



FLORIDA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO ISSUANCE OF LEASES BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR FOR THE STRIP MINING OF A PORTION OF THE OSCEOLA NATIONAL FOREST IN FLORIDA.

WHEREAS, the Osceola National Forest is one of only three national forests in Florida and was originally established to restrict significant development and alteration of the landscape and to provide a variety of long-term recreational benefits for society,

AND


WHEREAS, the Osceola National Forest provides a large tract of relatively undisturbed habitat for a variety of wildlife species, including red-cockaded woodpeckers, bald eagles, and black bears,

AND

WHEREAS, the Osceola National Forest has been proposed for mining leases for phosphate deposits which would significantly degrade a portion of the Forest as we know it for wildlife habitat and with minimal prospects for full restoration,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society opposes the granting of leases for the purpose of strip mining for phosphate deposits in the Osceola National Forest of Florida.

ATTEST


Frank Montalbano III
President

DATE 3/23/82