



Edward and Bonnie Foreman Biodiversity Lecture

# **KEEPING STATE PARKS WILD: FLORIDA'S MOVEMENT TO DEFEND PUBLIC LANDS**

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**September 30, 2025**

**12:00**

**Great Hall**

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The Florida Wildlife Federation played a leading role in safeguarding Florida's state parks, spurring a movement to defend public conservation and recreation lands throughout the state. These lands and waterways are essential havens for wildlife, biodiversity, and the people who value them. This presentation will highlight the Florida Wildlife Federation's role in a grassroots movement to stop incompatible development, showing how advocacy, collaboration, and persistent action by all can continue to keep these treasured spaces wild.

## **Casey Darling Kniffin**

Casey Darling Kniffin is the Conservation Policy Director for the Florida Wildlife Federation, where she works to advance science-based policies to protect Florida's lands, waters, and wildlife. She holds a B.S. in Biology from Florida State University and an M.S. in Marine Biology from the College of Charleston. Casey received the Everglades Coalition's Grassroots Activism Award for her leadership in successfully halting plans for incompatible development in Florida's state parks. Born and raised in Florida, she is passionate about connecting science, policy, and advocacy to safeguard the state's diverse ecosystems.



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