



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Big Cypress National Preserve
33100 Tamiami Trail East
Ochopee, Florida 34141-1000

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L7617 (BICY-S)

TO: David Vela, Regional Director
FROM: Pedro Ramos, Superintendent
RE: Final Determination of Wilderness Eligibility - BICY
Addition
DATE: **April XX, 2010**

Per Public Law 100-301 and NPS Management Policies 6.2.1, Big Cypress National Preserve has completed a wilderness eligibility assessment for the 147,000 acres of the Addition.

An internal wilderness eligibility assessment was completed in 2006 by the Preserve. This assessment was included in the *Draft General Management Plan/Wilderness Study/Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement* that was released to the public in 2009. Based on the public input received, and staff consideration, a revised wilderness eligibility determination has been prepared.

Of the 147,000 acres assessed, it was determined that 71,263 acres meet the wilderness eligibility criteria in the Wilderness Act of 1964 and NPS Management Policies 6.2.1.1 and 6.2.1.2 and are eligible for wilderness designation.

This final eligibility determination will be used as part of the wilderness study accompanying the final GMP/EIS.

Your surname is requested.

Dated: _____

Signed: _____

David Vela
Regional Director, Southeast Region
National Park Service

DRAFT