



Southwest Region

Quarterly Report –December 2022

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HIGHLIGHTS



Photo 1: Sign at Mound Key State Park impacted by Hurricane Ian

Highlight: Addressing the Impact of Climate Change; Assisting the State Division of Historical Resources (DHR) Documenting Sites Post Ian

FPAN SW staff spent the majority of the second quarter addressing the significant impacts to archaeological sites following Hurricane Ian, which struck the area as a Category 5 Hurricane. This storm washed out

bridges, rendering numerous archaeological sites inaccessible.

Historical societies, local museums, and other partners were significantly impacted. As possible, FPAN Staff coordinated with the DHR to visit sites at state parks and other locations and document the impacts of the storm. Staff shared the results with State Parks staff, DHR, and others in an attempt to coordinate recovery and salvage efforts. Recovery efforts in this area will be long and are likely to extend for years.

Highlight: Assistance to Host Institution Visiting FAU and Discussing Public Archaeology

Dr. Katharine Napora of FAU's Anthropology Department invited FPAN SW and FPAN SE Staff to present to her class about public archaeology and careers in archaeology. Public Archaeology Coordinators Natalie De La Torre Salas and Malachi Fenn, along with SE/SW Director Sara Ayers-Rigsby chatted with FAU students about the role of public archaeology as well as providing advice on job applications in archaeology, where to look for a job, and other practical advice.



Photo 2: De La Torre Salas and SE Public Archaeology Coordinator Mal Fenn at FAU

Progress on Strategic Plan Objectives and Mission Goals

- Address impact of climate crisis on archaeological resources
 - The region was seriously impacted by Hurricane Ian at the end of September. FPAN staff is working with the FLDHR, State Parks, and other partners as part of the ongoing recovery efforts.
 - Following the re-opening of the bridge in Matlacha, FPAN staff was able to join University of Florida staff, the Randell Research Center, and others in documenting the impacts of Hurricane Ian to Calusa Island.
 - De La Torre Salas visited Puerto Rico as part of an organized trip with the Latino Climate Heritage Council