

Appendix C – Notice of Availability and Public Involvement

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the
Construction and Operation of the Proposed 100-Acre Expansion at the
Florida National Cemetery
Bushnell, Sumter County, Florida

The U.S Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemetery Administration (NCA) hereby gives Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the VA's Proposed Action to construct and operate the 100-acre expansion within the Florida National Cemetery (FNC), located at 6502 S.W. 102nd Avenue, Bushnell, Sumter County, Florida. The proposed expansion would be located at an approximately 100-acre area within the existing boundary of FNC; no new property would be acquired. The Proposed Action would be anticipated to provide at least 25,000 new burial sites and provide additional longevity to FNC.

The Draft SEA was prepared according to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 ([NEPA]); 42 United States Code [USC] 4321 et seq.), the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508), and VA's NEPA implementing regulations (38 CFR Part 26).

This NOA starts the 30-day review period for the Draft SEA. The Draft SEA is available for review in print at the FNC Public Information Center and the Bushnell Public Library at 402 North Florida Street, Bushnell, Florida. An electronic copy may be downloaded at <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/EA.asp>. Any substantive comments received during the 30-day review period will be documented and addressed in the Final SEA.

All comments on the Draft SEA are requested within 30 days of the publication of this NOA. Please address all comments to Mr. Fernando Fernández, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (003C2A), 425 I (eye) Street, NW, Room 6W.317D, Washington, DC, 20420; (202) 632-5529; or fernando.fernandez@va.gov. Please reference "Florida National Cemetery, 100-Acre Supplement" in all correspondence.

The Villages®
DAILY SUN

Published Daily
Lady Lake, Florida
State of Florida
County Of Lake

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared

ALLAN LOVELL

who on oath says that he is Legal Ad Coordinator of the DAILY SUN, a daily newspaper published at Lady Lake in Lake County, Florida with circulation in Lake, Sumter and Marion Counties; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a Legal Ad #936049

in the matter of **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY** was published in said newspaper in the issue(s) of

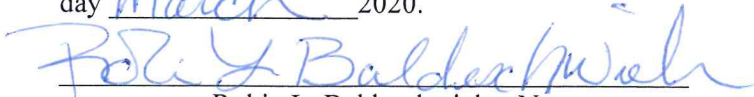
March 11th, 2020

March 15th, 2020

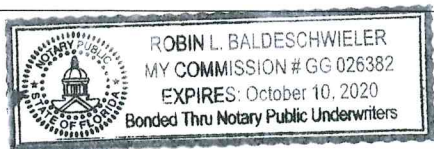
Affiant further says that the said Daily Sun is a newspaper published at Lady Lake in said Lake County, Florida, and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said Lake County, Florida each week and has been entered as second class mail matter at the post office in Lady Lake, in said Lake County, Florida, for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisements; and affiant further says that he has neither paid nor promised any person, firm, or Corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.


(Signature Of Affiant)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day March 2020.


Robin L. Baldeschwieler, Notary

Personally Known _____ or
Production Identification _____
Type of Identification Produced _____



Attach Notice Here

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
U.S. Department of Veterans
Affairs Draft Supplemental
Environmental Assessment
for the Construction and
Operation of the Proposed
100-Acre Expansion at the
Florida National Cemetery
Bushnell, Sumter County,
Florida**

The U.S Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemetery Administration (NCA) hereby gives Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the VA's Proposed Action to construct and operate the 100-acre expansion within the Florida National Cemetery (FNC), located at 6502 S.W. 102nd Avenue, Bushnell, Sumter County, Florida. The proposed expansion would be located at an approximately 100-acre area within the existing boundary of FNC; no new property would be acquired. The Proposed Action would be anticipated to provide at least 25,000 new burial sites and provide additional longevity to FNC.

The Draft SEA was prepared according to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA); 42 United States Code [USC] 4321 et seq.), the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508), and VA's NEPA implementing regulations (38 CFR Part 26). This NOA starts the 30-day review period for the Draft SEA. The Draft SEA is available for review in print at the FNC Public Information Center and the Bushnell Public Library at 402 North Florida Street, Bushnell, Florida. An electronic copy may be downloaded at <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/EA.asp>. Any substantive comments received during the 30-day review period will be documented and addressed in the Final SEA.

All comments on the Draft SEA are requested within 30 days of the publication of this NOA. Please address all comments to Mr. Fernando Fernandez, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (003C2A), 425 I (eye) Street, NW, Room 6W.317D, Washington, DC, 20420; (202) 632-5529; or fernando.fernandez@va.gov. Please reference "Florida National Cemetery, 100-Acre Supplement" in all correspondence.

#00936049

March 11, 2020
March 15, 2020

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Final Site-Specific Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact
of the 100-Acre Supplement Expansion Project at the
Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, Sumter County, Florida

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemetery Administration (NCA) hereby gives Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Final Site-Specific Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for VA's Proposed Action to construct and operate a cemetery expansion within a 100-acre area within the Florida National Cemetery (FNC), located at 6502 S.W. 102nd Avenue, Bushnell, Sumter County, Florida. The proposed expansion would occur entirely within the existing boundary of FNC; no new property would be acquired. The Proposed Action would require vegetation clearing, grading, extending the irrigation system to support newly landscaped areas, and creating roadways connecting new and existing burial areas. The proposed expansion would extend the longevity of FNC and future address gravesite depletion by adding at least 25,00 new burial sites for Veterans' and their eligible family members in central Florida.

Prior to issuing the Final SEA, VA completed a Draft SEA to document the potential environmental impacts associated with implementing the Proposed Action. The Draft SEA identified avoidance and management measures that would be incorporated into the Proposed Action to ensure no significant impacts of an adverse nature would occur during construction or operation of the Proposed Action. A Notice of Availability (NOA) announcing the start of a 30-day review and comment period for the Draft SEA was published in the *Villages Daily Sun* on March 11 and 15, 2020. No comments from the public were received. Comments from regulatory agencies and Native American Tribes were not opposed to the Proposed Action and these comments are incorporated into the Final SEA.

The Final and Draft SEA were prepared according to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 ([NEPA]); 42 United States Code [USC] 4321 et seq.), the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508), and VA's NEPA implementing regulations (38 CFR Part 26).

Upon review of the Final SEA, VA concludes that implementing the Proposed Action would not constitute a major federal action that would have a significant adverse impact on the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(C) of NEPA of 1969. Accordingly, VA has finalized a FONSI, which incorporates the Final SEA in its entirety by reference, and concludes that the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The FONSI completes the NEPA review process for this Proposed Action. The Final SEA and FONSI are available for review at the FNC Public Information Center; the Bushnell Public Library at 402 North Florida Street, Bushnell, Florida, 32202; and electronically from VA's website at <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/EA.asp>. For additional information, contact: Mr. Fernando Fernández, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Construction & Facilities Management Office, 425 I (eye) Street, NW, Room 6W317d, Washington, D.C., 20001; by email at fernando.fernandez@va.gov; or by telephone at (202) 632-5529. Please reference "Florida National Cemetery 100-Acre Supplement" in all correspondence.