

From: [Daryth Morrissey](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: A few thoughts
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 1:54:36 AM

As a 7th and 8th grade science and marine biology teacher, it is getting harder and harder (especially these days) to preach ecology and what my "kids" can do to help save our wonderful Earth. Please, leave the land in Florida, with an intact ancient sea floor alone. We don't need another Wal-Mart, shopping complex, and more homes. We need open space, this one is critical to over 30 species of fauna not found anywhere else. Please so the right thing. Please.

Daryth Morrissey

From: [arobill](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Comment CRC
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:40:12 PM

I submit that, based on the simple fact that the pine rockland, which is one of the worlds rarest forests, can be eliminated and cleared for construction purposes. I would like to see an extensive review of the meta population impacts and threat analysis these would have. Specifically, I would like to see a review including population viability analysis for each species inhabiting the proposed plan area. How is their loss, even amongst mitigation, understood? What are the specific criteria used. Under the ESA which species are being impacted? The loss of the pine rockland appears to fall under catastrophic loss. What evidence do you have that supports that any mitigation efforts or counter efforts will be beneficial for those imperiled species which inhabit the pine rocklands?

All of these questions need to be addressed and properly answered before any construction can be considered. I oppose its anthropogenic development.

Realizing the scope of the research necessary I'd rather the pine rockland not become a walmart and instead a nature preserve.

Sincerely,

Alexander J. Robillard, M.S
Doctoral Student
Department of Environmental Science & Policy
George Mason University


From: [Rachel Skubel](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Comment: Coral Reef Commons Draft Habitat Conservation Plan
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 7:20:41 PM

I'd like to submit a comment:

- this area of land is home to native plants and animals that form a crucial, irreplaceable ecosystem. it's removal or interruption with development ('Coral Reef Commons') cannot be mitigated with offsite efforts or remediation.
- building over this area would disrupt other local environments and humans via the services it offers:
<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/environment/article148456289.html>

From: [Josh Schreiber](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Commenting On Land Use and Development.
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 2:38:26 AM

I was recently disappointed to hear of the potential land development of Florida's formerly majestic habitat. I find it appalling that instead of working to preserve areas that are home to endangered wildlife there are plans under consideration to further fragment it. The world does not need more walmarts and the like, they not only care nothing for the environment or nature but do not even care to treat their workers with basic dignity. I hope that this project will not be allowed to move forward.

Sincerely
Josh Schreiber

From: [Maria Pizano](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Comments on Miami Dade pine rocklands.
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 6:06:17 PM

I am opposed to the proposed building of a Wal-Mart in land that is one of the few remaining acres of pine rockland in south Miami Dade county. Citizens that care have been fighting to preserve this ecological treasure for at least 20 years!

Why? Because it is irreplaceable! It is habitat to endangered/ disappearing species of plants and animals. And is gem space to restore the human spirit. Our sanity....Wal-Mart is abundant!!! Not needed. We have plenty of land with paving on it and empty storefronts. Use that to build Wal-Mart. Please.

Maria Pizano-Balatovis

From: [Sharon Levine](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral reef common hcp
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 2:38:32 PM

Hello,

I'm writing to urge you to not allow the construction of this development on the proposed site. It's an irreplaceable ecology and the proposed conservation areas are not comparable.

Thank you,
Sharon

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Anna Handschy](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Cc: [Anna Handschy](#)
Subject: Coral Reef Commons Draft Habitat Conservation Plan Available for Public Review and Comment
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 9:53:24 AM

Please STOP destroying the little natural habitat that is left.
We do not need any more WALMARTS anywhere!

All in the name of greed!
Use your common sense if there is any left!

What is becoming of our land?
What are we leaving our children and grandchildren?

Use your God given talents to do good. Not make more money for the rich, at expense of everyone else and nature!!

Enough already!!!
Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

From: [Cully Waggoner](#)
To: david_dell@fws.gov; [Ashleigh Blackford FWS](#); crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons Draft Habitat Conservation Plan
Date: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 1:12:08 PM

Coral Reef Commons Draft Habitat Conservation Plan

To: Mr. David Dell, Regional HCP Coordinator, Atlanta

david_dell@fws.gov.

CC: Ashleigh Blackford, Supervisory Wildlife Biologist, South Florida Ecological Services

ashleigh_blackford@fws.gov

crc_hcp@fws.gov

From: Cully Waggoner, Vice President of the Miami Pine Rocklands Coalition

Re: Coral Reef Commons Draft Habitat Conservation Plan

Agency/Docket Number: FWS-R4-ES-2016-N223

Document Number: 2017-05767

Dear Sir(s)

First, I would like to formally thank FWS for last week's webinar concerning this HCP, the ITP and the additional information and clarification of the rules and laws concerning it. I have additional comments from my previous letter to add and I'll start with questions that were raised concerning issuance of the ITP.

1). Is the proposed take incidental to an otherwise lawful act?

That depends, while it may be within the law under Section 10 (a) (2) (B), the question should just because you “can” do something, “should” you do it? As taxpayers, we pay FWS to protect species, and add them to the ESA and not issue Take Permits to kill them. What is the purpose of getting a species on the ESA list to save it from extinction only to allow a developer to “take” them and cause extinction.

2). Would implementation of the HCP minimize and mitigate take to the maximum extent practicable?

No, not at all. The maximum extent of the HCP would mean that ALL the land was going to be preserved and there would be no commercial development allowed so that the habitat would remain intact and not fragmented as the HCP plans to do. Fragmentation is detrimental to the species that live there even if an ITP was not issued some species could go extinct because the size of the land they need to survive was dramatically cut back and separated.

3). Has the applicant ensured that adequate funding will be dedicated to ensure implementation of the programs and measures proposed in the submitted HCP?

No, of course not. The applicant is a Developer, not a Conservationist. You do not preserve anything by paving over it and breaking it into smaller pieces. Would you tear a Rembrandt painting apart and plaster over part of it in the living room and another part of it in the kitchen? No, so why is that being proposed for our masterpiece, the Richmond Pine Rocklands? Where in the HCP did the applicant list how much funding will be set aside specifically for the controlled burns that need to be done to preserve the Pine Rockland?

The ITP is for 30 years, did the applicant propose a tentative burn schedule of 6 to 10 controlled burns for the next 30 years in the HCP? Should they be required to do so? Does anybody really believe that the applicant will really do the burns next to a Walmart retail shopping center and 900 apartments that will draw upwards 30,000 car trips each day? Not to mention the 60,000 daily car trips SW 152 Street, Coral Reef Drive is already inundated with currently.

4). Will the issuance of the ITP appreciably reduce the likelihood of survival or recovery of listed species?

Yes, it is a Death Sentence for the Eight Covered Species. The Bartram's scrub-hairstreak butterfly, Florida leafwing butterfly, Florida bonneted bat, Miami tiger beetle, Eastern indigo snake, Gopher tortoise, Rim rock crowned snake and white-crowned pigeon.

As we know, everything is connected in life. The little fish gets eaten by the mid-size fish and the mid-size fish gets eaten by the big fish and so on up and down the food chain. Take one out the equation and it affects the others. It is even more dire in the Pine Rocklands where there is a limit to the area in which they live and thrive so to "take" any one of them will have a drastic effect on the others.

The HCP tries to minimize the impact when asking for the ITP and of the Covered Species, only, one, the Bartram's scrub-hairstreak butterfly has reportedly been documented on the CRC Property. When the applicant started work on the site in 2015, they brought in people from Fairchild Tropical Gardens. One of the people from Fairchild took a picture of the Bartram's scrub-hairstreak butterfly and published it.

When the applicant, Ram Development found out about the picture, they were furious and started all sorts of legal action against everyone even remotely involved. Does this sound like a company that will do all they can to make the taking "incidental" or does it sound like a company that cares more about themselves and will "take" as much as they can even if it wipes out a few or all of the endangered species covered?

5). Are there other measures that should be required as a condition of the ITP?

Yes, mandatory burns every 3 to 5 years to preserve the land with a tentative burn schedule from the U.S. Forest Service for said burns. Mandatory notification to all prospective retail tenants and all residential tenants of such required burns and the tentative burn schedule before they sign a lease. The applicant needs to have signed acknowledgment of the burns from all tenants kept on file and have copies on file with Miami-Dade County to prevent any future legal action from tenants that do not want to have burns so close to their business and homes for the next 30 years.

The Richmond Pine Rocklands are the largest Globally Imperiled Tract of Pine

Rocklands outside of Everglades National Park and have been and will continue to be a prime target for development unless they are preserved. It is abundantly clear that the applicant, Ram Development and the University of Miami along with our local Miami-Dade County Government are doing as little as possible to save this land and the endangered species that can only survive on it. So, we need to have the “adults” at FWS involved to stop this “childish” action of the applicant and do the right thing and reject the HCP and deny the ITP.

The U.S. Geological Survey Agency has determined that only 1.5% of Pine Rocklands remain in South Florida, down from 2% not that long ago. South Florida has been over developed for years and only very small fragments of habitat remain spread out across Miami-Dade County. Denying the ITP will force the applicant to look for other options and other less environmentally sensitive sites to build. Miami-Dade County should be encouraged to propose a land swap deal of suitable land currently in county inventory for the Coral Reef Commons site.

I volunteer as Train Crew at the Gold Coast Railroad Museum located in the heart of the Richmond Pine Rocklands. I have been out in the Pine Rocklands nearly every weekend going on three years now. I know firsthand that they are home to more than a dozen rare and Federally Protected plants and animals, I point this out to our guests on the train ride. I personally have seen 4 of the 8 “Covered Species” in the Pine Rocklands. Despite the denial of the applicant I know for a fact that they are there.

The Richmond Pine Rocklands are significantly higher than other parts of the County, they are part of the Miami Rock Ridge, which made them prime for development. I am not an expert on Climate Change or Global Warming, but as a resident of South Florida I have seen the effects it has made over my 57 years living here. There is erosion and flooding that takes place in various parts of the County. The Richmond Pine Rocklands are a “Lifeboat Habitat” for rare and endangered plants and animals to protect them from such conditions.

