

# A Wellington Workshop + Special Event Weekend... Protect the Panther=>W4P...Open to All

# At the Everglades Youth Conservation Camp section of the Corbett Wildlife Management Area

Just a few minutes north of Northlake Blvd. and Seminole Pratt Rd. are 60,000 acres of protected but underutilized and mostly virgin State land! Parts of it are as the native inhabitants saw it hundreds of years ago.

Wellington Radio Club members have been FWC volunteers for years and have arranged a special weekend that will benefit both the FWC and the amateur radio community.

With the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida as a cosponsor, there will be three major activities over the Feb.21<sup>st</sup> weekend to emphasize the theme of wildlands and wildlife preservation. Those will be centered on the conservation camp.



It's the one land parcel with relatively modern facilities... a few cabins, pavilions, a lecture/mess hall and a small lake. Of course, there are nice, <u>tall</u> trees throughout that area! The refreshing view from our cabin doors is above. <u>Complimentary</u> cabins are



available for those overnighting it. They are air conditioned and two have bathrooms. The interior photo shows the basic accommodations... *ONLY THE BOTTOM BUNKS WILL BE USED.* You must bring your favorite pillow and linen.

A separate cabin is available for female members & spouses. If you wish to, you can "tent" it next to the cabins.

# The Activities...

## ANTENNA WORKSHOP - Sat. Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>, 10am to 12:30pm

Build a 40 thru 10 meter Off Center Fed Dipole, learn how it works, and help erect & tune that antenna to be used for the Special Event Station. You bring 70 ft of #14 or 12 wire, three insulators, and some hand tools. Of course, coax and a 4:1 balun will be needed for your home installation.

Four homebrew 100 watt, 4:1 baluns will be given away as drawing prizes.

**Workshop limited to 13 people... ⊗** 

RSVP NOW including your cellphone number to <a href="mailto:larry33414@aol.com">larry33414@aol.com</a>
Deadline 9pm, Wednesday, 2/18/15

### **W4P - SPECIAL EVENT STATION**

Sat. Feb. 21st, 1pm thru Sun. 1pm

See the attached news release. Depending on the number of RSVPs, there might be more than one W4P with operations on multiple bands simultaneously.

<> SATURDAY DINNER BBO & OVERNIGHT FREE CABINS <>

**Limited to 14 people...** 8

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#### <> 9am SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFST <>

RSVP NOW including your cellphone number to <a href="mailto:larry33414@aol.com">larry33414@aol.com</a>
Deadline 9pm, Wednesday, 2/18/15

#### <> 1/2 HR SWAMP BUGGY TOURS <>

Beginning @ 10:30am Sunday-limited to groups of 6 people... 
RSVP NOW including your cellphone number to <a href="mailto:larry33414@aol.com">larry33414@aol.com</a>
Deadline 9pm, Wednesday, 2/18/15

REPEATER TALK-IN ON THE 147.285 PL 103.5

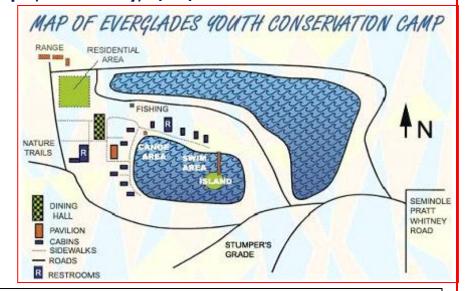


Not a WRC member?
It doesn't matter.

You're welcome to attend our workshops and meetings to see what they are like.

No strings, no pressure!

But, if you're curious & active, we'd love for you to join!



#### **DIRECTIONS:**

From the flashing light at Northlake and Seminole Pratt, go north on Seminole Pratt about 2 miles. Look for Corbett sign before the bend in road. Make left into Corbett and briefly stop at Stop sign. Continue straight... bearing to the right until the YOUTH CAMP sign.

Then at the "Y" road split, stay right. Continue short distance to parking area.

