STATE OF THE TRAIL REPORT 2015



USDA FOREST SERVICE

www.fs.usda.gov/FNST

Editor's Note:

The State of the Trail 2015 document is now interactive! Links that lead to outside webpages or online PDF files are highlighted <u>orange</u>. Links that lead to pages within the State of the Trail report are highlighted in <u>blue</u>. All external links can be found in the end of the document

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I. Introduction

Overview of the State of the Trail Report

With nearly 30 distinct federal, state, local and private partners having a management interest in the Florida National Scenic Trail (FNST), communication and dissemination of up-to-date information is central to an effective cooperative management strategy.

The USDA, Forest Service, National Forests in Florida will use the State of the Trail reports to provide an annual "snap shot" of the current conditions and available resources for each official segment of the FNST certified through a cooperative management agreement. Future editions may further address areas gap areas under development.

The report is organized geographically, each page addressing a single land management unit (or more where practical). Unit descriptions include a current inventory of trail miles, related infrastructure, and insight in to the management and maintenance of each unit. Each FNST segment page contains a description and photo typical of that portion of the Trail as well as information regarding the segment's ownership, mileage, volunteer support, trail class, designed use, infrastructure, and management priorities.

Each year, the USFS will update the State of the Trail report by soliciting information regarding trail management priorities and trail conditions from land managers, and the volunteers and staff of the Florida Trail Association. This information will be used to identify system wide needs and develop annual work plans. To learn more about the Florida National Scenic Trail or the myriad of partners including the Florida Trail Association, visit our website www.fs.usda.gov/fnst.

Trail Overview and Mileage

Total Certified FNST	974.5
Southern Region	254.3
Central Region	326.3
Northern Region	141.4
Panhandle Region	252.8
Blackwater Side Trail	47.3
Current Gaps	336

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Trail Standards & Guidelines by Class

Trail Attributes	Trail Class 1 Minimally Developed	Trail Class 2 Moderately Developed	Trail Class 3 Developed	Trail Class 4 Highly Developed	Trail Class 5 Fully Developed
Constructed Features & Trail Elements	Structures minimal to non- existent Drainage typically accomplished without structures Natural fords Typically no bridges	Structures of limited size, scale, and quantity; typically constructed of native materials Structures adequate to protect trail infrastructure and resources Natural fords Bridges as needed for resource protection and appropriate access	Structures may be common and substantial; constructed of imported or native materials Natural or constructed fords Bridges as needed for resource protection and appropriate access	Structures frequent and substantial; typically constructed of imported materials Contructed or natural fords Bridges as needed for resource protection and user convenience Trailside amenities may be present	Structures frequent or continuous; typically constructed of imported materials May include bridges, boardwalks, curbs, handrails, trailside amenities, and similar features
Signs ²	Route identification signing limited to junctions Route markers present when trail location is not evident Regulator y and resource protection signing infrequent Desination signing, unless required, generally not present Information and interpretive signing generally not present	Route identification signing limited to junctions Route markers present when trail location is not evident Regulator y and resource protection signing infrequent Destination signing typically infrequent outside of wilderness; generally not present in wilderness Information and interpretive signing not common	Route identification signing at junctions and as needed for user reassurance Route markers as needed for user reassurance Regulator y and resource protection signing may be common Destination signing likely outside of wilderness; generally not present in wilderness Information and interpretive signs may be present outside of wilderness	Route identification signing at junctions and as needed for user reassurance Route markers as needed for user reassurance Regulator y and resource protection signing common Destination signing common outside of wilderness; generally not present in wilderness Information and interpretive signs may be common outside of wilderness Accessibility information likely displayed at trailhead	Route identification signing at junctions and for user reassurance Route markers as needed for user reassurance Regulator y and resource protection signing common Destination signing common Information and interpretive signs common Access ibility information
Typical Recreation Environs & Experience	Natural, unmodified ROS: Typically Primitive to Roaded Natural WROS: Typically Primitive to Semi-Primitive	Natur al, essentially unmodified ROS: Typically Primitive to Roaded Natural Typically WROS: Typically Primitive to Semi-Primitive	Natur al, primarily unmodified ROS: Typically Primitive to Roaded Natural WROS: Typically Semi-Primitive to Transition	May be modified ROS: Typically Semi- Primitive to Rural Roaded Natural to Rural setting WROS: Typically Portal or Transition	May be highly modified Commonly associated with visitor centers or high-use recreation sites ROS: Typically Roaded Natural to Urban Generally not present in Wilderness

For National Quality Standards for Trails, Potential Appropriateness of Trail Classes for Managed Uses, Design Parameters, and other related guidance, refer to FSM 2353, FSH 2309.18, and other applicable agency references.

