



# WORDS ON THE WILDERNESS

## A HISTORY OF PLACE NAMES IN SOUTH FLORIDA'S NATIONAL PARKS

BY LARRY PEREZ

Maps of South Florida's national parks are rife with numerous odd and unusual place names. Who can help but wonder at the origins of monikers like Hells Bay, Dildo Key, Snake Bight, or Willy Willy? Yet each name helps preserve an important piece of natural or cultural history from our area's past. In his new book, *Words on the Wilderness*, author Larry Perez helps unravel the mysteries behind over 400 such locales.

Larry is a lifelong resident of Miami and a long-time employee of the National Park Service. He has spent over three years delving into the fascinating history behind the names of every river, island, bay, campsite, road, reef, trail and structure in Biscayne, Dry Tortugas, and Everglades National Parks and Big Cypress National Preserve. Featuring full citations, *Words on the Wilderness* presents the most meticulous research to date on the history of some of our most treasured places, and promises to be an important title for years to come!

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*Words on the Wilderness; A History of Place Names in South Florida's National Parks,*  
by Larry Perez

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