

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
PROPOSED PARKS NATIONAL PARK FLORIDA

FILE NO. 0-32

BEACH PARKS
FLORIDA

PROPOSED NATIONAL PARKS

BEACH PARKS

FLORIDA

IMPORTANT

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge. All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room. Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure to observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the integrity of the official records.

ARNO B. CAMMERER,
Director.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

January 8, 1935.

Memorandum for the Director:

On December 17, Messrs. Toll, Taylor, Wright, and Bryant, at the invitation of Mr. Julius Stone, F.E.R.A. Administrator for Florida, took an airplane trip over the Proposed National Beach Park stretching between Panama City and Pensacola along the Gulf Coast of Florida. A fine new Stinson plane owned by the Road Department of Florida was put at our disposal. We traveled directly westward to the Gulf shore a few miles west of Panama City and then followed the beach all the way to Pensacola returning then to Valparaiso where we landed. We were met there by road men and were taken by auto to Santa Rosa Island on the new highway and thence across to the mainland to the east. Although the water was cool the swimming was found very enjoyable. The water was exceedingly clear and one could walk out a quarter of a mile without finding the water much more than waist deep. Certainly the cleanness of the sand, clearness of the water, and the size and general beauty of the beach, make this an outstanding area.

There are few habitations along this entire stretch of 120 miles and the beach appears from the air to be of uniform quality. There is a small fishing village on the mainland and we were given to understand by the DuPont Company representative that most of the mainland area east of Santa Rosa Island has been subdivided and is owned in small parcels. Consequently, this would doubtless be difficult to obtain because of its value to the owner being out of all proportion to its actual value. The lands owned by the DuPont Company were offered at the purchase price plus taxes and small interest, so that if this could be obtained it would give a major portion of the mainland area. Incidentally, almost none of the DuPont lands face on the ocean, these beach lands being individually owned.

The group of four National Park Service representatives were in full agreement that the area is very desirable as a national beach and we recommend its acquisition. We all agreed also that some of the hinterland of pine should be secured in order to afford proper camp grounds.

The matter of water supply may be somewhat difficult in that wells along the immediate shore have either been sulphureous or brackish. The wells are artesian and flow with sufficient pressure to serve the needs of small buildings without the need for storage tanks. This artesian water is used for domestic purposes.

H. C. Bryant,
Assistant Director.

CC Mr. Wirth

HCB: ~~LM~~

PANAMA CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ON SAINT ANDREWS BAY

Panama City, Florida.

April 3, 1939.

Honorable Millard Caldwell,
Member of Congress,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Millard:

Please note the attached tear-sheet bearing an editorial that appeared in the issue of the Pensacola News-Journal of Sunday, April 2.

If the National Park Service will consider the establishment of a national seashore in western Florida, please suggest to them the possibility that the required cooperation can be given by local interests if the facility might be established on either arm of the mainland, which juts out to form St. Andrews Bay.

At your convenience, we would like to have you study the possibility of projecting such a development here and then represent us in presenting the matter to the National Park Service.

With warm personal regards, we are

Sincerely,

(sgd) C. D. Davenport,
Secretary-Manager.

C
O
P
Y

MILLARD CALDWELL
THIRD DISTRICT
FLORIDA

APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE ON ~~FOREIGN AFFAIRS~~

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

April 5, 1939



~~Mr. Cammerer~~
~~Mr. Damara~~
~~Ed. Roberts~~
~~Mr. Worth~~
~~H. H. Hays~~
Mr. Sager

Honorable Arno B. Cammerer
Director, National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Cammerer:

I inclose a letter which is self-explanatory.

I sincerely hope you will give careful study to the entire seacoast between St. Marks and Pensacola as possible locations for the development suggested.

I will appreciate your returning the inclosures for my files.

Sincerely,

Millard Caldwell

C:M
inc.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

*Sage
Cecil
White
D. May*

*0-32
Beach Park
Florida*

April 11, 1939.

Hon. Millard Caldwell,
House of Representatives.

My dear Mr. Caldwell:

We appreciate your letter of April 5, transmitting a letter of April 3 from Mr. C. D. Davenport, secretary-manager, Panama City Chamber of Commerce, concerning the proposal to establish a national seashore along the Gulf coast in western Florida.

As indicated in the newspaper clipping attached to Mr. Davenport's letter, Crooked Island and St. Joseph's Bay Peninsula have not been investigated. Certain portions of the mainland along Santa Rosa Peninsula and in the vicinity of Chestawhatchee Bay were partially studied in connection with the proposed Santa Rosa Island National Monument.

