

Wild Florida Handout

From "The Prelude" by William Wordsworth:

*The immeasurable height
Of woods decaying, never to be decayed,
The stationary blasts of waterfalls,
And in the narrow rent at every turn
Winds thwarting winds, bewildered and forlorn,
The torrents shooting from the clear blue sky,
The rocks that muttered close upon our ears,
Black drizzling crags that spake by the way-side
As if a voice were in them, the sick sight
And giddy prospect of the raving stream, O!
The unfettered clouds and region of the Heavens,
Tumult and peace, the darkness and the light
Were all like workings of one mind, the features
Of the same face, blossoms upon one tree;
Characters of the great Apocalypse,
The types and symbols of Eternity,
Of first, and last, and midst, and without end.*

How do we know if something is "wild"?

1. How hard is it to survive here using only my wits?
2. Would a cell phone help me here?
3. Would a credit card help me here?
4. Without human interference, what would this place look like in a day? A week? A month? A year?

Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI)

fnai.org/PDF/AA_Short_Descriptions_Final_2010.pdf or <http://fnai.org/naturalcommunities.cfm>

Snakes. Why'd it have to be snakes?

Copperhead: floridamuseum.ufl.edu/herpetology/fl-snakes/list/agkistrodon-contortrix-contortrix

Cottonmouth: floridamuseum.ufl.edu/herpetology/fl-snakes/identification/snake-id-q25-cottonmouth

Rattlesnakes: floridamuseum.ufl.edu/herpetology/fl-snakes/list/crotalus-adamanteus/

Pigmy rattlesnake: floridamuseum.ufl.edu/herpetology/fl-snakes/list/sistrurus-miliarius-barbouri

Timber rattlesnake: floridamuseum.ufl.edu/herpetology/fl-snakes/list/crotalus-horridus

Coral snake: floridamuseum.ufl.edu/herpetology/fl-snakes/list/micrurus-fulvius

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Here's a feature about the indigo snake and Archbold that appeared in *Garden & Gun*:

gardenandgun.com/feature/tangled-up-in-indigo/

Archbold Biological Station: archbold-station.org

Fires

The story of Smokey Bear: smokeybear.com/en/smokeys-history/story-of-smokey

Forest fire cycle in Florida: freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service/Wildland-Fire/Prescribed-Fire/The-Natural-Role-of-Fire

Everglades nwf.org/wildlife/wild-places/everglades.aspx

Habitats (floridamuseum.ufl.edu/southflorida/habitats)

- Freshwater marshes
- Hardwood hammocks
- Pinelands
- Cypress Swamps
- Mangroves
- Coastal Prairies
- Estuaries/saltwater
- Coral
- Seagrass

Reptiles in the Everglades: nps.gov/ever/learn/nature/reptiles.htm

Crocodiles *Batfishing in the Rainforest*, Randy Wayne White (p. 49, “Crocodiles at Home”)

Panthers — photos with Carlton Ward

cltampa.com/arts-entertainment/travel-leisure/article/20858328/here-kitty-kitty-kitty-hope-for-florida-panthers

Kissimmee River — history and photos

South Florida Water Management District: sfwmd.gov/our-work/kissimmee-river

Flickr photos from the District: flickr.com/photos/sfwmd/sets/72157675532743164/

A great article from Craig Pittman about the Florida Trail: <http://www.tampabay.com/opinion/essays/jim-kern-started-the-florida-trail-four-decades-ago-hes-still-waiting-for/2326548>