF THE CAPE SABLE REGION OF SOUTH FLORIDA.

AS A NATIONAL PARK THE SCENERY AS WELL AS OTHER PHYSICAL PHENOMENA OF THIS AREA WILL BE PERMANENTLY PRESERVED.

A GREAT NATURE WILDERNESS AREA WILL THEREBY BE CREATED WHERE THE MANY FORMS OF NATIVE WILD LIFE, BOTH PLANT AND ANIMAL, MUCH OF IT UNIQUE TO THAT AREA, WILL BE RESCUED FROM THREATENED EXTERMINATION.

The prospect of being privileged to visit tropical Southern Florida wherein is preserved its primeval fastnesses if indeed a wonderful and alluring vision to contemplate, as set aside by and under the jurisdiction of National Park administration.

The touring and sight seeing public generally, the scientist and nature lover, through the preservation of this Tropical area as a great National Park, will be assured for now and all time of an almost unlimited field of a most delightful character for recreation and rich in its opportunities for Tropical research.

Citizens generally throughout the country who are interested in National Park matters are naturally alert as to what this Tropic Everglades National Park Project really portends.

The forthcoming official report to Congress by the Secretary of the Interior following the investigation by the National Park Service Staff to be made this February will be awaited by the public with keen interest. This investigation and report follows out the intent of Senator Duncan U. Fletcher's bill passed by the 70th Congress, calling for this investigation of the Cape Sable region of South Florida as a candidate for National Park inclusion.

EFC/RR
January 17, 1930
Ernest F. Coe, Chairman.

AN ASSOCIATION TO PROMOTE ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE WONDERS OF AMERICAN TROPICS IN THE CAPE SABLE REGION OF SOUTH FLORIDA AND ADJACENT AREAS...ITS SCENIC INTERESTS INCLUDING ITS VARIED PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE: MUCH OF IT UNIQUE TO THIS SECTION.

TO CO-OPERATE WITH MEASURES FOR THIS CAPE SABLE COUNTRY'S PRESERVATION AS A GREAT NATIONAL PARK, WHERE ALL FORMS OF LIFE WILL BE PRESERVED, AND ITS VARIED OTHER CHARMS OF TROPIC GLADES, JUNGLES, AZURE SEAS, EMERALD ISLES, LAKES, RIVERS AND BEACHES WILL BE FOREVER CONSECRATED TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL MANKIND.

MEMBERSHIP...FREE TO ALL WHO WRITE OR OTHERWISE COMMUNICATE TO THE ASSOCIATION EXPRESSING THEIR INTEREST IN THE OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

SUSTAINING MEMBERS...COMPOSED OF THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTE FUNDS.

HONORARY MEMBERS

ALL MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE BULLETINS AND OTHER PRINTED MATTER FROM TIME TO TIME.

THESE PARAGRAPHS ARE EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED BY THIS ASSOCIATION. THEY ARE MADE PART OF THIS BULLETIN AS A MEANS OF ACQUAINTING THE READER WITH SOME OF THE WIDE RANGE OF VIEWPOINTS THIS TROPIC EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK PROJECT IS BRINGING TO THE FORE. EACH QUOTATION IS A STATEMENT BY A CITIZEN OF OUTSTANDING NATIONAL PROMINENCE. THE NAMES OF THE WRITERS ARE WITHHELD FOR THE PRESENT.

1.

"Florida's wild life was one of the marvels of the world. Its last stand under primeval conditions is in the Cape Sable region. Every nature lover should rally to its preservation. It is an opportunity we will never have again. No works of man can equal in beauty, interest and value this area we are asked to save. For tourists, for nature lovers, for botanists and zoologists its equal is not to be found within the confines of our land. We must preserve it!"

2.

"With genuine interest, I have learned of the movement to create at the tip of Florida the Tropic Everglades National Park. It seems to me a peculiarly timely movement, for only with the help of the national government is it generally possible to preserve for posterity the animal and plant life native in this great country. I can readily believe that the only spot in the United States suitable for a tropic national park is in Southern Florida."

3.