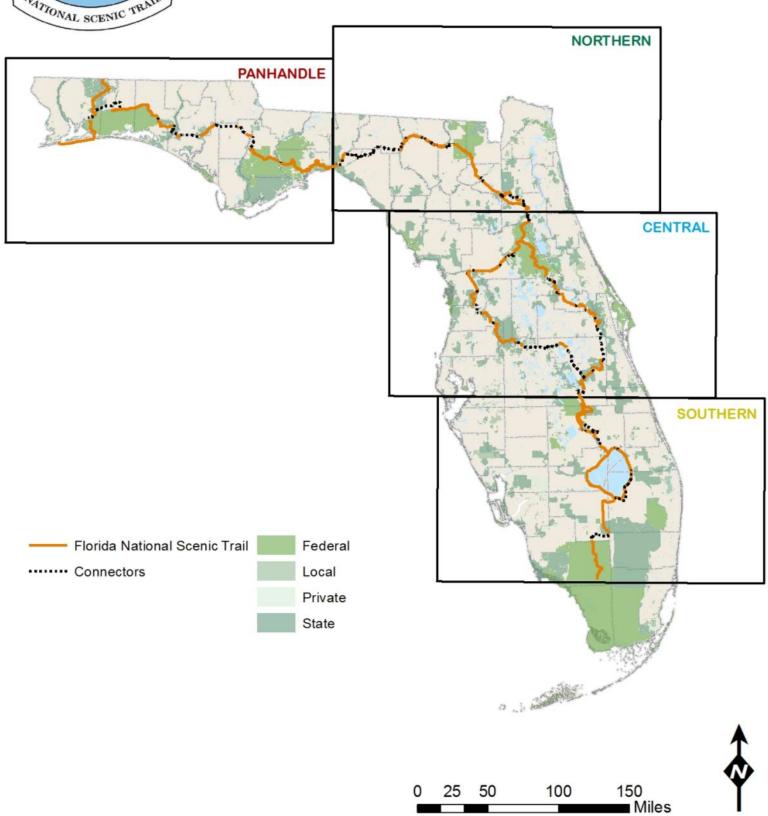
For standards and guidelines for the use of signs and posters along trails, refer to the Sign and Poster Guidelines for the Forest Service (EM-7100-15). 5

The Trail Class Matrix shows the combinations of Trail Class and Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) or Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) settings that commonly occur, although trails in all Trail Classes may and do occur in all settings. For guidance on the application of the ROS and WROS, refer to FSM 2310 and 2353 and FSH 2309.18. 6





Florida National Scenic Trail Regions



(1)

FLORIDA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL REGIONS

Southern Region

- ♦ Big Cypress National Preserve
- ♦ Miami Canal Levee, L1, L2 & L3
- ◆ Lake Okeechobee and Okeechobee North
- ♦ Kissimmee River Lands
- Avon Park Air Force Range
- ♦ Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park
- KICCO Wildlife Management Area

Central Region

- Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area
- Forever Florida
- Herky Huffman/Bull Creek Wildlife Management Area
- Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area
- Seminole Ranch Conservation Area
- ♦ C.H. Bronson State Forest & Chuluota Wilderness
- ♦ Mills Creek Woodlands
- ♦ Little Big Econ State Forest & Flagler Rail Trail
- Cross Seminole Trail & Seminole-Wekiva Trail
- Lower Wekiva River Preserve State Park
- ♦ Seminole State Forest
- ♦ Ocala National Forest
- ♦ Cross Florida Greenway North
- ♦ Withlacoochee and Van Fleet State Rail Trails
- Green Swamp Water Management Area
- Withlacoochee State Forest Region
- ♦ City of Inverness
- ♦ Cross Florida Greenway West

Northern Region

- ♦ Rice Creek Conservation Area
- Etoniah Creek State Forest & Palatka-Lake Butler State Trail
- ♦ Plum Creek
- Osceola National Forest & Olustee Battlefield
- Fall Creek, Little Shoals, & Gar Pond Tracts
- Forest Service Tracts & Stephen Foster Culture Center State Park
- Swift Creek & Camp Branch Conservation Areas
- ♦ Suwannee River Farms Management Areas
- ♦ Holton Creek & Lower Alapaha Conservation Areas
- Suwannee River State Park
- Twin Rivers State Forest
- Aucilla River

Panhandle Region

- St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge & St. Marks Rail Trail
- ♦ Apalachicola National Forest
- ♦ Blountstown Greenway & State Road 20
- ♦ Upper Chipola River Water Management Area
- ♦ Econfina Creek Water Management Area
- Pine Log State Forest
- Nokuse Plantation & Choctawhatchee River Water
 Management Area
- ♦ Eglin Air Force Base
- Yellow River Water Management Area
- Gulf Islands (Gulf Islands National Seashore, Santa Rosa County, Navarre Beach, Pensacola Beach)

