

Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge and Jungle Trail Public Recreational Areas

Master Planning, Site Planning &
Design, Landscape Architecture

Brad Smith Associates, Inc. incorporated the LES plan into a master plan which included a one-way looped roadway constructed of geoweb and gravel which allows visitors to drive through the habitat to view a variety of waterfowl, birds, and other wildlife.

Historic Jungle Trail winds its way along the shores of the Indian River Lagoon, beside citrus groves, past exclusive world-class vacation communities, and through old-growth maritime hammocks. Other public recreational improvements planned and designed by Brad Smith Associates, Inc. along Jungle Trail include:

- **Orientation Center:** Restrooms, parking, nature trails
- **Viewing Area:** An elevated boardwalk winds its way through mangroves to an elevation of 18', providing an opportunity to view Pelican Island through high-powered spotting scopes.
- **Jungle Trail Conservation Area:** Relocated historic homestead cabin, parking, restroom, and nature trails on a pristine maritime hammock site that extends from the Indian River Lagoon to the Atlantic Ocean.



Master Plan

The Florida Chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects presented an Award of Merit upon Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge / Jungle Trail Public Recreational Areas at the 2007 Annual Design Awards Gala that took place in Miami Florida. As the Landscape Architect, Brad Smith Associates accepted the award on behalf of a collaborative team.

Client:

Indian River County

Owner:

U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service

Location:

Indian River County, FL

Challenge:

Transform productive citrus grove into natural habitat to serve as a buffer to Pelican Island, while providing passive recreational opportunities for visitors.

Solution:

Collaboration with Lewis Environmental Services (LES) resulted in an ecologically sound approach to habitat restoration. Brad Smith Associates Inc. developed the master plan using color digital imagery coupled with GPS and both aerial and ground-truth survey techniques.

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Viewing Area