

**North Key Largo Public Lands Cat Monitoring Project Permit: 09181315**

**Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock Botanical State Park**

**Oct. 21, 2013 – Feb. 24, 2014**

**Jeremy Dixon, Crocodile Lake NWR**

For the above monitoring period, remote cameras and box traps were used to monitor the cat population on Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammocks Botanical State Park. All of the raccoons and opossums were released onsite. Because of field limitations (lack of remote cameras), the amount of effort was reduced for the last month.

**Table 1. Number of captures for mesomammals monitored in Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock Botanical State Park.** For remote cameras, a capture consists of individual identification of an animal in a given trap night. Cats are unique enough to be individually identified. However, for raccoons and opossums the number of captures is based on the number of animals captured on a single frame at the same time. This most likely underestimates the number of opossum and raccoon at a given site.

		<b>Session 1</b>		<b>Session 2</b>		<b>Session 3</b>		<b>Session 4</b>	
		<b>Oct. 21, 2013- Nov. 21, 2013</b>		<b>Nov. 22, 2013- Dec. 22, 2013</b>		<b>Dec. 23, 2013- Jan. 23, 2014</b>		<b>Jan. 24, 2014- Feb. 24, 2014</b>	
		<b>Remote Cameras</b>	<b>Box Traps</b>	<b>Remote Cameras</b>	<b>Box Traps</b>	<b>Remote Cameras</b>	<b>Box Traps</b>	<b>Remote Cameras</b>	<b>Box Traps</b>
<b>Number of Captures</b>	Raccoons	72	44	42	8	24	12	14	2
	Opossums	52	26	39	17	31	28	23	14
	Cats	7	4	24	0	19	0	34	1
<b>Number of Trap Nights</b>		132	285	198	196	113	101	64	26

**Summary**

Since this project began (October 21, 2013), there have been four cats captured with box traps on Dagny Johnson State Park. Three of the four were identified as Ocean Reef Community Association (ORCAT) cats and returned to ORCAT. One of the ORCATs was captured twice and both times returned to ORCAT. According to photographic evidence, all of the captured ORCATs returned to the state park. There have been a total of eight additional cats that were photographed with remote cameras. A total of twelve cats have been individually identified on the state park. FPS efforts need to be focused on actions that prevent previously-captured cats (that are returned to the owner) from coming back onto the state park. Clearly the gentleman’s agreement with the former park manager and ORCAT that “cats captured on the state park be moved into the indoor ORCAT facility” is not being honored.

Table 2. Captures of Cats on Dagny Johnson State Park, October 21, 2013 through February 24, 2014.

			Session 1		Session 2		Session 3		Session 4	
			Oct. 21, 2013- Nov. 21, 2013		Nov. 22, 2013- Dec. 22, 2013		Dec. 23, 2013- Jan. 23, 2014		Jan. 24, 2014- Feb. 24, 2014	
			Remote	Box	Remote	Box	Remote	Box	Remote	Box
			Cameras	Traps	Cameras	Traps	Cameras	Traps	Cameras	Traps
Number of Trap Nights			132	285	198	196	113	101	64	26
Cat Photo	Cat ID	Ownership								
	DJ1	Unowned- Animal Shelter	✓	✓	----	----	----	----	----	----
	DJ2	ORCAT Pit Tag# 68326574	----	✓	✓	----	✓	----	✓	✓
	DJ3	ORCAT Pit Tag# 68367470	✓	✓	✓	----	✓	----	✓	----
	DJ4	ORCAT Pit Tag# 3327525	----	✓	----	----	----	----	✓	----
	UNK1	UNK	✓	----	✓	----	✓	----	✓	----
	UNK2	UNK	✓	----	----	----	✓	----	✓	----
	UNK3	UNK	✓	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
	UNK4	UNK	----	----	✓	----	✓	----	✓	----
	UNK5	UNK	----	----	✓	----	✓	----	✓	----
	UNK6	UNK	----	----	----	----	----	----	✓	----
	UNK7	UNK	✓	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
	CL78	Slate	✓	✓	✓	----	✓	----	✓	----
 Returned to owner										
 Captures on CLNWR										