

Catrina Sistrunk

From: Dorsey DeMaster <dorsey.demaster@floridapaddlingtrails.com>
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2026 4:47 PM
To: Sue Colson; Tara Barney; Adam Stites; Katrina Sistrunk
Cc: Steve Cournoyer; David Chen; FRANK FERNANDEZ
Subject: Cedar Key Historic Paddling Trail
Attachments: Google Map - Historic Trestle Paddling Trail (1).jpg; Historic Trestle Paddling Trail_Final_May2026.jpg

It gives the Florida Paddling Trails Association (FPTA) great pleasure to announce that the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FL FWC) has approved Cedar Key's Chamber of Commerce / FPTA application for the Cedar Key Historic Paddling Trail.

What does this mean? The FL FWC Permit allows the Cedar Key Chamber of Commerce and FPTA to move forward / work together to install 8 signposts along the 1.4 mile mapped route (see attached map & approved signage).

This new paddling trail will provide the Cedar Key Chamber of Commerce the opportunity to promote ecotourism and increase safety by providing paddlesport enthusiasts a marked paddling trail within a protected area/safe alternative to Atsena Otie.

Next Steps: FPTA will coordinate with the Cedar Key Chamber of Commerce to meet with key volunteers to install signage along the Historic Paddling Trail.

With Gratitude,

Dorsey DeMaster & Steve Cournoyer
Region Directors Region C - Nature Coast/Big Bend
[Florida Paddling Trails Association](#)



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3D Map

Description for your map.

Legend

- A&B
- Feature 1
- Feature 2
- S25SJRT - Leg 2D
- S6CK - Lukens Cre



MARKER



HISTORIC TRESTLE PADDLING TRAIL

PERMIT NO.

Catrina Sistrunk

From: D Meeks <dmeeks352@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 3:01 PM
To: Katrina Sistrunk
Subject: Vista Camp- Request for Letter of Support
Attachments: Vista Letter of Support Template.docx

You don't often get email from dmeeks352@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

The Friends of the Lower Suwannee and Cedar Keys National Wildlife Refuges has spent 15 years working on Vista Camp's historic structures, and we're now asking for your support as we move toward opening the site to the public. You may already be familiar with [the work our Friends group has been doing](#), including preserving structures eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. By preserving this rare and irreplaceable capsule of Florida history, we see Vista Camp as a vibrant hub of cultural history and conservation education. Once open to the public, it will be a destination for heritage tourism in the region.

Our current work includes:

- Interpretive panels that will function as a self-guided visitor center for the Refuge, which lacks a traditional one. The panels will tell the camp's history and provide information about the Refuge's conservation and rewilding work.
- Dock reconstruction (DOT-funded, scheduled for 2027) that will restore water access to the site.
- A [design/build installation](#) by the University of Florida College of Architecture, completed by students and including benches, railings, and seating integrated into the site.

A letter of support from the Levy County Tourist Development Council would strengthen our grant applications and signal to funding agencies that this project aligns with the county's vision for heritage and nature-based tourism. We've attached a template, please feel free to use any part of it.

We'd also love to have you see the site in person. Vista Camp is a beautiful place, and a visit tells the story better than words can. If you'd like a tour, we'd be glad to arrange one.

Best regards,
Debbie Meeks
long-time Friends boardmember

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Your Name
XYZ Group
123 Your Street
Your City, ST 12345
(123) 456-7890
no_reply@example.com

today's date

Board of Directors

Friends of the Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge
16450 NW 31 Place
Chiefland, FL 32626-4874

Dear Friends,

XYZ Group is excited that the Vista Camp is part of the Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge and enthusiastic over its potential to enhance the recreational, educational and cultural heritage experiences in the Nature Coast. Vista's 14 acres provide a space where visitors can connect not only with the peaceful Florida wild lands and waters protected by the National Wildlife Refuge System, but also with the stories of those who came before us. In an age where the pressures of development increasingly threaten our remaining wild lands, sites like the Vista Camp are essential.

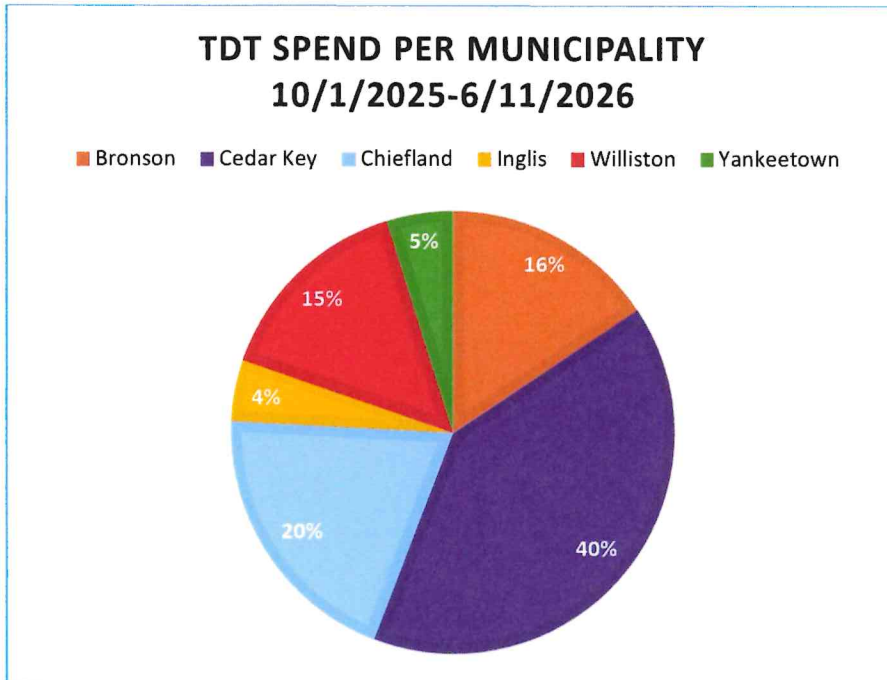
One of the key attractions of this project is the historic camp which is a time-capsule describing Florida fish camps in the 1940's and the lumbering industry that built them while they shaped our area. Vista is a special place so preserving and restoring the historic structures, creating interactive exhibits, restoring river access, and designing interpretive trails is aligned with the mission of my organization, **XYZ Group**. I believe this project will engage our community and will help the stories Vista tells can remain part of our lives for generations to come.