Most people think that all of the Richmond Pine Rocklands are designated “Critically Endangered Habitat” as there are signs stating such all over Zoo Miami property and the Zoo has Pine Rocklands as one of the exhibits. However, that is not true. A lot of it, like the Coral Reef Commons site are not and there is even more proposed development of a major theme / water park that will further fragment and destroy the habitat and adversely affect the endangered species that live there.

The Miami Pine Rocklands Coalition and all of our environmental organization

partners and our members and over 1,200 Facebook followers vehemently oppose the applicants HCP for the Coral Reef Commons Project. FWS and the applicant got to hear some of us speak out against it on last week's webinar. FWS has gotten letters and e-mail and will be receiving more from concerned citizens right up to the May 22 deadline for Public Comments. Every one of us strongly urges and is greatly depending upon the FWS and our Miami Dade County Government to work together with the applicant to find another solution. We desperately want and need to preserve and restore the Richmond Pine Rocklands for our future generations and never allow any more commercial development.

Save It Don't Pave It

--

Cully Waggoner

Vice President, Miami Pine Rocklands Coalition

Personal:

Cell: [REDACTED]

Home: [REDACTED]

E-Mail: cullywaggoner@gmail.com;

MSN IM: cullywaggoner@hotmail.com;

Facebook: [REDACTED] <http://www.facebook.com/cully.waggoner>

Twitter: [REDACTED] <http://twitter.com/CullyWaggoner>

LinkedIn: [REDACTED] <http://www.linkedin.com/in/cullywaggoner>

Instagram: [REDACTED] <http://instagram.com/cullywaggoner>

Skype: cully.waggoner

From: [Virginia Mule](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP and EA
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 11:43:05 AM

As a conservationist and US citizen, the idea of taking an already mostly decimated natural treasure and clearing it for commercial gain disgusts me. No matter what mitigating measures are taken, clearing 137 acres of land will have immeasurable impact on the local species. I hope that the companies applying for this permit find a different, more reasonable location for their development.

Virginia Mule

From: [Zach Andreucci](#)
To: Crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP and EA
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 9:43:33 AM

To whom it may concern,

I would just like to voice my outrage at the idea of destroying some of the last remaining Pine Rockland left in Miami. These are natural treasures and deserve to be maintained. To add new Wal-Mart's and other common man made structures at the expense of these rare and beautiful natural monuments is a disgrace.

Please, please protect these lands so that future generations may enjoy what's left of this natural beauty. In an age where consumption threatens to overtake everything, protecting the natural world is a must, as so many are motivated by profit alone. People who live in urban areas, especially children, obtain so many positive benefits from having natural places like this. To take these remaining acres and turn them into just another building is not fair to anyone and serves no purpose other than to make select individuals more money.

I implore you to protect these forests!

Thank you very much!

Regards,

Zach Andreucci

From: [Ramon Veunes](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP and EA
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 4:01:34 PM

Public comment on the Coral Reef Commons project

Pine rockland is an extremely rare habitat. Once this habitat is destroyed, it is gone forever. Therefore, the only real acceptable mitigation is total and complete preservation of any and all remaining pine rockland habitats. Development in the south Miami area should be limited only to lands that have been previously developed. Any preserved natural areas adjacent to developed areas should include the necessary protective buffers to ensure that the natural area retains its pristine state.

From: [Britt Holewinski](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP and EA/Miami dade development
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 10:47:06 PM

Hello,

Please accept the submission of my public comment in opposition of this proposed development. As this forest has already been fractured, it is important to maintain the integrity of the remaining large tracts that are left. While it may be overgrown, knowledgeable botanists and environmentalists would be happy to help remediate this land. Please do not develop on this natural treasure.

Kind regards,

Britt holewinski

Sent from my iPhone

From: [LESLEY ULLOA](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 10:15:37 AM

Please help save the last remaining Pine Rockland forests we have in S FL. There are many shopping centers about - but nature has become a rare treat to find - especially near our homes.

Thank you for your help.

Lesley S Ulloa



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Christina Ripplinger](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 8:23:34 PM

With this new administration, we now live in a world that does not value nature or the environment. National monuments and our wild areas are in a constant threat of being bulldozed down in order to build department stores or allow drilling. I am opposed to the development in this habitat. Leave wild places for future Americans to enjoy.

Christina Ripplinger



From: [Julie Milstid](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:06:36 PM

I can appreciate Florida true natural beauty that outsiders cannot initial see because it is not a large forest with big trees that they are used to seeing. I have conducted many field surveys particularly on Florida scrub in my five years as an environmental consultant back several years ago. These are harsh environments that somehow have life that is moving along whether we think it is suitable or not. I think when you walk around a scrub area you get to appreciate the little things like a flower that somehow survives these environments and a gopher tortoise whose burrows provides a home for several other species. I worked for the Indian River Land Trust in Vero Beach for three years and learned of the Pine Rockland habitat in south Florida from another biologist working for an another non-profit in Miami. I used to write many EAs and wrote one approved HCP for sand skink impacts. I am not proud of that moment in my career. I know when a consultant writes an EA they state everything protected/listed they saw or could be present. This review as in others tries to make excuses of why this habitat is no good and why development can move forward with the proper mitigation. It is just the reality of the job and the review process. I had to work in the scope of the regulation process. I think on a bigger scale for all environmental reports to be reviewed by FWC, USFWS, DEP, SJRWMD and ACOE the excuse of it is surrounded by development, it is not being managed so it is no good, it has been historical altered, and the wildlife has other places to inhabit just does not cut it. I would like to see this change for all reporting to the agencies when they review these documents. When I worked for the land trust, I wanted to receive grant money to restore an area that had been historical altered. It was the same type of language used for an HCP but with a different outcome that benefited the natural environment.

With this logic as the way these EA and HCP are written we should just pave over everything. If there is surrounding development than it is already not an ideal environment and the habitat is isolated so let's just build over the last remnant area of species habitat. I find nature more resilient and I am never surprised what a little restoration and effort can do to help improve a piece of property. When I worked for the land trust in Vero Beach we had the assistance of mosquito control with their big equipment to grind up and mulch the Brazilian pepper. There was always a great diversity of plants that popped up from the seed bank that had been waiting to grow back in after the pepper had been cleared out. Then it only took minor maintenance and up keep to control the pepper that would try to re-sprout. It was great seeing the butterflies, insects, birds, reptiles, littoral edge marine life and small mammals inhabit these restored areas. I am always pleased when I enter a park surrounded by development but I feel like I am in a remote area as I move into the property. The sights and sounds of the surrounding infrastructure disappears and I start to hear the birds, see a little bug crawl by on the ground, and see and hear the wind move through the trees and low growing plants and flowers.

The EA/HCP I just read even states that this is rare, unique habitat in limited areas on Earth. "Pine rockland forest, unique to southern Florida and the Bahamas, once covered 185,000 ac

of MDC (Service 1999). In Florida, they are found on limestone substrates on the Miami Rock Ridge, in the Florida Keys, and in the Big Cypress Swamp. This continuing habitat loss has resulted in pine rockland communities of South Florida becoming imperiled globally (Service 1999; FNAI 2015).”

Sounds like south Florida has a water use problem. I know my family in central Florida are dealing with drought conditions. Here is a write up in the EA on receiving their water permits. “The Biscayne Aquifer is the primary water supply source for the millions of people living in South Florida. It is recharged by seepage from the Water Conservation Areas and the Everglades South Florida Water Management District canals that traverse the Lower East Coast. In order to ensure that continued development of the aquifer is consistent with the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project, the South Florida Water Management District adopted a Regional Water Availability Rule to establish allowable future increased withdrawals from the Biscayne Aquifer consistent with the projected water supplies required to implement future individual Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project projects. The rule limits water supply demands dependent upon recharge from the regional system to levels that existed prior to April 2006. As a result, cities needing additional water supplies over previous levels will be required to seek sources that are not dependent upon the Everglades for recharge. These alternative water supply solutions include recycling water, using reclaimed water to recharge the Biscayne Aquifer, or drawing water from the deeper Floridan Aquifer.”

Four federal protected species were identified on the property: Bartram’s scrub hairstreak butterfly, Florida bonneted bat, deltoid spurge, and tiny polygala. It appears from the report that this development is going to have a huge impact to the Bartram’s scrub hairstreak butterfly. The report stated how the Florida bonneted bat preferred foraging areas in large wide open spaces with few obstructions and no artificial lights in the Richmond area. This project appears it would be developing large areas of land and creating obstructions and artificial lighting from the new residential and commercial area. I am surprised this project is even being considered. In addition, the FT eastern indigo snake has been observed in similar habitat in the area. As a native Floridian, who worked for 9 years all over the state of Florida I might have seen this snake once. So, to have one documented in Martinez Pineland makes this property and its habitat even more imperiled. Among the other federally listed species that could occur on this property or have been observed on adjacent properties. The preserved areas appeared to be scattered and spilt by the proposed development causing further habitat fragmentation. With the possibility of a small, short in width corridor along the boundary. This proposed on-site mitigation does not seem sufficient for the Federally listed species identified on this property or which could use this site in the future.

I doubt the new residents are going to be happy about the proposed fire management. From my experience with adjacent neighbors it is a huge hurdle to convince them how it is not only important to the habitat but also their homes. I think it is going to be even harder to conduct fire management with the spilt preserved areas as they will be even smaller areas. The EA/HCP even states the lack of fire due to the location close to developed areas. “Some successful fire management has been accomplished by MDC (Service 2013a), Everglades National Park (ENP) and the Service’s National Key Deer Refuge in the Florida Keys;

however, within more populated areas (i.e., Miami and the Florida Keys), these efforts are hampered by the pattern of land ownership and development in addition to residential and commercial properties located proximal to pine rockland habitat (Snyder et al. 2005; Service 2014).”