"As you know my interest in development of all these projects, you will realize how important I feel that it would be to preserve an adequate tract of the Everglades in order to hold in primitive condition a considerable area of this extraordinarily interesting country. As to the designation of the area, whether it should be a National Park or under some other classification, I am not in position to form an opinion at the present moment. You may be assured of my giving the matter most careful thought."

4.

"Southern Florida is an interesting in its way as, for example, Glacier National Park is in its very different way. It is a region so different that it hardly seems to belong to the United States. It is full of the most vivid and most interesting life on land, in the air, and in the water. It is a land of strangeness, separate and apart from the common things we know so well."

5.

"There is no location in the United States which will be of greater value to the public than a permanent National Park in the section of the Everglades under consideration. Both from the flora and the fauna standpoint this section is richer in variety and beauty than any section of the United States, and is the only spot in the United States where true tropical growth can be seen naturally."

6.

"Whether the large area in question is suitable for a National Park is a matter that I shall not attempt to pass upon in an official way, but as an individual your project appeals to me very much.

"With our ever increasing population and the disposition of many hundreds of thousands to seek out and visit the wilder portions of the country, the time has come when there must be a systematic setting aside and protection of these tracts which possess some particular merit."

7.

"I am delighted to learn that a movement is on foot to make a National Park of the southern part of the Florida Peninsula, which will include the wonderful Everglade country. This is the finest, most fascinating suggestion relating to National Parks that I have ever heard. That region is absolutely unique; there is nothing else like it anywhere else in America. To permit it to be destroyed or materially changed would be a National disgrace."

8.

"It would seem that nothing could be more appropriate than to convert the Southern tip of the Florida Peninsula, including a vast tract of the Everglades, into a Tropical National Park. This would give to our National Park System such variety of climate and forest conditions as would make the System a complete whole and representative of every section of the United States."

9.

"In my opinion a National Park at the Southern extremity of Florida would be most desirable. To have such a park in the most tropical part of our great country would be unique and fully as useful as Glacier, Yellowstone, and Yosemite. I heartily endorse the project."

10.

"The movement to make a National Park of the southern portion of the Florida Peninsula should command the enthusiastic interest of all our citizens."

11.

"I am personally deeply interested in the development and extension of our National Park Areas, and I wish you every success in your effort to add so unique and characteristic an area as that covered by the proposal for the Tropic Everglades Park."

12.

"No lover of nature who knew the Everglades when they teemed with one of the most remarkable concentrations of wild bird life to be found anywhere in the Globe--but will be rejoiced that the tide has turned and the American people at last are likely to have preserved for their enjoyment through the efforts of wise and far-sighted men the only bit of real tropics within the confines of the United States."

13.

"This locality is so specialized that it cannot but be a very important addition to the National Park system of the United States. I hope that the movement will be successful."

14.

"I am very much interested in the project for the Tropic Everglades Park about which your letter of January 9th informs me for the first time. To me it seems a splendid idea to preserve for the nation the unusual features of plant and animal life which are to be found in this section so uniquely. I am sure that if the project becomes a success it will add to the pleasure of many of our citizens, to say nothing of the great scientific value of such an enterprise."

15.

"It seems to me that you are doing a splendid work in preserving the beauties of the luxuriant plant and animal life of that region for the enjoyment of this and future generations."

16.

"The proposal to make a National Park of the southern tip of the Florida Peninsula, appeals to me as in every way an admirable proposal. I trust that it may be found practicable to put it into execution."

17.

"It is a wonder some one did not think of this before. However, you are noted for thinking of things and doing worthwhile things that others have not thought of."

18.

"I know of no place in the United States where a National Park would benefit more people. If I can help in any way, please let me know."

19.

"The project for a National Park at the Southern extremity of the Florida peninsula should have the unhesitating support of every citizen of the United States who is interested in preserving for all the people the most interesting portion of this state which has become one of America's playgrounds."

20.

"With proper development the visitor may gain much through travel through this region, while the terrain is such that many of the wilder and more remote area can be maintained as a perpetual wild life reserve for many strange plants and creatures that will otherwise be destroyed."

21.

"It is most important for the future that such a park be had at the present time, in order that the preservation of so many species of tropical plants and animals only occurring there within the limits of the Continental United States be accomplished."