We will be glad to extend the scope of these studies to include Crooked Island and St. Joseph's Bay Peninsula so that proper consideration can be given to these regions.

As you know, most of the lands along the Gulf coast in western Florida are in private ownership. If sufficient lands can be acquired in this vicinity, consideration would be given to the establishment of a national seashore. We shall be glad to advise you further when these studies are completed.

Mr. Davenport's letter and its enclosure are returned for your files.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) Arno B. Cammerer

Arno B. Cammerer,
Director.

Enclosure 1903691

cc: Region I
cc: Mr. Little

WEL-fmd

Panama City Chamber of Commerce

On Saint Andrew's Bay
Panama City, Florida



May 9, 1939.

~~M. D. ...~~
~~W. H. ...~~
~~M. W. ...~~

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Director,
National Park Service,
Department of Interior,
Washington, D. C.

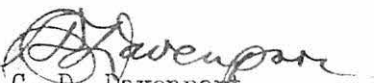
Dear Mr. Cammerer:

It is our wish to bring to your attention and to that of the National Park Service the possibilities of seashore acreage in this immediate vicinity for the development by the National Park Service as a national seashore resort.

As we are not familiar with the methods by which we may bring about such consideration of this area by your Service, we wish to invite your immediate reaction to our proposal that the National Park Service investigate at its early convenience the possibilities of developing a national seashore resort in this vicinity on seashore acreage which this community will make available for such purpose.

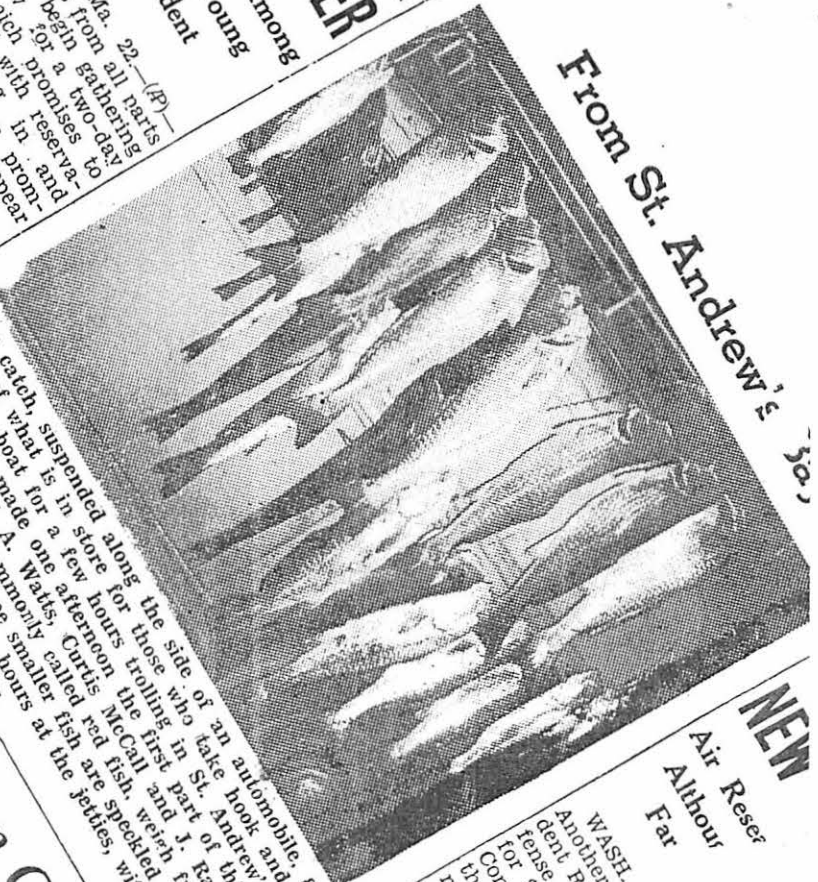
We shall be pleased to have your early acknowledgment of this communication.

Cordially yours,


C. D. Davenport
Secretary-Manager.

CDD:f

From St. Andrew's Bay



NEW
Air Reser
Althour
Far

CHAMFER OF COMMERCE
Panama City, Florida

Among
Young
resident

Ma. 22.—(P)—
From all parts
begin gathering
for a two-day
pouring in and
led from prom-
ances of the
is who will appear
meetings.
for presidency of Florida
Robert Arent, of
with Robert A. Harlee, of
Irwin Jewell, of Pan-
with the other
Irvin Harlee are
rd leaders a
e central of
the con-

Fresh Water Season Closes As Sports Fishermen Make Big Bay and Gulf Catches

This catch, suspended along the side of an automobile, gives an idea of what is in store for those who take hook and line in St. Andrew's Bay. The three hour troling in the first part of this week, commonly called red fish, weigh from 15 to 18 pounds each. The three smaller fish are speckled trout. The catch was made within three hours at the jetties, with size five- and-a-half inch spoons as lures.