As I read the EA it tells me more should be done to protect these last remaining fragments instead that oh well let's just put some concrete over it and give up. I hope you read past the so-called great alternatives this project has thought up to pave over natural habitats in south Florida with rare, imperiled pine rockland habitat with Federally endangered species identified on-site, on adjacent properties or with the potential to be on-site. The neighboring University, Zoo and government agencies should be assisting with man power and money to help preserve and restore this rockland pine community. While also providing this land for students, professors, zoo and government biologist to research. I hope no pine rockland community sees further development prospects in Miami. Good luck with your review. Please feel free to contact me with any questions on my comment for the Coral Reef Commons HCP.

Thank you,

Julie Milstid

From: [Jennifer Leer](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP: Bad Deal for Species
Date: Sunday, May 07, 2017 12:30:44 AM

I'm writing to request you to provide pine rocklands plants and animals with the protections they urgently need to survive extinction. As you know, many of these species are found only in endangered pine rockland forests -- including the acres slated for the development of Coral Reef Commons.

The development project's promise to preserve some pine rockland habitat isn't good enough. The loss of this precious land could be a death sentence for many of these species, and the proposed habitat conservation plan doesn't account for the fact that, for some of the species, there's simply nowhere else to live. Nor does it explain how the Service will achieve its mandate of ensuring that these animals and plants not only survive but recover to the point where the protections of the Endangered Species Act are no longer needed.

Furthermore, I was disappointed to learn that despite tremendous public opposition to this project and support for the pine rockland forest habitat and its species, the Service declined to host a public hearing on the proposal. Please reconsider this misstep and give the public an opportunity to learn more about our amazing wildlife and the threats against them.

We don't need more development in South Florida. We do need to protect our wildlife -- including imperiled plants, beetles and butterflies -- and their forest home from vanishing.

Thank you,

Jennifer Leer



From: [Brett Dennison](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP: Bad Deal for Species
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 8:08:36 PM

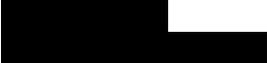
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Thank you,

Brett Dennison


From: [J Angell](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP: Bad Deal for Species
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 9:48:00 PM

I'm writing to request you to provide pine rocklands plants and animals with the protections they urgently need to survive extinction. As you know, many of these species are found only in endangered pine rockland forests -- including the acres slated for the development of Coral Reef Commons.

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Thank you,

J Angell



From: sara_sexton
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP: Bad Deal for Species
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 5:35:02 PM

I'm writing to request you to provide pine rocklands plants and animals with the protections they urgently need to survive extinction. As you know, many of these species are found only in endangered pine rockland forests -- including the acres slated for the development of Coral Reef Commons.

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Thank you,

sara sexton



From: [Kathleen Smaluk-Nix](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP: Bad Deal for Species
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 4:04:47 PM

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Thank you,

Kathleen Smaluk-Nix


From: [Raymond Collins](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP: Bad Deal for Species
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 12:29:29 PM

I'm writing to request you to provide pine rocklands plants and animals with the protections they urgently need to survive extinction. As you know, many of these species are found only in endangered pine rockland forests -- including the acres slated for the development of Coral Reef Commons.

The development project's promise to preserve some pine rockland habitat isn't good enough. The loss of this precious land could be a death sentence for many of these species, and the proposed habitat conservation plan doesn't account for the fact that, for some of the species, there's simply nowhere else to live. Nor does it explain how the Service will achieve its mandate of ensuring that these animals and plants not only survive but recover to the point where the protections of the Endangered Species Act are no longer needed.

Furthermore, I was disappointed to learn that despite tremendous public opposition to this project and support for the pine rockland forest habitat and its species, the Service declined to host a public hearing on the proposal. Please reconsider this misstep and give the public an opportunity to learn more about our amazing wildlife and the threats against them.

We don't need more development in South Florida. We do need to protect our wildlife -- including imperiled plants, beetles and butterflies -- and their forest home from vanishing.

Thank you,

Raymond Collins



From: [Katy Whitehouse](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP: Bad Deal for Species
Date: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 12:27:23 PM

I'm writing to request you to provide pine rocklands plants and animals with the protections they urgently need to survive extinction. As you know, many of these species are found only in endangered pine rockland forests -- including the acres slated for the development of Coral Reef Commons.

The development project's promise to preserve some pine rockland habitat isn't good enough. The loss of this precious land could be a death sentence for many of these species, and the proposed habitat conservation plan doesn't account for the fact that, for some of the species, there's simply nowhere else to live. Nor does it explain how the Service will achieve its mandate of ensuring that these animals and plants not only survive but recover to the point where the protections of the Endangered Species Act are no longer needed.

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We don't need more development in South Florida. We do need to protect our wildlife -- including imperiled plants, beetles and butterflies -- and their forest home from vanishing.

Thank you,

Katy Whitehouse



From: [lennart.blomqvist](mailto:lennart.blomqvist@fws.gov)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons HCP: Bad Deal for Species
Date: Sunday, May 07, 2017 3:04:03 PM

I'm writing to request you to provide pine rocklands plants and animals with the protections they urgently need to survive extinction. As you know, many of these species are found only in endangered pine rockland forests -- including the acres slated for the development of Coral Reef Commons.

The development project's promise to preserve some pine rockland habitat isn't good enough. The loss of this precious land could be a death sentence for many of these species, and the proposed habitat conservation plan doesn't account for the fact that, for some of the species, there's simply nowhere else to live. Nor does it explain how the Service will achieve its mandate of ensuring that these animals and plants not only survive but recover to the point where the protections of the Endangered Species Act are no longer needed.

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We don't need more development in South Florida. We do need to protect our wildlife -- including imperiled plants, beetles and butterflies -- and their forest home from vanishing.

Thank you,

lennart.blomqvist



From: [Natalie Felder](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons project comments
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 11:01:50 AM

Good morning,

I am concerned about the proposed Coral Reef Commons development project. The project will be built on a highly threatened ecosystem and the new construction will destroy those 130 acres of habitat for protected species. Not only will those acres be gone, the rest of the surrounding ecosystem will also face negative effects. Increased air and noise pollution, water runoff, plus increased traffic and litter. Some of the studies done may show tests have been passed according to current regulations, but that does not mean this is a good idea. The increased development all around Florida is a huge worry for me because the natural areas of Florida are rapidly disappearing. I am also concerned that the Environmental Assessment based a lot of the findings on research that is now outdated. Especially in the climate change section. Every year research finds that the oceans and temperatures will rise more than previously thought. And Florida will face these effects head on as our shorelines disappear.

Please reconsider this project. Is the cost of habitat loss really worth selfish human consumerism?

Thank you,
Natalie Felder

From: [Jackson Helms](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral reef commons public comment
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 11:59:38 AM

Don't approve this plan to develop a critical and irreplaceable natural landscape. They can build on already developed areas if they need to. Pine rocklands are already almost entirely gone, and remaining patches need to be preserved.

Dr. Jackson Helms



From: [Brittany Rivers](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 9:55:06 PM

Please do not allow this to go through. There is so little of this rare habitat left.

Thank you,
Brittany Rivers



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Cugno, Michael](mailto:Cugno.Michael)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Cc: mscjr@att.net
Subject: Coral Reef Commons
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:09:07 PM

Greetings,

I'm a Miami native of over 60 years and I am 110% against any commercial development of the Coral Reef Commons track located on SW 152 Street near Zoo-Miami. The quality of life in Miami, in general, has greatly declined, due to unchecked growth, mismanagement of natural resources, infrastructure, and over-population. Putting commercial and residential structures at this site will typify all that is wrong in Miami-Dade County. The sale of the property by the University of Miami is also a great travesty and it has not gone unnoticed by residents and supporters of UM. Shame on the "U".

I've live several miles from Coral Reef Commons and the traffic is out of control and will never be better. The county will never be able to keep up with the growth. The plans to expand Zoo-Miami plus this development will drive people away who live here. Land values will drop and no-one will really want to live nearby because of the traffic gridlock. It's already out-of-control. This area will continue a downward trend and degrade. It's in a decline that this development will not help. Those who frequent the area will be just visitors in the end and when they realize the cost to gain entry to the zoo is out-of-control they too will not come into the area. And, if those same people had to live in the area that would reject this development idea in seconds.

As a Florida Master Naturalist I can easily see the value of the property in its uniqueness and the need to be preserved it should paramount and for the good of all the people. Building apartments, a Walmart, or any other commercial or residential structure is not only absurd and ridiculous, it's a travesty. It typifies and demonstrates yet another prime example of ignorant and greedy people who have no ties to the community. They often have quite a bit of tunnel vision and see only dollar signs. For those of us who live here it's just another example of the complete failure to protect what's left of the natural environment. Natural places like these are not replaceable. They can never be restored after the cement is poured.

If the FWS has the power to reject and stop this development, I encourage you to take this action now. Perhaps the author and scientist, Stephen William Hawking, is correct when he stated this week that we have "100 years left to find another habitable planet". We truly are destroying our natural environment and that is, our planet. I won't be around to see it all but my children's-children will be and at least they will know I stood against this kind of development.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Cugno, Jr.



From: [JMolchan](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Commons
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 3:33:44 PM

Please don't let developers destroy the pine dockland area in Miami. There is so little of it left and what is there sustains an ecosystem and its endangered species.

We have to set aside some land, corridors for wildlife.

Malls are obsolete and we don't need another paved ghost town in South Dade no matter how optimistic the plans are.

Sincerely,

Janet Molchan

From: [Carolyn Good](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef Walmart
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 10:28:21 PM

Hello,

My name is Carolyn and I would like to voice my dissent for the Walmart planned in the Coral Reef Commons. The Coral Reef Commons Draft Habitat Conservation Plan shouldn't be necessary because we shouldn't be building anything there. Please leave the preserve alone and don't allow the Walmart to be built. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Good

From: [David Axe](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Coral Reef
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 9:34:54 PM

Please preserve all the rare pine forest at Coral Reef. No Walmart! This is rare and ancient habitat that we must preserve for future generations.