Additional Trails

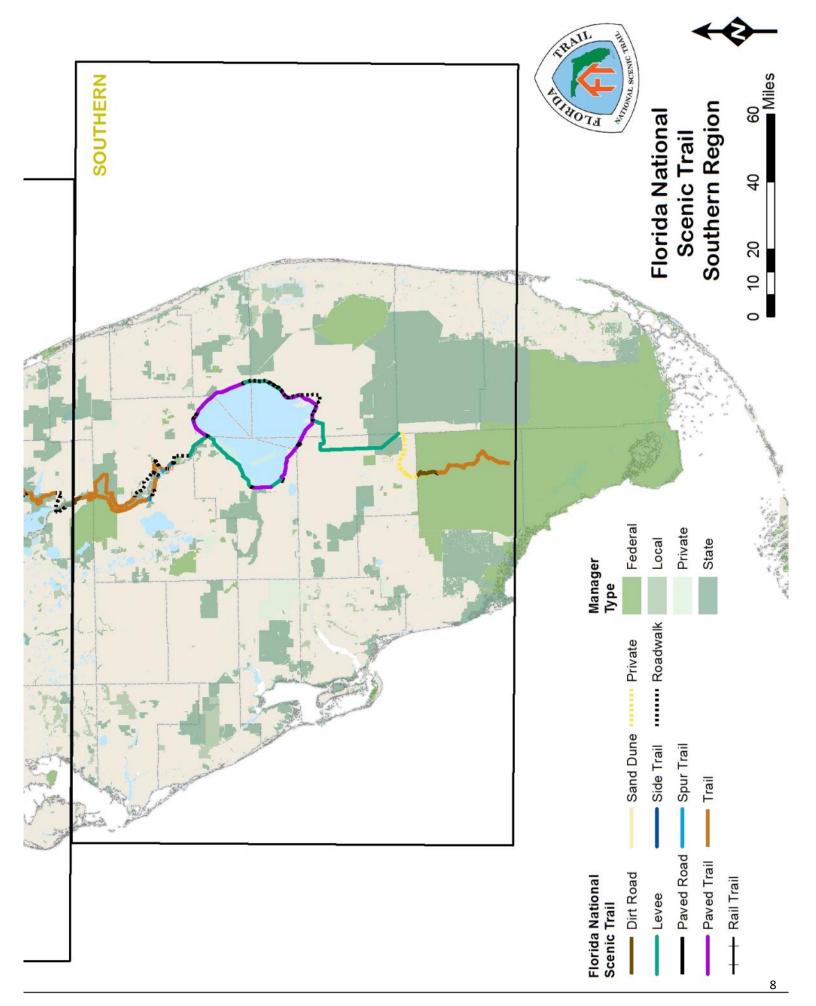
 Blackwater River State Forest & Blackwater River State Park



II. Southern Region

- Big Cypress National Preserve (p. 9)
- Miami Canal Levee, L1, L2. & L3 (p. 11)
- Lake Okeechobee and Okeechobee North (p. 13)
- Kissimmee River Public Use Area (p. 15)
- Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park (p. 17)
- KICCO Wildlife Management Area (p. 19)









