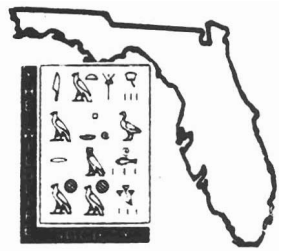


FLORIDA CHAPTER  
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY



1807 NW 39th Terrace  
Gainesville, FL 32605  
11 May 1987

District Engineer  
Jacksonville District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
PO Box 4970  
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

RE: Permit Application  
#87IPV-20168

Dear Sir:

The Florida Chapter of the Wildlife Society, a group of professional wildlife biologists in the state, has reviewed your public notice for permit application #87IPV-20168 regarding the construction of an access boardwalk and marina on Lake Simmons, North Key Largo, Florida. This project is located within an area designated as Crocodile Lake National Refuge and is critical habitat for the endangered American crocodile. A short distance north of Lake Simmons on Key Largo is the location of approximately one-third of all crocodile nesting in the United States.

Lake Simmons is currently almost completely isolated from any human activity. It is surrounded by extensive mangrove forest and is difficult to access. Crocodiles are known to occupy Lake Simmons. The proposed project is inconsistent with the importance of Lake Simmons as crocodile Critical Habitat and would seriously compromise efforts to protect the critically Endangered American crocodile. This project would pose a serious threat to the continued survival of the American crocodile in Florida.

We strongly urge you to deny the requested permit.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne R. Marion". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wayne R. Marion  
President

WRM/hc

CC: Executive Board