WASH.
Another
cent prog
for \$16.53.
Congress to
the House
mittee.
fine mo
of the "cri
of the
a defn
carry
in contr

charge of
le come
ave Dem-
Old Demo-
e. Several
be here.
e. Worth
ids. The
e speak
quiet sc
lt.

FRESH WATER FISHermen T-UP

The first official day of spring fishing in St. Andrew's Bay yesterday, coupled with the fact that the fresh water fishermen close today, has turned the waters of St. Andrew's Bay and the nearby Gulf into an unusually early fish- ing area. Captain Wallace Caswell, of Panama City, and other fishermen in the area all over the country, who were away from Panama City for a long time after the movie was made, say that the fishing in the bay is now back to normal. Captain Caswell, who was away from Panama City for a long time after the movie was made, says that the fishing in the bay is now back to normal. Captain Caswell, who was away from Panama City for a long time after the movie was made, says that the fishing in the bay is now back to normal.

Rev. C. S. Talley, superintendent of the Episcopal church, South Bayou, and Bishop D. Yeverka of Hamilton Bayou, read in the Monday edition of the News-Herald about the big catches made in St. Andrew's Bay then tied themselves away to the pecties yesterday where, to about three hours of troling from Rev. Talley's fast red fish boat, they caught four three- pound speckled trout, and of about 22 blue fish. Captain W. B. Caswell, Sr., on Monday, took out with him a party of four last Monday, the result that they brought back 215 mackerel and blue fish. Captain Fred Williams brought back 900 pounds of Spanish mackerel Tuesday afternoon. The snapper banks are also yielding good catches.

Dr. of mitt plane, and is search a down a Calif. The appro 140,000 for at Langley it was unw a duplicat away.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority EO-12958-5615
DATE 11/10/12

Fishing is good in Panama City
Now!

STUDENT STRIP
IS CALL
MARIANNA
RESUR

nt he said reads be- wet taxes due this sur- talk the L- boat ear- sent, mackerel and blue fish.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Sager
Collins
Tullitt
Tripp

May 16, 1939.

Mr. C. D. Davenport,
Secretary-Manager,
Panama City Chamber of Commerce,
Panama City, Florida.

Dear Mr. Davenport:

We appreciate your letter of May 9, concerning a proposal to establish a national seashore along the Gulf coast in western Florida.

The Gulf coast has not been investigated to determine whether any portion of it may be suitable for establishment as a national seashore. In connection with the proposed Santa Rosa Island National Monument near Pensacola, Florida, certain studies were made of the area in the vicinity of Choctawhatchee Bay. We shall be glad to extend the scope of these studies to the entire Gulf coast in western Florida, and we shall advise you when these studies are completed.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) A. L. DEMARAY

A. L. Demaray,
Acting Director.

cc: Region I
cc: Mr. Little

WEL-fmd

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 60-12785-602

By JM HAVA, Date 1-10

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

*Little
Thompson
Jennings*

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

August 31, 1940.

Memorandum for the Director,
United States Geological Survey.

For several years the National Park Service has been interested in the proposal to establish a national sea-shore along the western coast of Florida. The area under consideration lies between Pensacola bay on the West and Apalachicola bay on the East. It would embrace parts of the Gulf coast and certain areas along Choctawhatchee Bay.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office has suggested that information as to phosphate or oil and gas value be obtained from the Geological Survey in connection with any project involving the public lands along the Gulf coast. It is requested that you furnish this office with such pertinent information as may be available on the phosphate or oil and gas values of the lands within the area described above.

(SGD) A. E. Demaray

WEL LG

Acting Director.

cc General Land Office
Region I
Mr. Little with file

*032
Beach Parks
Florida*

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON

3

SEP 11 1940
W.S.H.
Wm Little
9-11
9-11
W.S.H.

Memorandum for the Director, National Park Service.

In reference to the memorandum of August 31 from the Acting Director relative to a proposal to establish a national seashore along the western coast of Florida:

No phosphate deposits of any prospective commercial interest are known to occur in the coastal area between Pensacola Bay on the west and Apalachicola Bay on the east.

No deposits of petroleum or natural gas have yet been discovered in Florida, but the entire State lies within an area in which they may possibly occur. Western Florida, being closer to producing areas than the rest of the State, perhaps has a better chance of containing them than other parts.

Wm Little

Director.

*File -
Santa Rosa Island Exclusion*

*W.S.H.
9-11-40*