
January 1979

Everglades National Park Project Wildlife Reconnaissance

Florida Field Naturalist

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Recommended Citation

Florida Field Naturalist (1979) "Everglades National Park Project Wildlife Reconnaissance," *Florida Field Naturalist*. Vol. 7 : Iss. 2 , Article 23.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/ffn/vol7/iss2/23>

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The principal objectives of the study were to compile available information on the animals of the seven Florida counties (Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Hillsborough, Polk, Manatee and Sarasota) where the phosphate industry presently is concentrated and where future expansion will occur, and to assess the potential effects of mining on these animals, to make recommendations related to mining methods that would minimize adverse effects and to identify information gaps and needs for additional studies.

The introductory chapters include a physical description of the area, an inventory of the important natural areas and a detailed description of the major habitats.

The bulk of the study is the faunal inventory. For each vertebrate group and selected invertebrate groups there is an introduction and a list of all species recorded from the seven-county area, and for each species a tabular summary of county records, habitat distribution and relative abundance. For "priority species", individual accounts include detailed information on distribution, habitat, population status, basis for priority status, potential impacts of mining, selected references and a map of all distributional records. A "priority species" is one that may appear on rare and endangered species lists, be of commercial or sport value or be of particular interest because of its scientific importance or usefulness as an indicator of environmental conditions. Thus, of the 370 native and exotic species of birds recorded from the seven-county area, 147 (37%) are given priority status, including most ducks, raptors, wading birds, gruiforms and terns but excluding many passerines, especially migrants. Also, all available quantitative data for the area such as Christmas Bird Counts, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Breeding Birds Surveys, Archbold Biological Station Roadside Bird Censuses and Tampa Summer Bird Counts are analysed for the priority species.

At \$40.00, this report may be too expensive for most personal libraries. However, it is probably the single most important source of wildlife information, not only for the seven Florida counties, but for the rest of central Florida, and therefore belongs in every library in the region worth its salt. It is up to the readers of this journal to bring this publication to the attention of their own local librarian.—FRED E. LOHRER.

ALSO RECEIVED

Everglades National Park Project. Wildlife Reconnaissance.—Daniel B. Beard. 1976. Washington, D.C., U.S. National Park Service. 106 pp., illus., base map.—A 1976 facimile reprint of a 1938 report available from The Chief Naturalist, Everglades National Park, Homestead, FL 33030. This report is based on field work in south Florida from November 1937 to September 1938 and includes a history of the Everglades Park idea, climate and physiographic regions, effects of human use, status of bird rookeries and feeding grounds, status of rare flora and fauna and recommendations for the park plan.

NOTES AND NEWS

Spring 1980 Meeting.—St. Petersburg, Florida, April. For information write Brooks and Lyn Atherton, 4619 Woodmere Drive, Tampa, Florida 33609.

Florida Ornithological Society, Membership List, April 1979, compiled by Caroline H. Coleman. 11 pp, mimeo. Price \$1.00 prepaid, *order from Treasurer (see inside front cover).*

Acknowledgement.—I am grateful to the following 25 people for their help in refereeing manuscripts that appeared in volume 7 of the *FFN*; W. W. Baker, G. T. Bancroft, W. D. Courser, R. L. Crawford, J. B. Edscorn, J. W. Fitzpatrick, F. T. Hames, J. W. Hardy, D. W. Johnston, H. W. Kale, II, J. A. Kushlan, J. N. Layne, M. C. McKittrick, A. J. Meyerriecks, J. C. Ogden, W. B. Robertson, Jr., J. A. Rogers, Jr., R. W. Schreiber, G. Shugart, A. Sprunt, IV, H. M. Stevenson, P. W. Sykes, Jr., T. A. Webber, S. C. White-Schuler, G. E. Woolfenden.