### **NEWS RELEASE**

#### For more info:

See attachments or contact Larry Lazar, President Wellington Radio Club (561) 385-2986

Larry33414@aol.com

#### What:

Ham radio operators contribute to wildlife preservation and conservation by setting up and operating a shortwave station spreading the word on-the-air to reach as many as possible of their 2,000,000 colleagues worldwide. The symbolic focus is the diminishing Florida Panther population and its ever shrinking habitat.

#### Why:

They, like most Floridians, want generations to come to experience Florida's natural history firsthand at Florida's Wildlife Areas and State Parks.

#### When:

Around the clock from 1 pm Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> through 1 pm February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

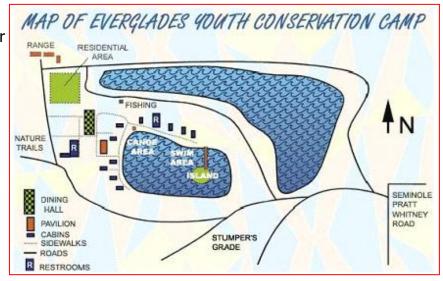
#### Where:

Everglades Youth Conservation Center at the Corbett Wildlife Management Area. 12100 Seminole Pratt Whitney Rd, West Palm Beach, FL 33412

#### Who:

Volunteers from the
Wellington Radio Club and the FWC,
and co-sponsored by the
Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida.

The Public is invited.



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# Special Event: Protect the Panther Radio Club Commemorates the Last Sighting of the Florida Panther in the Corbett Wildlife Management Area

Wellington, 2/7/15 – The sighting of a Florida Panther last occurred about 30 years ago in Corbett. That elapsed time without a single sighting symbolizes the environmental and developmental changes that have occurred in South Florida in recent decades. It's one of many indicators that with development, the need for greater wildlife and environment protection has become ever more necessary.

For years, Wellington Radio Club members have volunteered with the Florida's Fish & Wildlife Commission at Corbett and now at it's re-vitalized Everglades Youth Conservation Center. Its members will help promote the theme of preservation and conservation by setting up and operating a "Special Event" shortwave station at the Conservation Center.

The radio amateurs hope to raise consciousness about those themes by contacting their colleagues worldwide on the airwaves. In fact, the station they will operate has already been assigned a special FCC call-sign: "W4P... Whiskey Four Panther". The weekend of February 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, for 24 hours straight, they will inform as many of the two million hams and shortwave listeners as possible of the role the FWC plays in managing Florida's wildlife and especially protecting native, endangered species.

This is believed to be the first such "Special Event" station setup in a Florida wildlife area, although National Parks and Wildlife Areas have hosted such activities in recent years.

Larry Lazar, Radio Club President and longtime FWC volunteer pointed out that even though he couldn't show his grandchildren a live Florida panther at Corbett, he would at least want to be able to have them experience a piece of Florida's natural history. "It would be great if I could say Seminoles lived in this type environment and even take them to a burial mound".

"This year, we are excited to call the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida a supporting sponsor for the event" states Lazar. The FWFF provides assistance, funding and promotional support to contribute to the health and well-being of Florida's fish and wildlife resources and their habitats.

"Florida is like no other place on Earth! And working together with the Wellington Radio Club, we can further communicate and share our fish and wildlife resources locally, nationally and globally, so they survive and thrive for current and future generations" said Judie Gibson, the Director of Development for the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida. "30 years is a long time for a panther siting. Saving threatened species such as panthers is crucial. It's up to us to do what is necessary to ensure we don't lose them forever, so getting the word out over the airwayes means so much."

Wellington Radio Club members will man their station from 1PM Saturday through 1PM Sunday and the public is invited to observe their operation during daylight hours.

For more information on the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida, visit <a href="www.wildlifeflorida.org">www.wildlifeflorida.org</a>. To stay up-to-date with latest news, join WFF Facebook page at <a href="www.facebook.com/WildlifeFoundationofFlorida">www.facebook.com/WildlifeFoundationofFlorida</a>.

To learn more about Amateur Radio, go to Wellington Radio Club website at <a href="www.qsl.net/k4wrc">www.qsl.net/k4wrc</a> and <a href="www.emergency-radio.org">www.emergency-radio.org</a>. The public is most cordially invited to come, meet and talk with the hams. See what <a href="modern">modern</a> Amateur Radio can do!

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