Black River Ranch Public Outreach Plan

Goal

Determine the most appropriate public access, use, and management of the Black River Ranch property within the required parameters established by the PRC Concept of Management and acquisition funding sources.

Complete internal DNR assessments of the property

This includes an assessment of infrastructure (roads, bridges, culverts, airstrip, etc.), structures, and resources on the property by each of the DNR resource managing divisions.

Information gathering and analysis

Interested members of the public will have an opportunity to directly participate in the development of recommendations for the Black River Ranch property by completing a survey. The survey will be conducted online and the opportunity to participate will be announced through a press release.

Stakeholder organizations will also be directly contacted by the DNR and offered an opportunity to provide input as part of the process to develop recommendations for the property.

Upon the completion of the survey period and stakeholder outreach, the DNR will compile the input.

Recommendation development

A focus group will be established to vet results from the survey and stakeholder outreach and formulate recommendations to the DNR. The focus group will be a small group that is comprised of stakeholders and interested members of the public.

Final recommendations

The final recommendations, as determined by the DNR, will be developed based on:

- Internal DNR assessments of the property
- Parameters established by the funding source requirements and the Pigeon River Country Concept of Management
- Input received from the public and stakeholders as provided by the focus group recommendations
- Input from the DNR resource managing divisions

Approval process

In order of occurrence, the recommendation approval process will be as follows:

- The final recommendations will be presented to the DNR's internal Resource Bureau for consideration.
- The final recommendations will be presented to the Pigeon River Country Advisory Council.
- The final recommendations will be presented to the DNR Director for information at a public Natural Resources Commission meeting.
- The following month, the final recommendations will be presented to the DNR Director for action at a public Natural Resources Commission meeting.