David Axe

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sarah Latimer](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Crc
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 1:33:37 PM

Please do not develop this Irreplaceable habitat.
Sincerely, Sarah Latimer

From: [Fabio Da Prat](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Destruction of endangered pine forest
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 8:09:52 PM

Good evening

I am a student at the university of Florida, and a south Florida resident. After all I have learned about forests in school, I find it very important to conserve this endangered forest. There has to be other places for this Walmart and development to occur. Please don't let this happen, it's our job to preserve as much of native Florida as possible.

Thank you very much,
Fabio D.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Barrie Bazarsky](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Florida habitat
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 12:35:10 PM

Please preserve the habitat necessary for these species to survive. What is lost can never be recovered. Now is the time to act for us all. Thank you. Barrie Bazarsky

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ashleigh Blackford](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: FW: Miami Pine Rocklands Development
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 3:36:52 PM

From: Karina M [mailto:karina.m0520@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:54 PM
To: ashleigh_blackford@fws.gov
Subject: Miami Pine Rocklands Development

Dear Ms. Blackford,

I am a student and voter who has lived in Miami all my life. I do not want to see more and more land being destroyed and replaced with big box stores. I am writing to you because of my concern about the Miami Pine Rocklands development project. If the remaining permits are approved, it could result in detrimental effects to the wildlife and surrounding area as well as to citizens living near the site.

The development of the Richmond Pine Rocklands would destroy the home of over 100 threatened, endangered, or rare species of animals and plants. Most importantly, it would threaten the existence of the Miami Tiger Beetle and the Miami Rock Snake which are not found anywhere else in the world. We cannot continue to let species go extinct and expect no consequences.

Replacing the Rocklands with an unnecessary Wal-Mart or residences will also add to terrible traffic in the area.

We need the Rocklands not only for their aesthetic value but for their importance on a local and global scale.

Please vote against the remaining permits needed to approve the development and create an open forum for the public to voice their opinions on the matter.

Sincerely,
Karina Martinez



From: [Dell, David](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: Coral Reef Commons Draft Habitat Conservation Plan
Date: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 1:52:24 PM

David Dell
Southeast Region
HCP and Safe Harbors Coordinator
404/ [REDACTED]
fax: 7081
david_dell@fws.gov

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cully Waggoner** <cullywaggoner@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, May 2, 2017 at 1:11 PM
Subject: Coral Reef Commons Draft Habitat Conservation Plan
To: david_dell@fws.gov, Ashleigh Blackford FWS <ashleigh_blackford@fws.gov>, crc_hcp@fws.gov

Coral Reef Commons Draft Habitat Conservation Plan

To: Mr. David Dell, Regional HCP Coordinator, Atlanta

david_dell@fws.gov.

CC: Ashleigh Blackford, Supervisory Wildlife Biologist, South Florida Ecological Services

ashleigh_blackford@fws.gov

crc_hcp@fws.gov

From: Cully Waggoner, Vice President of the Miami Pine Rocklands Coalition

Re: Coral Reef Commons Draft Habitat Conservation Plan

Agency/Docket Number: FWS-R4-ES-2016-N223

Document Number: 2017-05767

Dear Sir(s)

First, I would like to formally thank FWS for last week's webinar concerning this HCP, the ITP and the additional information and clarification of the rules and laws concerning it. I have additional comments from my previous letter to add and I'll start with questions that were raised concerning issuance of the ITP.

1). Is the proposed take incidental to an otherwise lawful act?

That depends, while it may be within the law under Section 10 (a) (2) (B), the question should just because you "can" do something, "should" you do it? As taxpayers, we pay FWS to protect species, and add them to the ESA and not issue Take Permits to kill them. What is the purpose of getting a species on the ESA list to save it from extinction only to allow a developer to "take" them and cause extinction.

2). Would implementation of the HCP minimize and mitigate take to the maximum extent practicable?

No, not at all. The maximum extent of the HCP would mean that ALL the land was going to be preserved and there would be no commercial development allowed so that the habitat would remain intact and not fragmented as the HCP plans to do. Fragmentation is detrimental to the species that live there even if an ITP was not issued some species could go extinct because the size of the land they need to survive was dramatically cut back and separated.

3). Has the applicant ensured that adequate funding will be dedicated to ensure implementation of the programs and measures proposed in the submitted HCP?

No, of course not. The applicant is a Developer, not a Conservationist. You do not preserve anything by paving over it and breaking it into smaller pieces. Would you tear a Rembrandt painting apart and plaster over part of it in the living room and another part of it in the kitchen? No, so why is that being proposed for our masterpiece, the Richmond Pine Rocklands? Where in the HCP did the applicant list how much funding will be set aside specifically for the controlled burns that need to be done to preserve the Pine Rockland?

The ITP is for 30 years, did the applicant propose a tentative burn schedule of 6 to 10 controlled burns for the next 30 years in the HCP? Should they be required to do so? Does anybody really believe that the applicant will really do the burns next to a Walmart retail shopping center and 900 apartments that will draw upwards 30,000 car trips each day? Not to mention the 60,000 daily car trips SW 152 Street, Coral Reef Drive is already inundated with currently.

4). Will the issuance of the ITP appreciably reduce the likelihood of survival or recovery of listed species?

Yes, it is a Death Sentence for the Eight Covered Species. The Bartram's scrub-hairstreak butterfly, Florida leafwing butterfly, Florida bonneted bat, Miami tiger beetle, Eastern indigo snake, Gopher tortoise, Rim rock crowned snake and white-crowned pigeon.

As we know, everything is connected in life. The little fish gets eaten by the mid-size fish and the mid-size fish gets eaten by the big fish and so on up and down the food chain. Take one out the equation and it affects the others. It is even more dire in the Pine Rocklands where there is a limit to the area in which they live and thrive so to "take" any one of them will have a drastic effect on the others.

The HCP tries to minimize the impact when asking for the ITP and of the Covered Species, only, one, the Bartram's scrub-hairstreak butterfly has reportedly been documented on the CRC Property. When the applicant started work on the site in 2015, they brought in people from Fairchild Tropical Gardens. One of the people from Fairchild took a picture of the Bartram's scrub-hairstreak butterfly and published it.

When the applicant, Ram Development found out about the picture, they were furious

and started all sorts of legal action against everyone even remotely involved. Does this sound like a company that will do all they can to make the taking “incidental” or does it sound like a company that cares more about themselves and will “take” as much as they can even if it wipes out a few or all of the endangered species covered?

5). Are there other measures that should be required as a condition of the ITP?

Yes, mandatory burns every 3 to 5 years to preserve the land with a tentative burn schedule from the U.S. Forest Service for said burns. Mandatory notification to all prospective retail tenants and all residential tenants of such required burns and the tentative burn schedule before they sign a lease. The applicant needs to have signed acknowledgment of the burns from all tenants kept on file and have copies on file with Miami-Dade County to prevent any future legal action from tenants that do not want to have burns so close to their business and homes for the next 30 years.

The Richmond Pine Rocklands are the largest Globally Imperiled Tract of Pine Rocklands outside of Everglades National Park and have been and will continue to be a prime target for development unless they are preserved. It is abundantly clear that the applicant, Ram Development and the University of Miami along with our local Miami-Dade County Government are doing as little as possible to save this land and the endangered species that can only survive on it. So, we need to have the “adults” at FWS involved to stop this “childish” action of the applicant and do the right thing and reject the HCP and deny the ITP.

The U.S. Geological Survey Agency has determined that only 1.5% of Pine Rocklands remain in South Florida, down from 2% not that long ago. South Florida has been over developed for years and only very small fragments of habitat remain spread out across Miami-Dade County. Denying the ITP will force the applicant to look for other options and other less environmentally sensitive sites to build. Miami-Dade County should be encouraged to propose a land swap deal of suitable land currently in county inventory for the Coral Reef Commons site.

I volunteer as Train Crew at the Gold Coast Railroad Museum located in the heart of the Richmond Pine Rocklands. I have been out in the Pine Rocklands nearly every weekend going on three years now. I know firsthand that they are home to more than a dozen rare and Federally Protected plants and animals, I point this out to our guests on the train ride. I personally have seen 4 of the 8 “Covered Species” in the Pine Rocklands. Despite the denial of the applicant I know for a fact that they are there.

The Richmond Pine Rocklands are significantly higher than other parts of the County, they are part of the Miami Rock Ridge, which made them prime for development. I am not an expert on Climate Change or Global Warming, but as a resident of South Florida I have seen the effects it has made over my 57 years living here. There is erosion and flooding that takes place in various parts of the County. The Richmond Pine Rocklands are a "Lifeboat Habitat" for rare and endangered plants and animals to protect them from such conditions.

Most people think that all of the Richmond Pine Rocklands are designated "Critically Endangered Habitat" as there are signs stating such all over Zoo Miami property and the Zoo has Pine Rocklands as one of the exhibits. However, that is not true. A lot of it, like the Coral Reef Commons site are not and there is even more proposed development of a major theme / water park that will further fragment and destroy the habitat and adversely affect the endangered species that live there.

The Miami Pine Rocklands Coalition and all of our environmental organization partners and our members and over 1,200 Facebook followers vehemently oppose the applicants HCP for the Coral Reef Commons Project. FWS and the applicant got to hear some of us speak out against it on last week's webinar. FWS has gotten letters and e-mail and will be receiving more from concerned citizens right up to the May 22 deadline for Public Comments. Every one of us strongly urges and is greatly depending upon the FWS and our Miami Dade County Government to work together with the applicant to find another solution. We desperately want and need to preserve and restore the Richmond Pine Rocklands for our future generations and never allow any more commercial development.

