









WILD AND SCENIC

WEKIVA RIVER SYSTEM

A River with Outstandingly Remarkable Values



CLICK HERE TO LEARN ABOUT ORVS & WHY THIS **RIVER WAS NATIONALLY DESIGNATED**

THE DRAGONFLY MERCURY PROJECT DATA RELEASE













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A year has passed since the last time we participated in annual data collection for The Dragonfly Mercury **Project**, a scientific initiative aimed at monitoring mercury levels in nationally designated lands across the United States. By studying mercury accumulation in dragonfly larvae, which are sensitive to environmental changes, scientists gather valuable data on mercury pollution in freshwater ecosystems. This project helps assess the extent of mercury contamination, its ecological impact, informs strategies and conservation and environmental management in these sensitive habitats. 2022 was a record breaking year for data collection, and we are so proud to have been a part of it! The data are now publicly available, categorized by location, national park, year, and overall risk, and can be conveniently viewed on the **DMP data dashboard**.

VOLUNTEER ROUNDUP!

WHAT'S NEXT FOR OUR COMMUNITY SCIENTISTS?

>>> ROCK SPRINGS RUN STATE RESERVE BIRD SURVEYS // JAN 24, APR 24, JUL 20

>> MANATEE FESTIVAL // JANUARY 27-28 --> SIGN UP **HERE**!

SEMINOLE STATE FOREST RUN FOR THE WOODS // FEBRUARY 11

THREE BRIDGES CLEAN UP // MARCH 2

DON'T FORGET TO REVIEW OUR ESOURCES!

The <u>arc-GIS StoryMap</u> is an innovative online application merging interactive maps, captivating storytelling, multimedia content, and striking visuals to portray the natural and cultural heritage of the Wekiva River System. Your engagement is crucial in safeguarding and promoting the Wekiva River's natural marvels. Delve into the StoryMap, share it widely, and help raise awareness about this invaluable ecological gem!

The Wekiva Wild and Scenic River System Management Plan, initially formulated in 2012 and comprehensively updated in 2023, plays a critical role in preserving the river's essence for future generations, following enabling legislation and crafted through collaboration between the Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee (AMC) and the National Park Service (NPS).

