

What is the Durrwalker cup about?

The "Durrwalker" cup is a tribute in the local vernacular to a person who was an important part of the original makers of Picayune Strand State Forest. Forester Durrwachter played several major roles on the ground for the Forestry during that time and a main part of the mapping and naming of trails and boundaries while working through the difficult details and politics of the land acquisition phase required for eventual preservation and the restoration of Picayune Strand.

Senior Forester Sonja Durrwachter was her official title, and one most appropriate for a true forester opening the door to the future for the newly defined state forest. The petite blonde had her work cut out for her, often in the field alone, courageously working in a place plagued by raging fires and deemed by many as the last frontier. Poachers, dumpers, hunters, squatters, suspicious residents, fugitives and recreationists of all kinds knew Sonja and her tireless work in getting Picayune Forest off the ground and making it an equal among giants of special places managed by the State of Florida. It's people like her in the Florida Forest Service that make the world a better place, especially for the future.