

CFEOR

Weekly Reader

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Conserved Forest Ecosystems: Outreach and Research
<http://sfrc.ufl.edu/cfeor>

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CFEOR Endorsed Projects

Ocala National Forest OHV Visitor Assessment Report Released

A report examining the attitudes, socio-demographic characteristics, and preferences of Off-Highway Vehicle visitors to the Ocala National Forest was recently released by Dr. Taylor Stein, Associate Professor of Ecotourism at the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, University of Florida, and his graduate student, Rachel Albritton.

Results show that OHV visitors to Ocala National Forest are diverse in both their motivations for riding within Ocala as well as desires for riding opportunities. More specifically, family bonding emerged as an important motivation for riders, however a deeper examination of desired motivations between riders shows that the desire to challenge one's self, depend on skills and abilities, and explore the natural environment were also of high importance to motorcycle and 4x4 riders indicating that while group bonding is important so is the need for individual achievement.



Riders also expressed differing desires for how they would prefer to achieve these motivations through differing preferences for trail construction and layout. Overall, there is a desire for a network of trails; however the design and construction of these trails differed among rider groups.

Lastly, many riders are willing to pay for these desired riding opportunities through the purchase of an annual pass (at \$78.37) under the condition that the money paid into the system would be returned to system.

Funding for this project was provided by the Florida Division of Forestry and USDA Forest Service, National Forests in Florida.

For more information on how to obtain the Ocala National Forest Off-Highway Vehicle Visitor Assessment report, email Taylor Stein at tstein@ufl.edu.

Photo Credits: Rachel Albritton

[Call for CFEOR member news and updates!](#)

Does your agency or group have any relevant news or projects that may be of interest to other CFEOR members? Let us know! We would like to post them in the CFEOR weekly reader. The weekly reader is a great resource to easily communicate information between members. Please email Laura Sadowski with any news or updates at lap322@ufl.edu.

[How many people are reading CFEOR Weekly Reader?](#)

We are interested in knowing how many people are receiving the CFEOR Weekly Reader. If you are forwarding the weekly updates to other staff, please let us know the number people you are forwarding to. Also, if you would like to add names to the CFEOR Weekly Reader list serve, please contact Laura Sadowski at lap322@ufl.edu with the names and email addresses of those who would like to be included. Thanks for your help!

[Upcoming CFEOR Meeting](#)

There will be a CFEOR Steering, Science, and Outreach Committee meeting sometime in **November** at the Austin Cary Memorial Forest in Gainesville, FL. More information on dates and agendas will be coming soon.

[Upcoming Conferences](#)

- **Florida Forestry Association 2007 Annual Meeting**
“Extreme Makeover: Forestry Addition”
September 5-6 at Sawgrass Marriott Resort in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
For more information visit <http://www.floridaforest.org/>
- **Southeastern Society of American Foresters (SESAF) 2007 Annual Meeting**
“Keeping Forests in Forests: The Dilemma of Private Forests in the 21st Century”
September 23-25 at Sandestin Beach Hilton in Destin, FL
For more information visit <http://www.sesaf.org/annual07.php>
- **Florida Firewise Conference**
Protecting Florida Communities from Wildfire
October 2-3 at Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando, FL
Visit: http://www.fl-dof.com/calendar/firewise_conference2007.html
- **Deer and Turkey Management Short Course-UF/IFAS Extension**
October 4-5 at UF's North Florida Research & Education Center-Quincy, FL
For more information visit <http://nfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/Calendar/DeerTurkey-2007.pdf>
- **3rd Annual Florida Quail & Dove Management Short Course-UF/IFAS Extension**
October 19 at Turner-Civic Center in Arcadia, FL
http://desoto.ifas.ufl.edu/Agricultural/wildlife_and_conservation.html

- **Confronting the Cogongrass Crisis Across the South**

November 7-8 at Arthur R. Outlaw Mobile Convention Center in Mobile, AL

http://www.sfrc.ufl.edu/Extension/florida_forestry_information/events_calendar/files/Cogongrass_Conference_Announcement11-07.pdf

- **Public Land Acquisition & Management Partnership Conference**

Hosted by the Southwest Florida Water Management District

December 5-7 Hyatt Hotel in Sarasota, FL

For more information visit <http://www.ces.fau.edu/plam2007/index.php>

Recent Research Finding

Countering the Broadleaf Invasion: Financial and Carbon Consequences of Removing Hardwoods during Longleaf Pine Savanna Restoration

Condon, Brian, Putz, Francis E. 2007. Restoration Ecology. 15 (2): 296-303.

The first step toward pine savanna restoration is often hardwood removal, a costly process due to their large volumes and low market values. Despite these problems, by marketing a wide range of hard-and softwood products, the costs of 13 restoration projects in northern Florida were substantially reduced. Ten different products were sold to 19 different buyers. Fuel chips represented 71-100% of all biomass removed. Although landowners were charged modest amounts for removing biomass harvested as fuel chips, other marketed products yielded revenues. Overall, four projects generated sufficient revenue to pay 17-99% of the cost of hardwood removal as fuel chips.

A carbon accounting of a second set of projects demonstrated that carbon harvested as fuel chips far exceeded that consumed in harvest and transport, yielding net carbon offsets. Restorationists should monitor traditional forest product markets as well as developing carbon markets for price fluctuations that could provide significant revenues to restoration projects.