

Task Force Meeting #4: Draft Guiding Principles

Natural Guiding Principles

1. Avoid, to the extent feasible, and enhance, to extent practical, existing lands currently managed for conservation purposes; where avoidance is not feasible, minimize and mitigate impacts on these lands.
2. Avoid, to the extent feasible, and enhance, to extent practical, lands proposed for management for conservation purposes; where avoidance is not feasible, minimize and mitigate impacts to these lands.
3. Minimize and mitigate impacts to endangered, threatened, rare, or endemic species and their habitats, as well as to rare or endemic plant communities. Enhance these area to extent practical.
4. Avoid, to the extent possible, and enhance, to extent practical, degradation of fresh water sources and aquifer recharge areas; where avoidance is not possible, minimize and mitigate impacts on these resources.
5. Maintain, and where possible, restore and enhance water quality and water shed integrity.
6. Minimize direct impacts to wetlands; where mitigation is needed, pursue regional or landscape-scale approaches.
7. Avoid or minimize fragmentation of, or other negative impacts to, regionally significant or large contiguous agricultural lands and other rural lands with environmental significance, working with landowners to understand their future plans.
8. Maintain and, where possible, restore and enhance the integrity and connectivity of regionally significant environmental lands, with emphasis on enhancing connectivity for wildlife, water, and other resources.
9. Enhance, to extent practical, existing roads to improve natural resource conditions.

Cultural Guiding Principles

10. Avoid lands owned by Native American tribal nations; consult with tribal nations to identify opportunities for enhanced connectivity that would provide mutual benefit.
11. Avoid cemeteries and historic markers.

Social Guiding Principles

12. Avoid military sites and lands important to maintain the site's military mission.
13. Maintain and enhance transportation connectivity to, from, and between working farms, forests, and mines; recreational areas, trails, and other eco-tourism attractions; rural employment centers; and other economically valuable rural lands.
14. Enhance transportation corridors to reflect the context of the communities and environment through which the corridors pass to the fullest extent possible.
15. Enhance economic development and community development.

Physical Guiding Principles

16. Minimize implementation of new transportation facilities by following, where feasible, existing transportation rights of way, utility corridors or easements, and other existing human-disturbed corridors through conservation, agricultural, and other natural lands.
17. Enhance transportation connectivity by emphasizing linkages to the existing regional roadway network.
18. Enhance the development and operation of transportation corridors by using state-of-the-art and energy-efficient infrastructure, vehicles, materials, technologies, and methodologies.
19. Enhance emergency evacuation and response.
20. Enhance areas where utilities and broadband can be combined with transportation through nondiscriminatory, competitively neutral access to FDOT rights of way for utility and service providers or joint deployment of infrastructure.
21. Enhance infrastructure and transportation planning processes to support co-benefits of implementation.
22. To extent feasible, minimize impacts of transportation lighting on nearby agricultural, environmental and conservation lands.

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