22.

"I am certainly in favor of any bona fide movement toward the establishment of a National Park of as large a proportion as possible of the Florida Everglades. My attitude to this effect is based on my interest in the need of preserving for the future adequate samples of our country where natural conditions shall be undisturbed, so that their animal and plant occupants will survive for scientific study, as well as for pleasurable contemplation by all classes of our citizenry."

23.

"We are coming to realize that national parks are among our most precious possessions. It is my opinion that the sub-tropical portion of Florida will be of great educational and recreational value to the people of the state and to un-numbered winter visitors, if preserved as a national area. Can anyone suggest a more important use for the region? I am enthusiastically in favor of the establishment of The Tropic Everglade National Park."

24.

"I know the Everglades region and think the Southern part should be set aside at once as a National preserve."

25.

"I am very familiar with the region in question, having been there several times on rather extensive visits. It is an outstanding thing, it is absolutely the only place in the United States where we could have such a wonderful park. It will stand up with any national park we have in interest and importance, and I am strongly in favor of the proposition."

26.

"I can think of no greater contribution to the growing appreciation of beautiful America than by making the wonders of Tropical Florida available to her citizens."

27.

"I think the idea of a National Park in Southern Florida, as planned, is excellent. The country and the climate are both ideal for such a purpose and I believe it would be one of the most successful undertakings of its kind in the United States. I am personally familiar with the locality."

28.

"As one who has camped and cruised through Florida since early boyhood and who has been a naturalist all his life, I trust you will not mind my saying a word regarding my delight and indeed the enthusiasm with which all of my colleagues also have heard of the possibility of establishing a National Park in the tropical regions of Florida."

29.

"The creation of an Everglades National Park should receive support from everyone. The recreational utility of the area is too obvious to require argument. Of prime importance are the factors of conservation and education. A generous sample of the original physical geography, fauna and flora of this life-zone must be preserved."

30.

"Of all the reservations that have been contemplated and set aside in the United States, I think this is the most important from the standpoint of the biologist because it is an absolutely unique area not developed in any other part of our great country. It is the only tropical portion of the United States except a small area around the mouth of the Rio Grande River, which is not nearly as interesting or important. Unless such a reservation is made an extremely interesting and important representative of the tropical fauna and flora will be eliminated from our country."

31.

"Southern Florida is the only part of the United States in which tropical orchids find favorable surrounding. Unless, the species still existing there are given the protection afforded by a national reservation, they will be in large part exterminated."

32.

"Our authorities at Washington must act speedily in order to save that part of Florida which should go into a national tropical park. Devastation of this region is going forward at a rate which cannot be understood by people who have not been in Florida for a decade."

33.

"You are not alone preserving for all time a locality teeming with great scenic interest and varied plant and animal life, but by so doing will create a sanctuary for posterity to visit and witness those forms of life rapidly vanishing from our limits."

34.

"The movement to establish a Tropic Everglades National Park in Florida appeals strongly to me. Set apart, preserved, and made accessible, this area would be visited by millions who would love to make their tropical adventures under American skies, amid American customs, and surrounded by people who speak their language and understand their viewpoint.

"Arcadia, Shenandoah, Great Smoky, and Tropic Everglades--what a magnificent string of Eastern Seaboard National Parks that would make!"

35.

"In addressing you concerning this movement, in which I know you are most heartily interested, I would take this opportunity of endorsing it, feeling that as a National Park not alone will be preserved for all time a locality teeming with great scenic interest and varied plant and animal life, but it will create a sanctuary for posterity to visit and witness those forms of life now so rapidly vanishing from our limits.

I wish that you would forward my endorsement to those you know to be in charge of this movement and express to them my heartfelt wishes for their success."

THE OBJECTS OF THIS ASSOCIATION ARE STATED AT THE FOOT OF THE FIRST PAGE OF THIS BULLETIN. YOU ARE URGED TO LEND YOUR COOPERATION IN EVERY CONSTRUCTIVE WAY. LEADING TO A BETTER ACQUAINTANCE WITH THIS GREAT CAPE SABLE REGION.