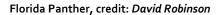
National Park Service

Big Cypress National Preserve

Trail Length: 38.4 miles • Trail Classes: 2, 5 (i75 underpass), 4 •

Connectors: None



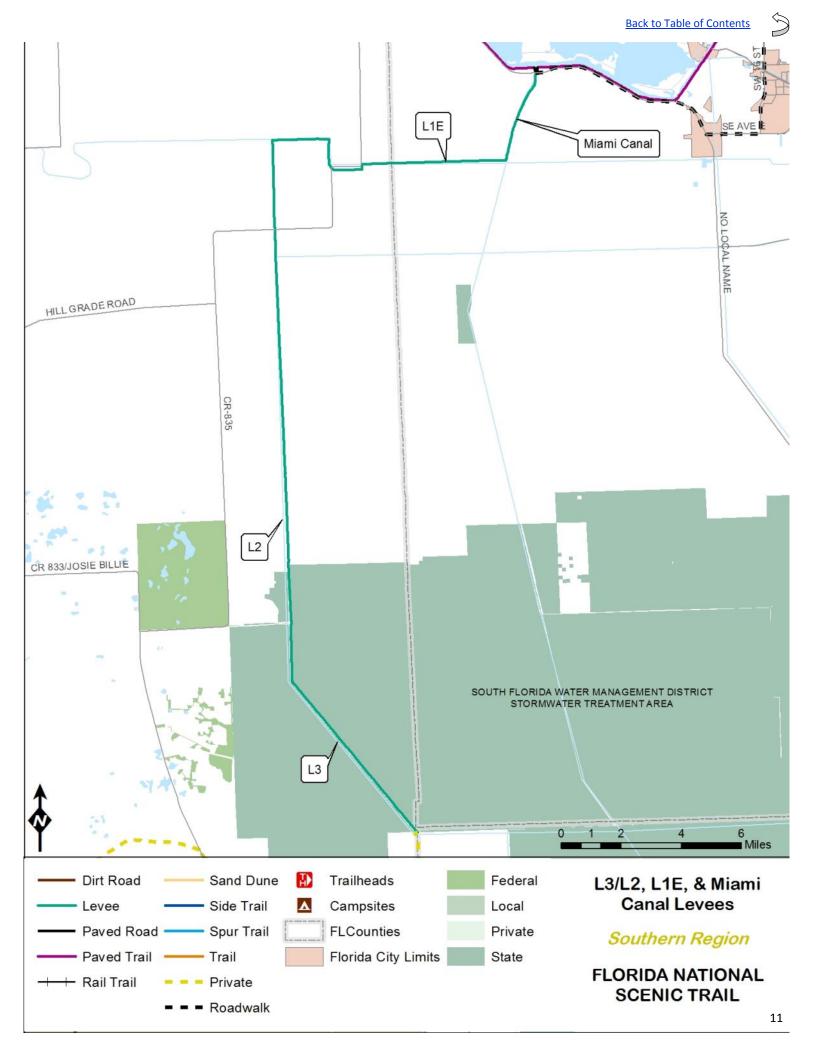




Air Plants at Big Cypress, credit: Peter Nolan, Florida Trail Association

Covering the west half of the Everglades, <u>Big Cypress National Preserve</u> is a maze of swamplands and pine flatwoods. This segment of the Florida National Scenic Trail offers some of the most remote trail in the state and passes through all types of terrain including cypress swamp, pine islands, hammocks, and prairies with cabbage palm and saw palmetto. Users should be prepared to wade along certain areas of the Trail at almost any time of the year, though January to April is normally driest. This section is home to several rare species including panthers, black bears, and many birds such as the Florida Sandhill Crane.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Big Cypress, Happy Hoofers, and Alligator Amblers chapters
General Trail Maintenance	Last Maintenance Date: 4/26/15 (Big Cypress Reserve, last maintained 12/19/14) Maintained: 11/23/14, 2/6-13/15, 3/15/15, 3/20/15, 3/21/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery (Aug - Sept); Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct.); General Gun Season (Nov Jan.); Small Game Season (Jan Feb.); Trapping Prohibited
Facilities	2 trailheads - This trailhead has the Southern Terminus rock & 1 interpretive sign 5 campsites
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	Permission needed to hike through the Seminole Indian Reservation, north of the Preserve.
Upcoming Projects	Begin analysis of proposed re-route which would eliminate Seminole Reservation gap.





