



## FLORIDA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL COALITION MEETING

Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm – 4:30pm & Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> 9:00am – 4:00pm

St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge Environmental Education Building

1255 Lighthouse Road • St. Marks, FL • 32355

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### PURPOSE

To foster Coalition member support and engagement in the development, maintenance, protection and promotion of the Florida National Scenic Trail and cooperatively achieve the 5-Year Strategic Plan Goals.

### FOCUS

Coalition members should offer input and recommendation related to the focus of this Coalition meeting – *the 2018 Florida National Scenic Trail Strategic Plan Update*. The meeting will begin with a report of the accomplishments of the previous five years of work and close out the 2012 5-Year Strategic Plan. The focus will then shift to discussion and recommendations to address the opportunities and challenges of the 2018 5-Year Strategic Plan. Please consider strategies that will work towards the completion, standardization, partnerships and promotion of the Florida National Scenic Trail.

- **Complete The Trail** – Add 100 new scenic and designated miles of FNST towards completion of a high quality trail.

**Highlight:** Prioritizing scenic over designated mileage to complete the FNST.

- **Standards** – 100% of existing designated FNST meets recreational, informational, and interpretive trail standards within its resource classification category of 1-5.

**Highlight:** Streamlining and developing standardized procedures for information sharing.

- **Partnerships** - Each of the FNST land managers (~50+) proactively contribute to trail development, maintenance, protection and promotion of their segment as part of the larger whole.

**Highlight:** Activating partnerships and coordination of resources along the FNST.

- **Promotion** – 100% of FNST recreationists know they are on the trail, know the significance of the trail, and know how their experience is part of the larger whole.

**Highlight:** Diversifying and broadening our user base through unique promotion opportunities.

### Handouts

Florida National Scenic Trail 2012 5-Year Strategic Plan Accomplishment Report, Coalition Member List, 2017 Draft Strategic Plan Update



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### THURSDAY AGENDA – OPTIONAL Field Day at Port Leon Wilderness

- 12:30- 12:45pm      Meet at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge Visitor's Center for carpool to Port Leon and Spring Creek sections *depart promptly at 1:00pm*
- 1:30 – 4:30          Walking/Driving presentation and discussion of Port Leon and Spring Creek areas of the FNST at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge

### FRIDAY AGENDA – Working Group Discussion of the Strategic Plan Update

- 9:00 – 9:15          Welcome and Introduction of Members and Guests
- Shawn Thomas      FNST Program Manager, USDA Forest Service
- Kelly Russell        Forest Supervisor, National Forests in Florida, USDA Forest Service

- 9:15 – 10:45        **Strategic Plan Accomplishments: 2012- Present**
- 5-Year achievement reporting on accomplishments and shortfalls of the FNST Program to date
- Discussion:** Greatest challenges and greatest successes to build from moving forward

### Break

- 11:00 – 12:00        **Coalition Member Updates**



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12:00 – 12:45

Lunch Served – Courtesy of the Florida Trail Association



1:00 – 1:30

### **2018 Strategic Plan Update Process**

Vision and strategy for the 2018 Strategic Plan Update

**Discussion:** Meaningful methods of displaying our strategy and goals to our partners and the public.

1:30 – 2:15

**Complete the Trail:** Emphasize addition of high quality, scenic miles.

Presentation and discussion of the updated mileage goals.

**Standards:** Develop and improve trail standardization methods.

Presentation and discussion of methods of standardization.

### **Break**

2:30 – 3:15

**Partnerships:** Engage and activate partnerships along the trail.

Presentation and discussion of improvements to partnerships.

**Promotion:** Increase and diversify the user base of the FNST

Presentation and discussion on promoting the FNST.

3:15 – 4:00

Other Business – Any set aside topics from the day's discussion

Next meeting – Set Date and Agenda Focus, Partner Funding