Save It Don't Pave It

--

Cully Waggoner

Vice President, Miami Pine Rocklands Coalition

Personal:

Cell: [REDACTED]

Home: [REDACTED]

E-Mail: cullywaggoner@gmail.com;

MSN IM: cullywaggoner@hotmail.com;

Facebook: [REDACTED] http://www.facebook.com/cully_waggoner

Twitter: [REDACTED] <http://twitter.com/CullyWaggoner>

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/cullywaggoner>

Instagram: <http://instagram.com/cullywaggoner>

Skype: cully.waggoner

From: [Dell, David](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: Fw: Save the Pine Rocklands
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:50:49 PM

David Dell
Southeast Region
HCP and Safe Harbors Coordinator
404/ [REDACTED]
fax: 7081
david_dell@fws.gov

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----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Ed Granda** <Fishboy143@hotmail.com>
Date: Fri, May 5, 2017 at 2:45 PM
Subject: Fw: Save the Pine Rocklands
To: "david_dell@fws.gov" <david_dell@fws.gov>

Dear, Mr. Dell

I am writing to you because of the concern of many people as well as myself. It is my belief that every animal on this planet is equally important as humans. Due to this I bring up the controversial action that is taking place in the Pine Rockland's surrounding Zoo Miami to deforest this area for development. Currently, this development will endanger many species including the already existing species listed as highly endangered such as bonneted bat.

The passing of this action will have many negative effects not just on the population on animals, but on current human development in the area. I realize that many times the actions taken towards the environment cannot be determined by the importance on the environment but the people who live in the area. Therefore I would like to discuss both.

The many disadvantages of this action on humans include the already grid locked traffic in the area. This is shown by the massive projects currently in this area, that focus on the commuter day to day travel of all people in the area. If you take this construction into account one can realize that development in this area is already at a high density and addition of any store especially a big brand such as Walmart. Precisely Walmart in

this area, I believe would counter act the action taking place to take the current grid lock to an end.

Now, when taking the environment into account I think it is very important to realize that deforestation due to development is a major issue we already face nationwide. 2% of the remaining Pine Rockland is what this area consist of. The eradication of this environment will effect all living creatures that I believe and I hope you can greatly consider to be of up most important to the addiction of the great Florida environment we love to have here.

Finally, I ask that you take all my opinions on this topic and realize that it would be greatly appreciated my myself as well as the community I live in. I ask that you greatly consider interfering on this issue and make it highly difficult to pass the rest of the permits needed for this development. I also ask that you greatly consider the addiction of a hearing for many of the community to speak out about their beliefs. I would greatly appreciate any future information that you can provide me in order for me to follow up on this topic and express my views to you as well as the project managers that want to destroy place as beautiful as the Pine Rockland's.

Sincerely,

A very concerned environmentalist.

From: [Blackford, Ashleigh](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: Miami Pine Rocklands- No Public Hearing
Date: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 7:58:08 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Leo Jacobs** <eejac@bellsouth.net>
Date: Tue, May 2, 2017 at 12:18 AM
Subject: Miami Pine Rocklands- No Public Hearing
To: Ashleigh.Blackford@fws.gov

What to do Better

The Mitigation plan ignored the evidence of 25 Bonneted Bat calls at the site, saying no bats lived on site. Further investigation needed. Using it for feeding space is needed to survive.

Tiger beetles were never surveyed although the report says no tiger beetles were found. Do It.

Why was the development placed in the middle of the property? Larger tracts of pine land must be preserved. Fragmentation makes it less valuable to wildlife. Minimize fragmentation at the expense of convenience to the developer.

Lee Jacobs



--

Ashleigh Blackford
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Supervisory Wildlife Biologist
Planning & Resource Conservation - East
South Florida Ecological Services Office
1339 20th Street - Vero Beach, FL 32960

phone: 

ashleigh_blackford@fws.gov

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From: [Dell, David](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: Miami Pine Rocklands
Date: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 1:45:04 PM

David Dell
Southeast Region
HCP and Safe Harbors Coordinator
404/ [REDACTED]
fax: 7081
david_dell@fws.gov

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Stephanie** <sbrovold@bellsouth.net>
Date: Tue, May 2, 2017 at 1:43 PM
Subject: Miami Pine Rocklands
To: david_dell@fws.gov, ashleigh_blackford@fws.gov

As concerned citizens, my family, friends and I ask you to please not approve more destruction of the small remaining areas of Pine Rocklands in Miami. They are home to several species of plants and animals that are on the endangered species list.

The Walmart project near the Zoo Miami is the worst of all plans. There are so many other areas nearby where they could build, but this is a poor choice. Not only will it destroy a large tract of Rocklands, it will cause unbelievable traffic problems in an area already plagued by such. There are over 60,00 cars of traffic in this area every day now, and adding more would be tragic. AND there is already a Walmart only about 5 miles away. The entire plan was done with obvious payoffs and shenanigans and no concern for the citizens of the area. I do not know one single person who approves of this Walmart, apt. buildings and a waterpark to be built on that particular tract of land.

In this day and age, when money seems to be the only concern, I hope that both of you will do what you can to stop this from happening.

From: [Blackford, Ashleigh](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: Miami Pine Rocklands
Date: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 12:45:58 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Stephanie** <sbrovold@bellsouth.net>
Date: Tue, May 2, 2017 at 1:43 PM
Subject: Miami Pine Rocklands
To: david_dell@fws.gov, ashleigh_blackford@fws.gov

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In this day and age, when money seems to be the only concern, I hope that both of you will do what you can to stop this from happening.

--

Ashleigh Blackford
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Supervisory Wildlife Biologist
Planning & Resource Conservation - East
South Florida Ecological Services Office
1339 20th Street - Vero Beach, FL 32960
phone: [REDACTED]
ashleigh_blackford@fws.gov

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From: [Dell, David](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: No Public Hearing Pine Rocklands in Miami
Date: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 9:14:52 AM

David Dell
Southeast Region
HCP and Safe Harbors Coordinator
404/ [REDACTED]
fax: 7081
david_dell@fws.gov

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----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Leo Jacobs** <eeljac@bellsouth.net>
Date: Tue, May 2, 2017 at 12:21 AM
Subject: No Public Hearing Pine Rocklands in Miami
To: David_dell@fws.gov

What to do Better

The Mitigation plan ignored the evidence of 25 Bonneted Bat calls at the site, saying no bats lived on site. Further investigation needed. Using it for feeding space is needed to survive.

Tiger beetles were never surveyed although the report says no tiger beetles were found. Do It.

Why was the development placed in the middle of the property? Larger tracts of pine land must be preserved. Fragmentation makes it less valuable to wildlife. Minimize fragmentation at the expense of convenience to the developer.

Lee Jacobs
[REDACTED]

From: [Blackford, Ashleigh](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: pine rockland
Date: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 9:43:43 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <rosboll@comcast.net>
Date: Tue, May 2, 2017 at 9:39 AM
Subject: pine rockland
To: Ashleigh_Blackford@fws.gov
Cc: David_Dell@fws.gov

Please!!!!Save our rock pineland!!
Just because Donna Shalala greedily sold donated
land to a developer, doesn't mean we have to develop
endangered environment.
Thank you.
Rose Sobol

--

Ashleigh Blackford
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Supervisory Wildlife Biologist
Planning & Resource Conservation - East
South Florida Ecological Services Office
1339 20th Street - Vero Beach, FL 32960
phone: [REDACTED]
ashleigh_blackford@fws.gov

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From: [Dell, David](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: pine rockland
Date: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 9:46:05 AM

David Dell
Southeast Region
HCP and Safe Harbors Coordinator
404/ [REDACTED]
fax: 7081
david_dell@fws.gov

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: <rosboll@comcast.net>
Date: Tue, May 2, 2017 at 9:39 AM
Subject: pine rockland
To: Ashleigh_Blackford@fws.gov
Cc: David_Dell@fws.gov

Please!!!!Save our rock pineland!!
Just because Donna Shalala greedily sold donated land to a developer, doesn't mean we have to develop endangered environment.
Thank you.
Rose Sobol

From: [Dell, David](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: Pine Rocklands
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:55:28 PM

David Dell
Southeast Region
HCP and Safe Harbors Coordinator
404/ [REDACTED]
fax: 7081
david_dell@fws.gov

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----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Verania Sosa** <sosaverania@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, May 5, 2017 at 2:47 PM
Subject: Pine Rocklands
To: David_dell@fws.gov

May 5, 2017

David Dell

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species

Dear David Dell,

I am writing to you because of my concern of the Pine Rocklands here in South Florida. I am a student at school dedicated to environmental awareness and the issue of the Pine Rocklands is a concern to me. The remaining 2% of the Pine Rocklands are unique to this region of South Florida. Many endangered species can be found here and its destruction could cause them to become extinct. The destruction of a biome to put up a chain store and apartment communities will cause an inflation of traffic in an already overpopulated area.

Over 100 species would be affected, many rare and critically imperiled. Animals like

the Florida Bonneted Bat, Bartram Scrub-Hairstreak Butterfly, Florida Brickell-Bush, and the Carter Small Flowered Flax are special in how they were first discovered in South Florida's Pine Rockland territory.

Although RAM is setting aside 40 acres of land as preservation, it is not near enough what is needed to protect all the animal and plant species found there. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the last hope the Rocklands have to survive this tragedy. With its destruction, future generations would not be able to experience the full wonders of the Pine Rocklands and its unique species. Please keep me informed about your thoughts on the topic and your involvement.

Sincerely,

Verania Sosa

A concerned Citizen

From: [Dell, David](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: Preservation of Ocean Floor Land
Date: Monday, May 08, 2017 6:58:08 AM

David Dell
Southeast Region
HCP and Safe Harbors Coordinator
404/ [REDACTED]
fax: 7081
david_dell@fws.gov

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Miriam Pardo** <miriamrpardo@icloud.com>
Date: Sat, May 6, 2017 at 11:05 AM
Subject: Preservation of Ocean Floor Land
To: david_dell@fws.gov

Kind Sir
We oppose

PUBLISHED DOCUMENT

AGENCY:

Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION:

Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY:

Under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act),

Start Printed Page 14909

we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce the receipt and availability of a proposed habitat conservation plan and accompanying documents related to an application from four applicants for a permit associated with construction of the Coral Reef Commons mixed-use development (project) in Miami-Dade County, Florida. If issued, the permit would authorize take of three federally listed species, one Federal candidate, and two State-listed species, incidental to project development, occupation, and use.