South Florida Water Management District

L3/L2, L1E, & Miami Canal Levees

Trail Length: 36.6 miles • Trail Classes: 4 • Connectors: none



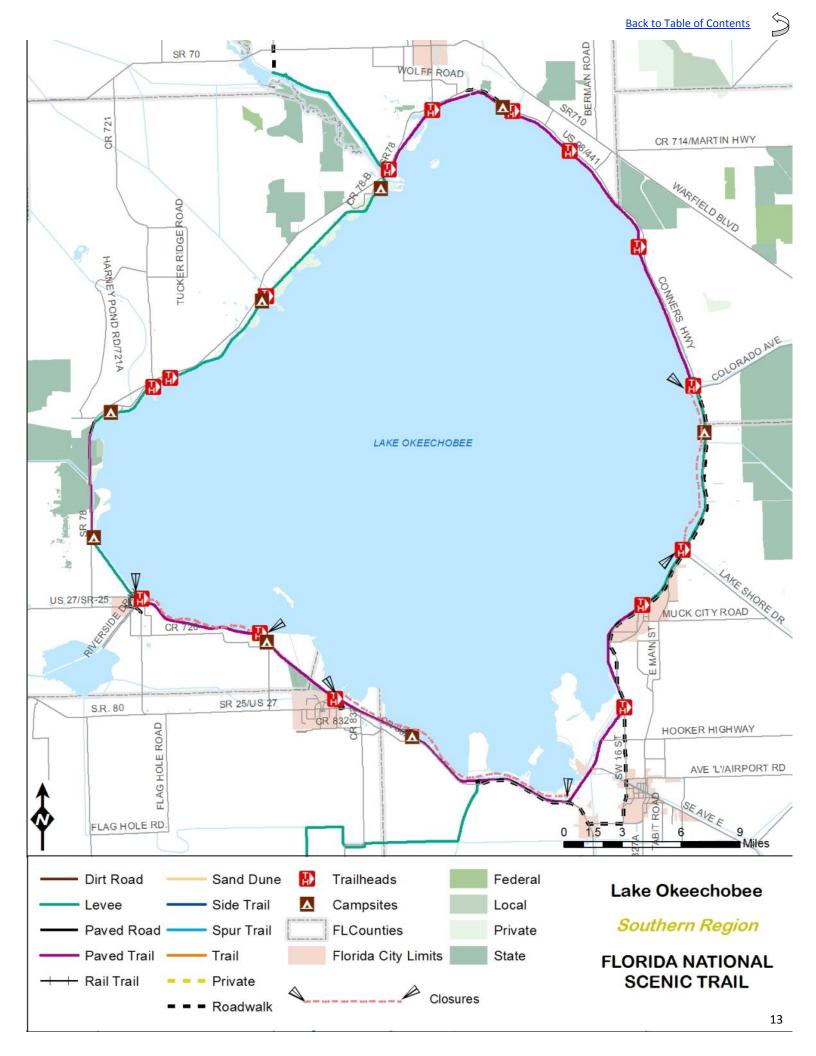


Sugarcane Fields, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Trail Association

Miami Canal, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Trail Association

This portion of the Trail follows a series of canals past the Everglades Agricultural Area and STA-5. The Trail here follows levees managed by the South Florida Water Management District, paralleling the canals and offering little vegetation for shade. Users along this portion of trail will see ranching and sugar cane harvesting along the trail. Blazing along the levees is sporadic. Several invasive species are common in this area, such as swamphens, pythons, and iguanas. These levees serve as one of the premier bird-watching areas in Florida, with more than 200 species.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Loxahatchee chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last Maintenance Date: 12/8/14 Maintained on: 10/2/14
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, bicycle
Hunting Seasons	10.22 miles of L3/L2 runs along STA5, allowing for waterfowl hunting in Sept., Nov., Dec., Jan. and Feb.
Facilities	Kiosk/Signage added to new Deer Fence Road Trailhead—Nov. 2014
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	Permission needed to hike through the Seminole Indian Reservation, south of canals
Upcoming Projects	





US Army Corps of Engineers

Lake Okeechobee & Okeechobee North

Trail Length: 124.6 miles • Trail Classes: 4, 5 • Connectors: None



FNST sign on a gate on the east side of Lake Okeechobee, credit: Jim Schmid



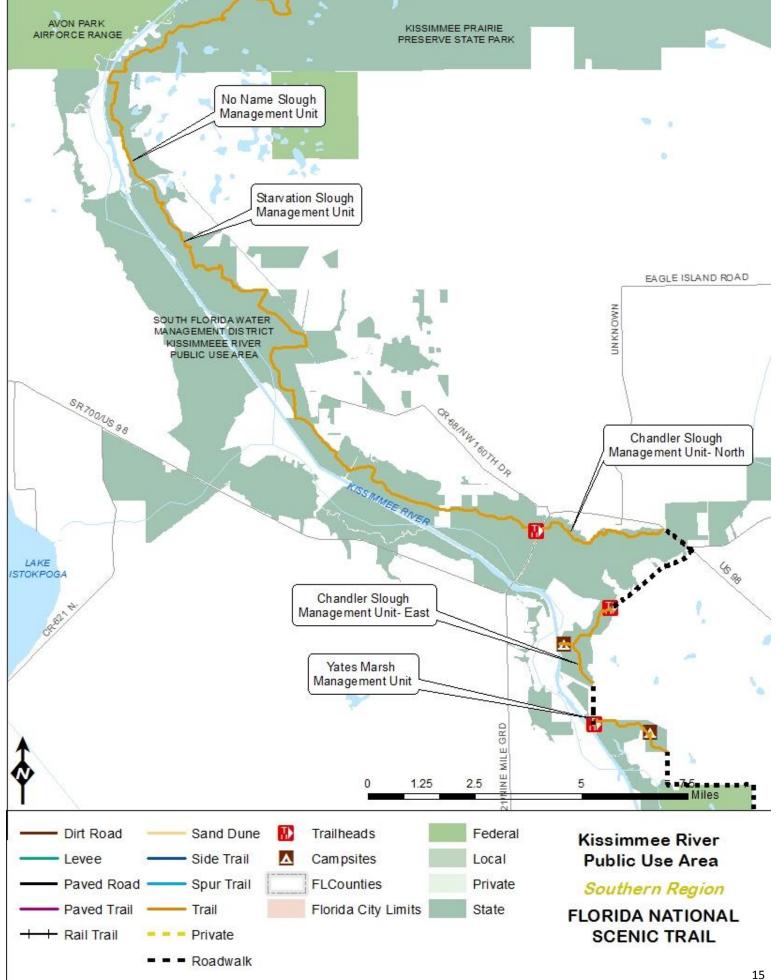
Sunrise at the Lake, credit: Moore Haven, Florida Trail Association

The western side of <u>Lake Okeechobee</u> is mostly unpaved trail and passes several navigational locks and pumping stations, features of the flood control which protects the lands surrounding the lake. The eastern side of the trail is paved, except between Pahokee and Port Mayaka. Several major recreation areas are accessible from the trail in Clewiston, Lake Harbor, South Bay, Pahokee, and Torrey Island.

