



FRIENDS OF FLORIDA
STATE PARKS

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Why Care About the Damage Done to Florida State Parks by Hurricane Irma? Your Answer is in this Picture! [Please Read On.](#)

Monster Hurricane Irma was different from any known before because it affected every state park in the system, either directly or indirectly. Severe flooding left some coastal buildings filled with beach sand after the salt water retreated. Boardwalks washed away; trails obliterated with debris or actually washed away; electrical and communication systems damaged or outright destroyed. It is estimated that \$55 million dollars of damage was done by Irma.



On top of that, many millions of dollars of revenue in entrance and campground fees were lost because of weeks of closures. This is revenue the state parks need to sustain themselves. In addition, the parks are job generators too as the play a huge roll in Florida's tourism industry.

The value of Florida State Parks to its citizens is immeasurable. These are our beloved state parks – the places we go to swim, fish, lay on the beach, hunt for shells, learn about nature and Florida history, hike, bike, and kayak, even get married! They contribute mightily to our economy and they need our help now.

Help make sure our Florida State Parks stay strong. Talk to others, including our state leaders. Kindly let them know of the extensive damage done and ask what can be done to help rebuild and recover.

In addition, Friends of Florida State Parks has set up a Hurricane Irma Disaster Relief Fund and [100% of all donations will go directly to state park recovery.](#)

Long Key State Park

BEFORE



AFTER



Caladesi Island State Park

BEFORE



AFTER



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