

WHAT ARE THE STANDARD PROTECTION MEASURES THAT ARE REQUIRED?

The Seminole Tribe of Florida is required by the Endangered Species Act to abide by standard measures adopted to protect this endangered stork:

1. All construction personnel watch the Wildlife Education Workshop video which includes information on the wood stork and be able to identify a wood stork and have brochures onsite.
2. A qualified observer/biologist will be on-site for notification by construction personnel if a wood stork is sighted.
3. If an wood stork is found on the construction site, all activity must cease immediately, and the stork allowed to move away from any dangerous area on its own.



WHO DO YOU CONTACT IF YOU SEE A WOOD STORK ON THE RESERVATION?

Contact your direct supervisor

You may also contact:

***Seminole Tribe of Florida's
Wildlife Biologist***

***Phone: 863-902-3249 x13411
Cell: 954-410-7073***

**Seminole Tribe of Florida
Environmental Resource
Management Department**

Wood Stork *Mycteria americana*



Protecting Tribal Resources

WHAT IS A WOOD STORK?



The wood stork (above) is the only native stork species found in North America. It has been federally listed as an endangered species since 1984 under the Endangered Species Act.

WHY IS THE WOOD STORK ENDANGERED?

Loss of habitat resulting in:

- Loss of main food source
- Loss of suitable nesting sites



HOW CAN YOU IDENTIFY A WOOD STORK?



Males and females look the same, though males tend to be larger

Adult (above-left):

- All white plumage except for black feathers along the tips of wing and tail
- Large, curved at tip, black beak with some brown coloration
- Face contains no plumage and is covered with blackish, rough and scaly skin

Immature (above-right):

- Duller version of adult

In flight they can be distinguished by an extended neck and black tip running all along bottom of plumage (bottom-left).

WHERE DO THEY OCCUR?

Wood storks can be found in a variety of habitats throughout Florida but they are most commonly observed wading in shallow water feeding on small fish.

Storks nest in large trees surrounded by open water to avoid predation (bottom-right). As many as 500 stork have been documented nesting within one colony!

HOW TO DISTINGUISH FROM THE EXOTIC SACRED IBIS?

The sacred ibis (below) is an invasive species native to Africa, Iraq, and Egypt.

- Smaller bird with thinner beak
- Pure black head and neck
- Extra black plumage on rump



If you suspect that you have seen a sacred ibis please call the number on the back of the brochure immediately!

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU SEE A WOOD STORK?

If you encounter a wood stork, avoid all contact with it. If you are driving a vehicle or heavy equipment, stop, cease operation and allow the stork to pass before resuming construction. Do not touch the stork or harass it in any way. Please contact your supervisor or the number on the back of this pamphlet to report the location and circumstance of all sightings.