~ Miriam R Pardo, PhD



From: [Dell, David](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: request for local Public hearing FWS R4 ES 2016-N223, Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Incidental Take Permit Application and Environmental Assessment for Commercial Mixed Use Development; Miami Dade County, FL; and, 90 day Public Comment Request
Date: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 8:29:46 AM

David Dell
Southeast Region
HCP and Safe Harbors Coordinator
404/ [REDACTED]
fax: 7081
david_dell@fws.gov

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Joann <joelpi@aol.com>
Date: Mon, May 1, 2017 at 10:32 AM
Subject: request for local Public hearing FWS R4 ES 2016-N223, Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Incidental Take Permit Application and Environmental Assessment for Commercial Mixed Use Development; Miami Dade County, FL; and, 90 day Public Comment Request
To: david_dell@fws.gov, ashleigh_blackford@fws.gov

Dear Mr. Dell and Ms. Blackford-

As a concerned Florida resident I respectfully request a public hearing on the above referenced proposed incidental take permit and environmental assessment on the commercial mixed use development locally known and Coral Reef Commons. I request that this public hearing take place during the comment period and in a location and timeframe that ensures members of the public will be able to meaningfully participate. A public hearing would align with the stated importance of public hearings in the Endangered Species Act, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the Council on Environmental Quality.

Additionally, I respectfully request the public comment period be extended to ninety (90) days to allow the public additional time to examine the proposed Coral Reef Commons Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). As stated by Dr. Jeff Dorsey in a letter to you this past March:

The Habitat Conservation Plan which was three years in the making cannot be independently corroborated and cannot even be fact-checked in the 60 days allowed for comment. The comment period should be extended to 90 days. However, public hearings on the proposal for the RAM site and more broadly on the fate of how the entire Richmond pine rocklands tract surrounding MetroZoo and to allow FWS to provide guidance to the public and to the County on how it should be restored and conserved.

The FWS should allow independent scientists the same amount of time that the developers had

(3 years). These independent researchers should have unfettered access to all properties that make up the Richmond tract and should be able to carry out their work during whatever months that they deem most appropriate.

Part of what needs to be done is to undo on some significant area what has been wrought by years of neglect. The University of Miami is one of the world renowned research institutions in research and learning on the environment. Its reputation is on the line. The University was given the stewardship over significant areas of federal land which at the time, if not pristine, was much closer to what a pine rocklands is understood to be than what is there today. It failed to take care of what it was freely given and ex post did not merit the trust that the Federal Government put in it. Even back when the University of Miami received this land, its scientists knew that periodic fire was an integral part of the maintenance of a pine rocklands ecosystem. The UM accepted that the stewardship and took advantage of the classification of the land as agricultural, paying negligible taxes until harvesting its windfall with the sale of the land to RAM Realty for development. If this land had been in the middle of the Redlands Agricultural Area and UM had let noxious weeds overrun the area, neighboring farmers would have been up in arms.

Under the supervision of its own scientists and in concert with independent scientists and following guidance provided by the FWS, the University of Miami should be required to immediately pick a significant compact area (say 25 acres) and restore it at its own expense. This restoration should be carried out with the agreement and under the supervision of the FWS which should be properly compensated, in this age of proposed federal budget cuts, for its efforts. This restoration would include the manual removal of non-native plant, cutting and removal hardwoods not found in pine rockland and removal of excess organic material and controlled burns and to restore this block to as a block as a witness to what is truly being lost as a result of the conversion from the pine rocklands habitat that it constituted at the time that the UM's stewardship started to the mess that it is in now and which is described in RAM's HCP. Annual monitoring at appropriate times of the year by UM and other scientists will confirm if the restoration is bringing back species not found at the time that the HCP survey was done but which could be expected to be found in a pine rocklands such as that of the Richmond tract. After three years, the FWS will have a better idea of what species this habitat will support. At that time, FWS and the community and the county should revisit the question of whether or not the entire Richmond tract should be carved up piecemeal with projects like RAM's and FOX's into commercial and residential development of which Miami already has a surfeit or restored and preserved for use in perpetuity by the community, including not just people but also the other species with whom we share the land of south Florida.

Native habitats in Florida are rapidly disappearing and Coral Reef Commons would negatively affect the largest remaining pine rockland outside of Everglades National Park. The pine rockland community provides vital habitat for many endangered species including the bonneted bat (USFWS designated endangered species 2011), Miami Tiger Beetle (USFWS designated endangered species 2016), Florida Leafwing butterfly (USFWS designated endangered species and Richmond Pine Rocklands designated critical habitat, 2014) to name a few.

The proposed project has created a substantial environmental controversy and a substantial interest in a public hearing. Many concerned residents oppose the project and strongly support preservation of the last remaining pine rocklands- officially designated as GLOBALLY IMPERILED HABITAT. As stakeholders in the future of the the pine rocklands, concerned citizens would like the opportunity to attend a public hearing on the application.

Respectfully,

Joann E. Picariello

From: [Dell, David](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: South Florida Pine Rockland Preservation
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:56:07 PM

David Dell
Southeast Region
HCP and Safe Harbors Coordinator
404/ [REDACTED]
fax: 7081
david_dell@fws.gov

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----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Diego Pagan** <diegopagan99@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, May 5, 2017 at 2:48 PM
Subject: South Florida Pine Rockland Preservation
To: david_dell@fws.gov

May 5, 2017

Dear David Dell,

My name is Diego and I am a concerned citizen of Miami, who puts the environment first. I am writing to you due to my concern for the state of the Pine Rockland in Southwest Miami-Dade. Economic development is important and I believe a Wal-Mart can spark a community, but the environment and its wildlife will not benefit from that whatsoever. Paving the land for new construction and development will only lead to a loss in habitat and have a negative effect on its wildlife. This certain area is rich with rare and endemic species, of which 18 of those plants and 5 of those animals are restricted to this community. The pinelands year-round dryness has been proven to be essential for the thriving of wildlife there. This constitutes only 2 percent of pineland remaining in Dade-County so it is essential to ensure that we leave it as is. I am asking that you do not issue the permits that will allow development on this land. A public hearing can be an option in order to listen and discuss different opinions on what to do to protect this land.

Sincerely,

Diego Pagan

From: [Dell, David](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd: TE15009C-0
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 7:06:29 AM

David Dell
Southeast Region
HCP and Safe Harbors Coordinator
404/ [REDACTED]
fax: 7081
david_dell@fws.gov

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----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Monica Ospina** <mospi003@fiu.edu>
Date: Thu, May 4, 2017 at 5:50 PM
Subject: TE15009C-0
To: david_dell@fws.gov

Hello Mr. Dell,

I a Florida resident living at 1139 NE 109 street, Miami, FL 33139.

I oppose the construction of the Coral Reef Commons mixed-use development (project) in Miami-Dade County, Florida. Please take into consideration the ecological importance of the Pine Rockland and all the listed species living there.

Thanks,

Monica

From: [Dell, David](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Fwd:
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 3:04:39 PM

David Dell
Southeast Region
HCP and Safe Harbors Coordinator
404/ [REDACTED]
fax: 7081
david_dell@fws.gov

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----- Forwarded message -----
From: Oscar Lacayo <oscarlacayo111@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, May 5, 2017 at 2:57 PM
Subject:
To: david_dell@fws.gov

May 5, 2017

David Dell

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species

Dear David Dell,

I am a young Hispanic male from Miami, Florida, and a student studying at MAST Academy. I am also a new voter who is concerned with the potential removal of the Pine Rocklands. The potential benefits that can come with the removal of the Pine Rocklands such as apartment complexes and retail stores may be beneficial for our economy, but I believe it is more important to preserve such a rare, endangered, majestic forest. We can possibly cause the extinction of many endangered species such as the Florida Bonneted Bat and the tiny polygala.

Moreover, the environmental impact of the removal of the Pine Rocklands can add to the pollution our city is experiencing, and the possible addition to global warming due to the

lack of trees. The removal of the forest can increase the already hot temperatures south Floridians experience every day which can cause much discontent within them. It is important that we begin now to preserve our endangered forests and species for the benefit of future generations and the health of our planet. We have the responsibility to not only take care of ourselves, but to also take care of our planet. A public hearing to promote awareness against the removal of the Pine Rocklands is the first step to preserving our beautiful planet. Please keep me informed about your thoughts on the topic.

Sincerely

Oscar Lacayo

From: [Scott Logan](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and associated Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed Coral Reef Commons development
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 5:51:22 PM

I am opposed to the planned development of the land on the 90 acre park of Pine Rockland on the old deserted Blimp base. To sacrifice park of endangered environment for a Walmart and housing of all things would be another blow to what is barely left of this environment and the endangered and other wildlife that is dependent on this land to survive. The offered 20 and 24 acre preserves are not enough for this wildlife and fauna to be shrunk into much less provide protection to this very, very, very rare ecosystem.

The excuse that this land is ruined is obviously being made by non-experts that are not knowledgeable of this type of ecosystem and are obviously in the pockets of the development interests that want to destroy this land for profit.

We cannot keep doing this to our land and expect our own species to survive.

Please save this precious piece of ecosystem and land for future generations!!!!

Scott Logan
[REDACTED]

From: [Ricardo Pol](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Habitat Conservation Plan
Date: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 10:23:15 AM
Importance: High

Dear Fish & Wildlife Services

I am writing in support of the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) by Coral Reef Commons. My mother lives in the area, as do many of my co-workers, so I am very familiar with the proposed conservation site. The development and management of the Coral Reef Preserve under the proposed HCP is the best hope for preservation of this habitat. Right now it is an eyesore filled with trash and actually doing more harm to the environment. This plan will provide the necessary management to conserve the endangered species present from now and far into the future. I hope you will approve the plan.

