

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to state reserves; creating s. 258.166, F.S.; establishing the George Kirkpatrick State Reserve; directing the Office of Greenways and Trails of the Department of Environmental Protection to develop multipurpose recreational opportunities and provide supervision of the area; requiring that certain alterations of the reserve be approved by general law; allowing public hunting; authorizing the Division of State Lands to acquire adjacent or contiguous property; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 258.166, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

258.166 George Kirkpatrick State Reserve designated.--

(1) There is designated and established a state reserve to be known as George Kirkpatrick State Reserve, in Marion and Putnam Counties, which shall include all state-owned lands within the floodplain of the Oklawaha River and those hereafter acquired by the state from Eureka Dam in Marion County to Buckman Lock in Putnam County. Those lands are deemed and held to be a state reserve, under the supervision of the Office of Greenways and Trails of the Department of Environmental Protection. The office is charged with the duty of providing for the development of multipurpose recreational opportunities at this reserve and the care, upkeep, maintenance, and

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29 beautification of the George Kirkpatrick State Reserve,
30 including all those dams, locks, and other structures
31 transferred by the Federal Government to the state. Any action
32 that would substantially alter the area encompassing the reserve
33 as the area existed on January 1, 2007, must be approved by
34 general law. However, nothing in this section precludes the
35 Office of Greenways and Trails of the Department of
36 Environmental Protection from performing necessary maintenance
37 and improvements as required for the continued operation of the
38 dams, locks, or other structures and facilities within the state
39 reserve.

40 (2) Public hunting is allowed in the George Kirkpatrick
41 State Reserve as authorized by the Fish and Wildlife
42 Conservation Commission.

43 (3) The Division of State Lands of the Department of
44 Environmental Protection may acquire in the name of the Board of
45 Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund any additional
46 property adjacent or contiguous to the George Kirkpatrick State
47 Reserve from private owners or from the United States Government
48 for improved management and recreational opportunities.

49 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.