Notice: Construction continues along southern and eastern portions of the dike. The western side of Lake Okee-chobee is open for use.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Tropical Trekkers, Loxahatchee, Happy Hoofers chapters
General Trail Maintenance	Last Maintenance Date: December 2013
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, bicycle
Hunting Seasons	Duck hunting, alligator hunting, fishing, and wild boar hunting
Facilities	15 trailheads - dike rehabilitation has caused the removal of kiosks, cabbage palms, and shaded benches. 8 campsites
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	Current closures exist: 7.6 miles from Moore Haven west to Liberty Point; 13.2 miles from Clewiston west to South Bay; 9 miles from Canal Point north to Port Mayaca. These are expected to be closed until 2015 or later. Call (863) 983-8101 to coordinate trail activities or for future closures.
Upcoming Projects	







South Florida Water Management District

Kissimmee River Public Use Area

Trail Length: 28.9 miles • Trail Classes: 4 • Connectors: CR599 (5.6 mi), North NW 144 Tr. (.7, 1.0 & 2.4 mi), US98 (0.8 & 2.4 mi)



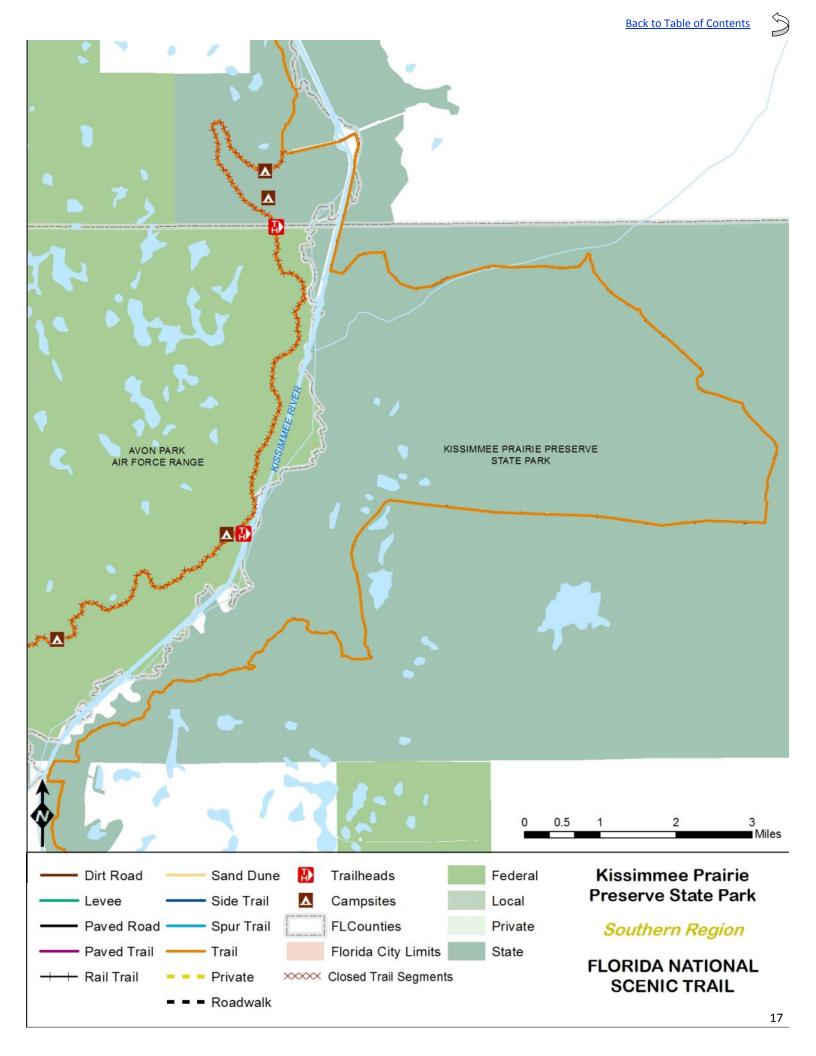
Cow Pasture at Kissimmee River Lands, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Trail Association