Thank you

Ricardo Pol MSN.MBA.HCM.CHPN.LNC | Director of Professional Services | Catholic Hospice, Inc.

Phone: [REDACTED] Fax: [REDACTED]
Email: Rpol@catholichospice.org

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From: [Katrina Smart](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: HCP
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 8:46:42 PM

Florida's biodiversity is invaluable! Please
Protect our unique species and do not let developed build in The coral reefs commons. Preserve our natural
treasures.

Katrina Smart
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ann Grewe](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Last remnants of the world's rarest forest
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 1:55:24 PM

Common sense says that land, plants and animals so rare as to be called the "North American version of the Galapagos Islands, with 31 plants found no where else in the world" should be protected, not built upon.

Sincerely
Dr Thomas and Ann Grewe



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: [Beth Browning](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 9:25:58 PM

Aren't there enough Wal-Marts already in Miami-Dade county that a pine forest with ancient habitat could be preserved?

From: [Joce Milanes](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Date: Sunday, May 07, 2017 8:01:40 AM

Please help protect our Florida pine lands! We need our parks, we do not need another Walmart or strip mall.

Please do not allow development on our only natural grounds in south florida.

I have enjoyed our natural land scape all my life, being a native of Miami south Florida. I would love to share this with my children and my Childrens children and those who come after.

Protect our natural Florida.
Thank you,

Jocelyn milanes

From: [JOHN SELBY](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Miami-Dade Counties Pine Rock Lands
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 3:06:50 PM

To whom it may concern:

I have no scientific background in why plants and animals are important. What I do know as fact is that everything on this earth is connected. It is self evident when you consider the pristine condition of this planet before the human animal decided it was superior to all else. The pollution exacerbates disease. Natural process have broken down.

How will history view this? Who will be the villain? Who will be the saint?

Please do not allow materialism to destroy the very thing that could save us all.

Sincerely,

Shirley J Selby

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Vanessa Baker](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Miami-Dade Pine Rockland
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 8:42:25 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

The pine rockland is one of the world's rarest forests and habitat for 31 plants found nowhere else in the world. America doesn't need another Wal-Mart at the expense of natural beauty and biodiversity that can never be replaced.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Vanessa Baker

From: [bonnie.adler](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Miami-Dade pinelands construction for a Walmart...
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 12:42:19 PM

The link to the story about the pinelands led to this one on Coral Reefs.

Where can I comment on the Miami-Dade pinelands?

Thanks,

Bonnie

From: [Jacqueline Freed](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Miami's Pine Rockland
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 12:12:36 PM

Hello,

I hope you are having a great day! My name is Jackie and I'm writing from Los Angeles to ask you to protect and preserve the unique habitat of Miami's rockland and its species. These plants are incredibly resilient, and from what I've read it is possible to reclaim these areas. As others have pointed out, the incredible uniqueness of these areas is worth protecting - once they're gone, they're gone forever.

The following questions are dramatic, but I don't know how else to communicate the seriousness of this situation.. Are you willing to live with the fact that you contributed to the literal extinction of some of these species? Do you want that to be the legacy you leave behind for your children?

I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of the matter!

Jackie Freed
Class of 2016

Sent from my iPhone

From: senorcoconut1@gmail.com
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: No development on the pine rocklands!
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 9:58:54 AM

I grew up near the pine rocklands and any thought of developing on this endangered land is DISGUSTING. We do not support development and we will fight any agency who tries to make that happen.

Heather LaFlame

From: kili1kili2@bellsouth.net
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: No to commercial development of Coral Reef Commons.
Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 10:52:15 PM

Dear US FWS,

I am adding my voice in opposing the commercial development of Coral Reef Commons .
Please preserve this small patch of wilderness in our community, home to a number of flora and fauna unique to this habitat.

And for what? A Walmart and more housing units in a highly dense and congested area in SW Miami Dade.
Businessmen and developers only care for money regardless of the consequence. They can build someplace else where there could be minimal environmental impact.(Further west, a number of agricultural lands can be rezoned for their plans)

US FWS, please side with the people on this matter. The future generation will also thank you.

Sincerely,
Luis Aquino



Sent from my iPad

From: [Kim Jones](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: NO TO WALMART!
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 9:24:38 PM

The biggest problem with this world is all the wildlife and nature being destroyed by the government and over population. We have enough Walmarts around they pop up everywhere like cancer, we don't need anymore walmarts. We are slowly killing this planet and eventually the planet will die and we will all die along with it. How can most of the world have little to no respect for this living planet that gives us shelter is beyond me and I know writing this letter is probably a waste of time because as I get older I learn that the government gives two shits about the people. No longer am I naive to the governments trickery. Instead of the government doing there job which I was led to believe growing up was to protect and serve the people they kill us slowly by destroying this planet, pumping chemicals and shit into our water, foods, animals that we eat, forcing prescription drugs down our throats to cause other problems and make us dependent on them(rather then legalizing marajuana nationwide which is far healthier then prescription drugs). I write to you to please think of this earth for once instead or your wallets and your egos. I really hope I'm there to say I told you so when this planet crumbles beneath us. Good day and screw walmart.

Kim

From: [Richey, Tina A](#)
To: ["rcrc_hcp@fws.gov"](mailto:rcrc_hcp@fws.gov)
Subject: No to Wal-Mart!
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 9:29:45 AM

You can build a shopping center ANYWHERE but you cannot replace a rare ecosystem! Nothing else needs to be said!

Tina Richey
Research Associate III
University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine
Amyloidosis and Cancer Theranostics
Preclinical and Diagnostic Molecular Imaging



From: [Lisey Good](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: No Walmart in Miami!
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 4:33:42 PM

This is a travesty.

From: [Jennifer Sader](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: No Walmart in rare habitat
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 8:25:02 PM

The U.S. is full of abandoned strip malls and empty Wal-Marts. Don't build one on such a precious piece of land with a unique habitat that cannot be replaced. Once these species disappear they can never be recovered.

From: [Joan Castro](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: NO Wal-Mart!!!
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 10:33:42 PM

Please do NOT destroy the irreplaceable natural habitat in south Florida! I lived there for eight years and can tell you the best times of my life were in the sand and the water...not in cement and glass structures!

My son and I loved exploring the nature including marine life and when he grew up earned his first degree in zoology. He is now a bioinformatician working in oncology at a major hospital helping to save lives.

If you destroy this habitat, you might destroy another child's dreams. You will definitely kill plants and kill animals that are extremely important and should be preserved.

Additionally, the trend now is for malls and stores to be closing. More people shop online now so this proposed building is not a sound economic plan. Retail jobs are going away like coal mining jobs.

Please stop this madness. Remember, you can't unring a bell.

Sincerely,
Joan Castro

Sent from my iPad

From: [Wendy Ryden](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: No Walmart
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 4:09:29 PM

Do not destroy the state's pine rockland for a Walmart. There are many Walmarts; the rock land is unique and perishing. Let decency prevail here over corporate greed. Have some shame!

Let's make America **SMART** again!

From: [Tavius Koltavy](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: No Walmart
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 4:14:30 PM

Hello,

My name is Tavius Koltavy. Please do not build a Walmart in this location. Honor the name 'coral reef' and make a conservatory of some kind, or perhaps a community space with local endeavors such as a farmer's market or a row of local-business-only stores.

Thank you,
Tavius

From: [A Yu](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: paving paradise and putting up a parking lot
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 8:16:09 PM

Not that I think it will help with the current administration, but it would be nice not to develop this 137 acres residential and commercial project in South Miami.

Thank you.

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/environment/article148456289.html>

From: [JIM FINNEGAN](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Pine areas
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 11:47:43 AM

I am AGAINST ANY development in the pine/rock areas by Miami! These must be preserved at all costs!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Robert Smith](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Pine forest
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 10:17:34 AM

Let's just plow up, pave over everything and then wonder why we are alone, abandoned, and starving. Please do the right thing. If we need to build, let's build on some piece of land that's already been scourged by our ignorance and greed.

Sent from Robert Smith Community Telephone, Inc.

From: [Josh Wise](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Pine lands
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:55:33 PM

It would be a shame to allow a Walmart and other standard everyday places to be built on top of a rare ecosystem. That area should be protected and restored it's a part of what makes Florida so pretty and unique. Please do the right thing and look after the natural Florida
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ashley Bisnow](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Pine Rockland
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 8:44:47 AM

Disappointed that our unique forest is to be paved over for another strip mall. Have you no respect for the endangered species living on the land? What we need are more green spaces in South Florida, not more places to consume junk.

From: [Joshua York](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Pine Rockland
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 8:49:56 PM

My name is Joshua. I am 10 years old. I would like to say, for many reasons, I don't like the idea of building a Walmart or anything else in the pine Rockland. I live near it and I love to ride my bike and hike through there at Larry and Penny Thompson Memorial Park.

I also want to inform you about the wild life there. Scientists discover new animals and plants every day and I don't want them to die.

Since, I live near it, I don't want all the traffic. It should take me 15 minutes to get to school, but with traffic it takes me 30 minutes to get to school. I don't want the time to double. So, please don't build there.

Thank you,

Joshua B. York

From: [Nancy Miller](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Pine rocklands area , Miami-Dade
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 11:09:24 AM

Please read "A Land Remembered " by Smith and try to see the real Florida. Please do not develop one of the last remaining areas of natural Florida near Miami. We need to preserve these areas. When they are gone, the real and natural Florida is gone and it cannot be reversed. Please put this area into a preserve to be cared for so future generations will be able to enjoy it. Walmart can be put somewhere else. Or not at all. Thank you.

Nancy Miller



Sent from my iPad

From: [Cynthia Kinney](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Pine Rocklands
Date: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 12:35:03 PM

I am contacting you because I'm very upset at the possibility of the Pine Ricklands being destroyed so that development can take place. We need to leave the little left of our beautiful natural beauty intact.

