Protection:
The collection, destruction or disturbance of plants, animals or park property is prohibited. Digging or removing artifacts from this site is strictly prohibited.

Pets:
Pets are permitted in designated areas only. Pets must be kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet and well behaved at all times.

Alligators:
Alligators are commonly seen in the park. They are dangerous animals and should not be approached, teased, or frightened. Feeding alligators is a violation of state laws. Dependence on unnatural foods makes alligators lose their fear of man and may lead to attacks on people. If you enjoy seeing alligators in the park, don't feed them.

Intoxicants:
Alcoholic beverage consumption is not permitted in this area.

Accessibility:
Florida's state parks are committed to providing equal access to all facilities and programs. Should you need assistance to enable your participation, please contact the Ranger Station at (772) 546-2771.

Scan here for a copy of the brochure

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks

www.FloridaStateParks.org

FLORIDA State Parks ...the Real Florida

Rev. 04/15

TRAPPER NELSON INTERPRETIVE SITE

Jonathan Dickinson State Park



...the Real Florida

The upper Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River is one of the few wild and natural rivers remaining in southeast Florida. It has remained virtually unchanged in a world that is rapidly being altered by man. The river winds from a completely freshwater environment, through a blend of temperate and tropical vegetation, to the saltwater mangrove community. This river is one of the few in the United States that can boast such a diversity of plant and animal life.

On a high bank next to the river, a young Trapper Nelson came to live in the early 1930's. He was a loner for the most part, who found security in this area and a way of life that was suited to his skills and temperament.

In 38 years, he became a local legend known as the "Wildman of the Loxahatchee." Yet, with his limited education, he managed to make a living, construct a much-visited wildlife zoo and acquire large land interests.

Many of us dream of someday having a little cabin tucked back in the pines along a flowing stream, an outpost from the everyday pressures of modern living. We dream of a place where we could cut our own firewood, live off the land and not depend on the rest of civilization. Not only does this site symbolize that type of lifestyle, but it is also a place to contemplate the wonder and beauty of the Loxahatchee River.

Hours of Operation:

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
May - October: Closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays
November - April: Open 7 days a week.
River Tours are offered through the National and State Park Concession of Jonathan Dickinson State Park. Please call (561) 746-1466 for additional information.

Picnicking:

Picnickers are asked to please take their trash with them when they leave. Cooking, open fires, and the consumption of alcohol are prohibited.

Trapper Nelson Interpretive Site