The Vista Camp project offers a unique blend of history, nature, and conservation, making it an invaluable asset to our region. I strongly support this initiative and encourage continued investment to bring it to life. Please feel free to reach out to me to discuss potential areas where I can be of assistance.

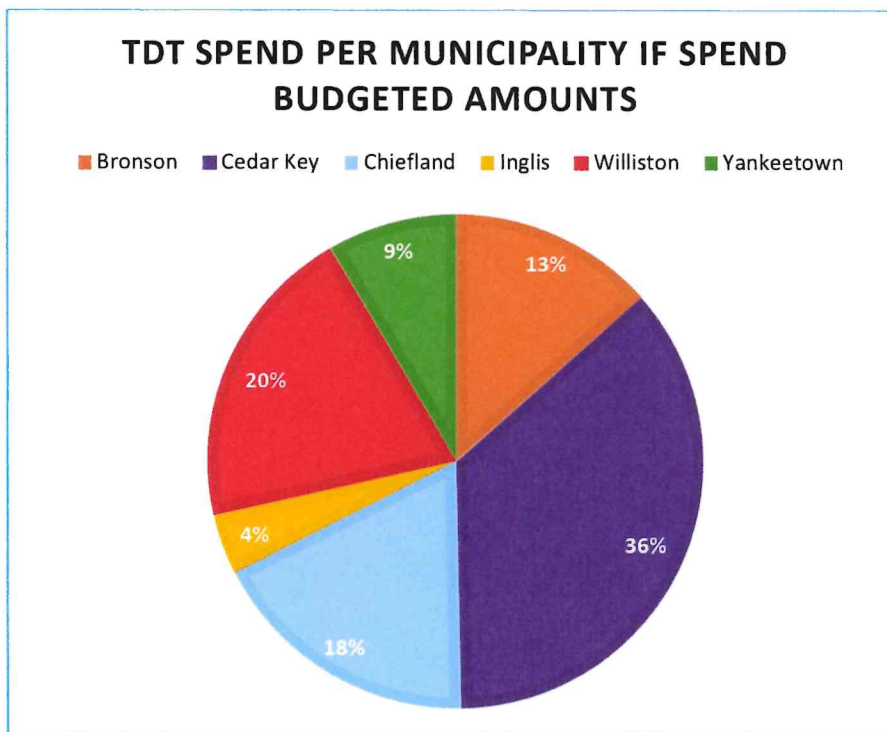
Sincerely,

Your Name
Title, XYZ Group

TDT Spend, Lodging and Event Statistics per Municipality



Bronson	\$	20,185
Cedar Key	\$	51,878
Chiefland	\$	25,746
Inglis	\$	5,838
Williston	\$	19,147
Yankeetov	\$	6,235

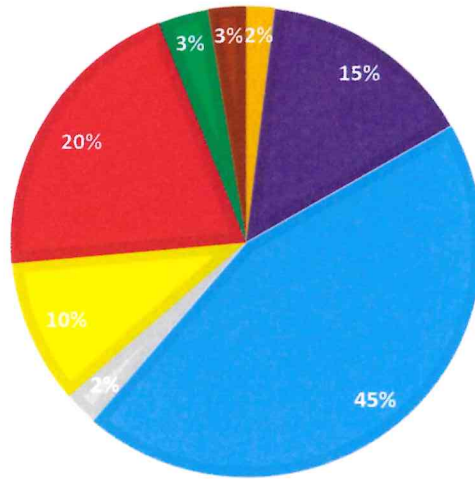


Bronson	\$	20,185
Cedar Key	\$	54,420
Chiefland	\$	26,746
Inglis	\$	6,338
Williston	\$	30,147
Yankeetov	\$	12,735

*Does not include print ad value

TDT RENTAL UNITS BY MUNICIPALITY (APPROX.)

■ Bronson
 ■ Cedar Key
 ■ Chiefland
 ■ Fanning
 ■ Inglis
 ■ Williston
 ■ Yankeetown
 ■ Other



Bronson	56
Cedar Key	428
Chiefland	1288
Fanning	68
Inglis	288
Williston	590
Yankeetown	99
Other	76

NUMBER OF EVENT DAYS PER MUNICIPALITY