Cynthia Kinney

From: [Pals Around the World](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Cc: miamipinerocklands@gmail.com
Subject: Please do not issue a ITP
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 4:18:58 PM

Dear USFWS - please do not issue a ITP (Incidental Take Permit) to Coral Reef Commons and UM. It would destroy too many species and after the damage is done it will be too late. I have met Ashleigh and members of Fish and Wildlife and you know what is at stake, so please, we ask you to act in what is of the best interest of these species that do not have a voice. Thank you.

Kindest regards,

Leslye

Leslye Jacobs
Executive Director
Pals Around the World Project and Books

"A 501c3 non-profit organization that creates peace, love, and unity in our world.

We offer volunteer Pals Ambassador "mentoring" visits that support multicultural and environmental education and the arts along with creating a better world for our children together. A world of peace, love, unity and understanding by touching children's lives one classroom visit at a time!"



www.palsaroundtheworld.com

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From: [Camille Goleb](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Please don't build on the pine Rockland
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 8:06:45 AM

This is a unique part of our Natural History unit shouldn't be touched. Forests like these are relatively easy to revive with help from conservationists.

From: [Jamie](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Protect our land
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:56:42 PM

Please read "A Land Remembered " by Smith and try to see the real Florida.

Please do not develop one of the last remaining pine rocklands areas of natural Florida near Miami. We need to preserve these areas. When they are gone, the real and natural Florida is gone and it cannot be reversed. Please put this area into a preserve to be cared for so future generations will be able to enjoy it.

Walmart can be put somewhere else. Or not at all.

Thank you.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Lacey C.](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Protecting wild places makes America great again
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 11:52:58 AM

Caring for endangered spaces like the Line Rocklands in South Florida isn't just the right thing to do, it's patriotic. Please don't let developers line their pockets with more of South Floridas wild places.

Thanks
LMC

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brian H](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Public Comment
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 1:31:20 PM

Pine rock land habitat is extremely rare. Damage to this habitat can be restored with fire, so I don't buy that this parcel is somehow damaged beyond repair and that it's therefore OK to destroy it.

On the other hand, the human habitat known as Walmart is absolutely not rare. It's fauna are also far less desirable.

Please reject this plan.

Brian Hunter


Sent from my iPhone

From: [mary_shabbott](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Rare South Florida Pineland
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 6:29:21 PM

The largest remaining tract of Miami's pine rock land, a globally imperiled forest, North America's version of the Galápagos Islands with 31 plants found no where else in the world and you are taking comments on building a wal mart there?? I am sickened that people even have to write to save these rare places. We have plenty of wal Marts. NO, NO, NO to any building on this land.
Mary Shabbott

From: joliene.lindholm@gmail.com
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Reject Coral Reef Commons Draft Habitat Conservation Plan
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 12:09:07 AM

Dear sir or madam,

The damage to this fragile and rare habitat cannot be mitigated. It is not acceptable to permit the killing of these species for human habitation or commerce. This land is irreplaceable and no building should be permitted. The Miami tiger beetle is found exclusively in this pine rocklands habitat and has already experienced habitat loss and encroachment. I implore you not to allow further loss of this unique habitat and accompanying wildlife.

Sincerely,

Joliene Lindholm
Entomology PhD

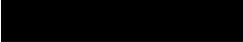
From: [Molly Barnewitz](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Save the Planet - Don't Pave Endangered Land
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 10:57:34 AM

Dear David Dell and Ashleigh Blackford,

I was dismayed to hear that an important and rare habitat is at risk. Florida is one of the most unique environments in the United States and I consider my visits there to be precious experiences. I am utterly horrified that there is some consideration of a paving a rare forest in Miami-Dade. I hope you will take my email seriously and understand that if Florida continues to damage its precious ecosystems, it will not only hurt the planet, you will damage the economy and the local people as well as the animals and plants that were here before humans decided to make it their home.

Please - for the love of nature and the planet - stand up to protect wild spaces from needless destruction.

Best,
Molly Barnewitz



From: [Diana Goslin](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: SAVE THE RARE FLORIDA PINELAND FOREST
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 4:20:26 PM

PLEASE, we don't need to destroy everything for greed. Pleases say NO to the Rare Forest destruction for Walmart. Thank you, Diana Goslin

From: [Leslie Inman](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Save the World's Rarest Forest from another Walmart development in Miami
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 4:09:28 PM

"In the last remaining tract of Miami's pine rockland, sandwiched between the coast and marshes, the pinelands grew in isolation, and produced a North American version of the Galapagos Islands, with 31 plants found no where else in the world."

The government entities of Florida would allow the destruction of an endangered ecosystem for another development? More apartments? Another WALMART?

It only took the earth, Florida, all it's plants and wildlife 4.5 billion years to evolve and we are managing to pave it all over with shopping centers and parking lots in an evolutionary blink of an eye.

Do the right thing. Save this land and it's endangered species from the developers.



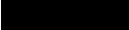
From: [Dell, David](#)
To: [FW4 CRC_HCP](#)
Subject: Scanned Comments, Tiziani and Belz
Date: Thursday, May 04, 2017 9:34:06 AM
Attachments: [scan of tizianai letter.pdf](#)
[scan of belz letter.pdf](#)

David Dell
Southeast Region
HCP and Safe Harbors Coordinator
404/ [REDACTED]
fax: 7081
david_dell@fws.gov

NOTE: All email correspondence and attachments received from or sent to me are subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and may be disclosed to third parties.

From: [carolyn ragan](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: The Coral Reef Commons Project
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 4:49:12 PM

Very sad to see this pocket of green in a field of roofs going. Central Park in NYC is a major wildlife area for migrating birds. We need these little pockets of refuge. Oh my, I just despair for what will be lost. I visit FL but do not live there. I visit for the wildlife, not Disney Land or other artificial tourist attractions. Is this development needed? Wanted by the neighbors? Or is it just a big money grab and waste of valuable habitat.

Carolyn Ragan


From: [Susan Long](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: The Walmart in Dade
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 9:13:13 PM

Please do not allow a Walmart to be built just north of the Penny Thompson Park. The historic pine rock land has already been reduced from 186,000 acres to 3,700 acres. Allowing a Walmart to decimate even more of this is a major sin. We need these areas to remain pristine. We need these plants to survive. Please do not allow Walmart to ruin this historic and unique park.

Susan W Long, PhD



Sent from my iPhone

From: sherry.setera
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: THIS FORESTED AREA IN FLORIDA IS FAR TOO VALUABLE
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 12:25:09 AM

PLEASE DO NOT TAKE ONE INCH OF THIS FORESTED LAND FOR ANOTHER WALMART! WALMART IS NOT A QUALITY STORE TO BEGIN WITH... WE DON'T NEED THEM! NOT ANYMORE OF THEM FOR SURE AND ESP. HERE. THIS IS NOT THE PLACE WE WANT A WALMART!

WE ARE LOSING TOO MUCH FOREST ALREADY AND THESE CARTELS DO NOT CARE ABOUT THE PLANET, PEOPLE, NATURE... ALL LIFE THAT DEPENDS ON THE HEALTH GIVING PROPERTIES OF THESE FORESTS... WHICH ARE DWINDLING AT A HORRIFIC RATE... A LOSS FOR THE WORLD FOR THE BENEFIT OF A FEW CEO'S. PLEASE CONSIDER THE PLANET'S WHOLE POPULATION, CERTAINLY THE POPULATION OF FLORIDA (OUR WONDERLAND STATE, AND KEEP UNNECESSARY DESTRUCTION OUT! HOW REPUGNANT! THESE MEN WHO WISH TO RULE THE WORLD ARE DOING A GRAVE INJUSTICE TO US AND FUTURE GENERATIONS! WHO GIVES THEM THE RIGHT? ITS A MISUSE OF GOVERNMENT TO COOPERATE WITH THIS MENTALITY. PLEASE DO THE RIGHT THING... ALL IS REGISTERED UP ABOVE!

From: [Ashley](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Walmart in pine rockland
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 12:11:20 PM

To whom it may concern,

If there's anything we need less of, it's Walmart. If there's anything we need more of, it's conservation. Don't destroy one of the rarest habitats on earth for another god forsaken Walmart.

Sincerely,
Ashley Stewart, concerned citizen of our only planet.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Maryin Vargas](#)
To: [Crc_Hcp](#); [MiamiPinerocklands](#); [Help](#)
Cc: [Bmedina](#); [Erika Carrillo](#); [Rodriguez.Jose.Web](#); [Rene \(Web\) Garcia](#); [Newsdesk](#); [Radio](#); [Achardy](#); [Asacasa](#); [Newstips](#); [Newyorker](#)
Subject: Walmart is trying to destroy valuable Pine Rockland Habitat
Date: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 11:37:40 PM

We will hold protests at Walmarts thru out all of Miami Dade County next Saturday May 13 at 11 am. This permit will allow Walmart to kill endangered species and destroy critical habitat for 30 years. If this permit is issued, development will proceed forever destroying this pine rockland habitat, home to some special endangered species like this Bartram's Scrub Hairstreak Butterfly.

We need to save and not destroy these uniquely South Florida species and forests.

Martin Vargas

Concerned and sick and tired citizen of all this abuse to people and our fragile environment.

People over profits!

From: [Loran Conley](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: Walmart
Date: Friday, May 05, 2017 4:33:02 PM

Can't you people save ANYTHING that is natural on this whole planet??? Another damn Walmart THERE??? They are already about #14 on the favorite grocer's list. Don't let them do it- in another 10 years it wil be just ine more HUGE Abandoned building! FOR WHAT??

Loarn Conley



From: [Joan Martone Sessions](#)
To: crc_hcp@fws.gov
Subject: WHY WALMART??????
Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 11:52:41 AM

I am absolutely amazed that we as a species, can think a store is needed more than the last vestiges of wildlife that has existed for eons???

Please explain to me....

STOP DO NOT DO THIS. ONCE IT IS GONE.....

Sincerely,

Joan Martone-Sessions

