



Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park

2018 PARK FACTS

<u>VISITATION</u>	<u>ECONOMIC IMPACT</u>	<u>LOCAL JOBS SUPPORTED</u>	<u>STAFF</u>	<u>VOLUNTEERS</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
7,217	758,412	11	0*	65	327



Discover the wild-side of Florida with endangered Florida panther, red wolves, manatees and whooping cranes, plus black bears, bobcats, and, of course, alligators.

Plan your visit at FloridaStateParks.org



This information fact sheet was produced by the Florida State Parks Foundation, 2019 (FloridaStateParksFoundation.org)



FLORIDA STATE PARKS

A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO FLORIDA'S WELL-BEING!

The system of Florida State Parks and Trails is one of the state's greatest success stories. It's the ONLY system in the nation thrice awarded the Gold Medal of Excellence by its national peer group. Florida residents and visitors from around the world are drawn to Florida's state parks and trails as *the places* to hike, bike, kayak, swim, fish, camp, lay on the beach, hunt for shells, learn about nature and Florida history, have family reunions, and even get married!

Plan your visit at FloridaStateParks.org.

2018 Statewide Economic Data

- **175 Florida State Parks and Trails**
(164 Parks / 11 Trails) comprising nearly 800,000 acres
- **\$2.4 billion direct economic impact**
- **\$158 million in sales tax revenue**
- **33,587 jobs supported**
- **Over 28 million visitors served**



The Friends of Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park is helping to make sure the wildlife of the park are taken care of, especially if a storm comes.

Thanks to the Friends group, the park's Citizen Support Organization comprised of local volunteers, the park streamlined the evacuation process for the park's non-releasable captive wildlife. The relocation of captive predators, such as alligators, Florida black

bears and Florida panthers, can be challenging and requires special equipment.

The Friends of Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park raised over \$35,000 and graciously purchased seven transport crates. The rangers conditioned the animals to comfortably voluntarily enter the crates, which improves safety for the staff, a quicker response to storm readiness, but less stress on the animals during relocation prior to a hurricane.

Find Out More - Get Involved

<http://friendshswp.org>



This information fact sheet was produced by the Florida State Parks Foundation, 2019 (FloridaStateParksFoundation.org)