Airplants and a trail blaze, credit: Sandra Friend, Florida Trail Association

Travelling along the Eastern banks of the Kissimmee River, the recently completed trail relocation provides users with 12.6 miles of trail within the <u>Kissimmee River Public Use Area</u>. Managed by the South Florida Water Management District, the FNST crosses several management units along the eastern Kissimmee. From the south, the trail travels 2.3 miles through <u>Yates Marsh Management Unit</u> then 6.4 miles total through the Eastern and Northern tracts of <u>Chandler Slough Management Unit</u>. The newly competed trail in the Kissimmee PUA connects to 4.4 miles in <u>Starvation Slough</u> management unit and finally 3.2 miles in <u>No Name Slough</u>. Through these areas, the trail encompasses wetlands, oak and cabbage palm hammocks, cypress domes, and cow pastures. The trail relocation was competed in November 2015.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Heartland and Tropical Trekkers chapters
General Trail Maintenance	Last Maintenance Date: 4/25/15 Maintained on: 7/6/14, 8/16/14, 9/5/14, 11/12-11/16/14, 12/11/14, 1/18/15, 1/24/15, 3/14-15/15, 4/16/15, 4/20-21/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Oct Nov.); Crossbow Season (Oct Nov.); Muzzleloading Gun Season (Nov Dec.); General Gun Season (Dec Feb.); Quail Season (Sep Nov. and Nov March).
Facilities	3 trailheads 2 campsites
Infrastructure 38 ft. total	1 Span bridge (38 ft., wood) (Yates Marsh WMA) 1 boardwalk requested in Chandler Slough for maintenance purposes
Permits & Access	Permits needed from SFWMD to camp in Chandler Slough, Hickory Hammock, and Boney Marsh.
Upcoming Projects	Major reroute accomplished in the Kissimmee River Corridor. Trail was moved from Avon Park Air Force Range to Kissimmee River PUA on the eastern side of the Kissimmee leading north to Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park (Completed Nov. 2015)



11

FDEP—Div. of Recreation & Parks

Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park

Trail Length: 24.8 miles • Trail Classes: 3 • Connectors: None



Burned and Green prairie at KPPSP, credit: Maya Buhler



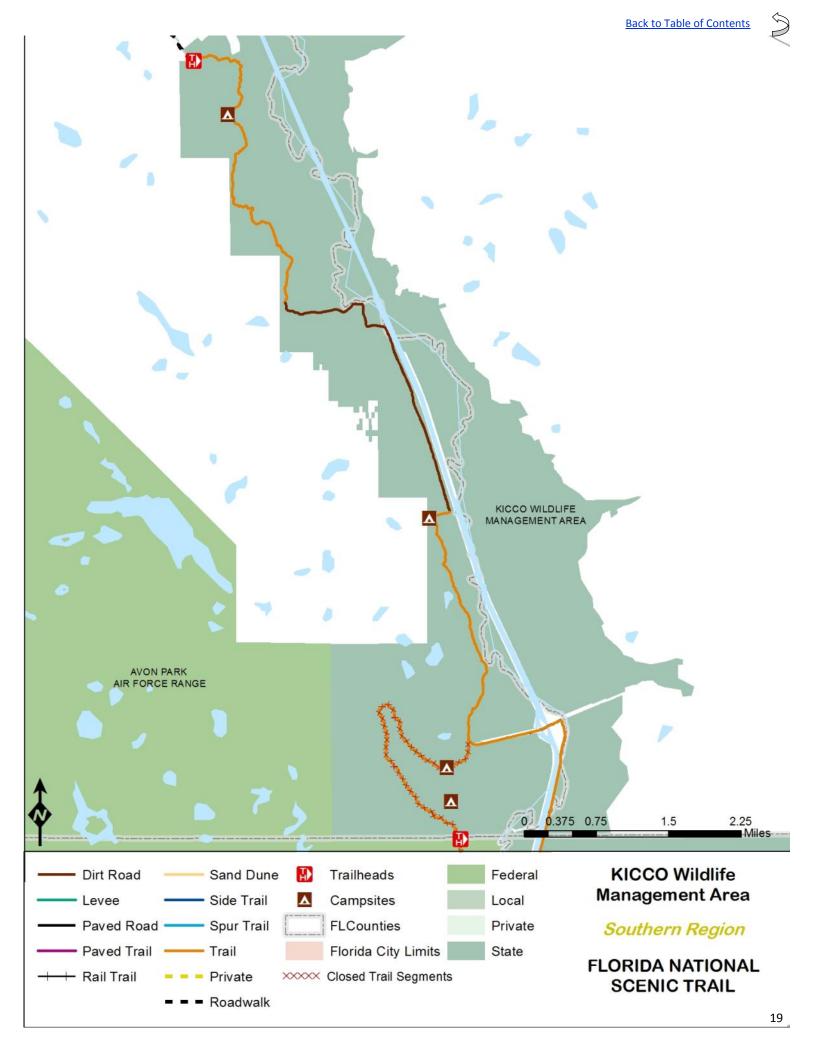
Hammock at Gum Slough in KPPSP, credit: Maya Buhler

