

Making Florida's Beaches More Accessible: 10 Mobility Assistive Floating Devices Provided to State Parks

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES, May 17, 2022

/EINPresswire.com/ -- As a lead-up to summer, seven coastal Florida State Parks recently received a total of 10 beach accessible floating wheelchairs through a continued partnership between the [Florida State Parks Foundation](#) and the Surfing's Evolution & Preservation Foundation.

In order to create a more accessible beach experience, the wheelchairs can be used in areas with soft sand where conventional wheelchairs have difficulty navigating. With floating armrests and oversized wheels, users of WaterWheels® can also safely float in water.



WaterWheel at Gasparilla Island State Park

"Enjoying the great beaches Florida has to offer is an opportunity that should be available to all," said Tammy Gustafson, Florida State Parks Foundation President. "This partnership will allow our state parks to provide a day at the beach experience for those with mobility assistance needs who can engage with the water and sand features alongside their families, friends and loved ones."

“

Enjoying the great beaches Florida has to offer is an opportunity that should be available to all."

*Tammy Gustafson, Florida
State Parks Foundation
President*

The following parks received one or more of the floating chairs: Deer Lake State Park, William J. 'Billy Joe' Rish Recreation Area, Grayton Beach State Park, Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park, Gasparilla Island State Park, Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park and John D. MacArthur Beach State

Park.

Surfing's Evolution & Preservation Foundation, Inc. is a charitable organization founded by surfing legend Ron DiMenna and his wife Lynne, to recognize the importance of the beach and surfing lifestyle in Florida and protect these beaches for future generations to enjoy. Their focus is on keeping the beaches safe and healthy, by supporting programs and events of other organizations that support beaches and oceans and promote education on beach safety.

"It is our pleasure to enhance beach accessibility for Florida state park visitors," said Jacquie Youngs, Surfing's Evolution & Preservation Foundation Administrator. "Ensuring those with mobility needs are able to enjoy the beach is an important mission and one we are proud to support with tangible resources through accessible wheelchairs."

Last year, the Florida State Parks Foundation and the Surfing's Evolution & Preservation Foundation delivered a total of 52 beach accessible chairs to coastal state parks that allow for movement over sand and can be wheeled into shallow water. The 10 most recently delivered WaterWheels® chairs also allow for water flotation.

The Florida State Parks Foundation, founded in 1993 as Friends of Florida State Parks and renamed in 2018, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation whose mission is to support and help sustain the Florida Park Service, its 175 award-winning parks and trails, local Friends groups and more than 20,000 park volunteers.

It does this through programs that preserve and protect state parks, educate visitors about the value of state parks, encourage community engagement and active use of state parks, and advocacy. The volunteer Board of Directors represents private and public sectors as well as local and statewide interests. This project was completed by the Florida State Parks Foundation Services LLC, which is a limited liability company affiliate of the Foundation.

Courtney Nomina
Florida State Parks Foundation
+1 386-490-3205
courtney@floridastateparksfoundation.org

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/572797039>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2022 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.