5. Friends of Florida State Forests – Babcock Ranch Preserve

The Friends of Florida State Forests (FFSF) is a direct-support charitable organization (DSO) of the Florida Forest Service, established by Florida statute to support programs within Florida’s 37 state forests, and BRP, and ensure these lands are available for future generations to enjoy. Through community support, the program assists in expanding opportunities for recreation, environmental education, fire prevention and forest management within Florida’s state forests and BRP. FFSF is governed by a board of directors representing a variety of interests. FFSF may establish an FFSF chapter, Friends of Babcock Ranch Preserve, associated with BRP.

FFSF Organization

The FFSF, Inc. organization is made up of a nine (9) member Board of Directors. This includes the three (3) Officers; President (FFS Director), Vice President, and a Secretary-Treasurer. The remaining six (6) Board members are at-large seats and there shall be at least one (1) representative from each of the four (4) Florida Forest Service regions. Chapter representation may exist and shall be limited to one (1) representative per Chapter, and one (1) Program Coordinator and one (1) Fiscal Coordinator to administer the program and provide support to the Board.

Responsibilities

Board of Directors
- Establishes policy
- Provides leadership, direction and planning
- Participates with FFSF events
- Maintain a fiduciary relationship with the FFSF
- Required to use the utmost good faith in the exercise of their power in the interests of the organization

Program Coordinator
- Provides support to Board
- Plans Board meetings and events
- Guides day to day operations
- Directs membership and programs
- Provides information to external and internal customers about FFS and FFSF
- programs and activities
- Maintains and updates FFSF database, website, social media, and other printed and electronic media
- Prepares the FFSF Annual Operating Budget
- Evaluates finances and project management
- Plans fundraising and promotional activities

Fiscal Coordinator
- Directs day to day fiscal operations
- Manages approved annual budget
- Ensures financial integrity

The Friends of Florida State Forests program is referenced in Chapter 589.012 of the Florida Statutes. For more information visit: www.floridastateforests.org