Along Military Trail at KPPSP, credit: Maya Buhler



Trail at <u>Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park</u> moves through depression Marsh, dry prairie, floodplain marsh, freshwater marshes, pasture, mesic flatwoods and hammock, wetland hardwoods, rural open and scrub. The preserve offers opportunities for birdwatching, stargazing, and houses a variety of threatened and endangered species including the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow, the Crested Caracara and Burrowing Owl. The prairie offers little shade from sun exposure. Prescribed burn is an essential part of the prairie and should be expected most during the Spring.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Tropical Trekker's chapter
General Trail Mainte- nance	Last Maintenance Date: $1/24/15$ Maintained on: $10/24/14$, $11/12-16/14$ by volunteers. Maintained twice annually by park staff.
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, equestrian, bicycle
Hunting Seasons	Prohibited
Facilities	1 Trailheads - 1 kiosk planned at southern entrance, another kiosk is need at the northern entrance 3 Campsites—2 primitive, 1 with facilities
Infrastructure	1 bridge across Duck Slough
Permits & Access	Camping Permit required through Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park
Upcoming Projects	Reroute of trail from Avon and SFWMD lands to the KPPSP; currently an unofficial connector or of trail runs through KPPSP. This section is currently undergoing the process towards certification.





South Florida Water Management District

KICCO Management Area

Trail Length: 13.8 miles • Trail Classes: 2, 3, 4 • Connectors: None



Entry sign at KICCO Management Area, credit: Jim Schmid



Sunset at KICCO, credit: FTA smugmug

The <u>KICCO WMA</u> is part of the world's largest river restoration project to restore the Kissimmee River from its channelized condition to its traditional floodplain. The FNST at KICCO WMA traverses through oak hammock, scrub, cypress strand, and pine-palmetto flatwoods. Abundant wildlife in this area includes white-tailed deer, alligators, feral hogs, bald eagles, wild turkeys, hawks, wading birds, and sandhill cranes.

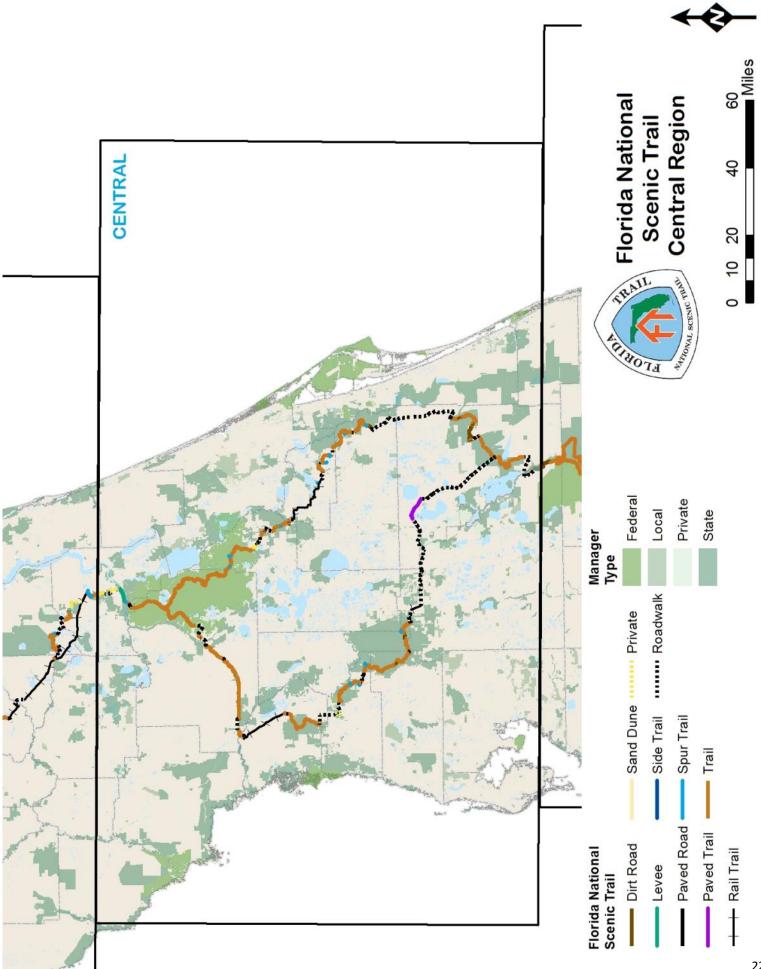
Malausta au Camarant	ETA/allasatlasadahantan
volunteer Support	FTA's Heartland chapter
General Trail	Last Maintenance Date: 6/20/14
Maintenance	Maintained: 11/17-21/14
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Sept Oct.), Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct.), Wild Hog-still Season (Nov Dec.), Small Game Season (Dec Jan.), Spring Turkey Season (March - April); Fishing and Frogging allowed year round
Facilities	1 trailhead - 1 kiosk at North Entrance that needs new / more information 4 campsites
Infrastructure	8 span bridges (12 ft., 54 ft., 92 ft., 10 ft., 12 ft., 15 ft., 18 ft., 17 ft. [200 ft. total], all wooden);
<u>200 ft. total</u>	
Permits & Access	
Upcoming Projects	

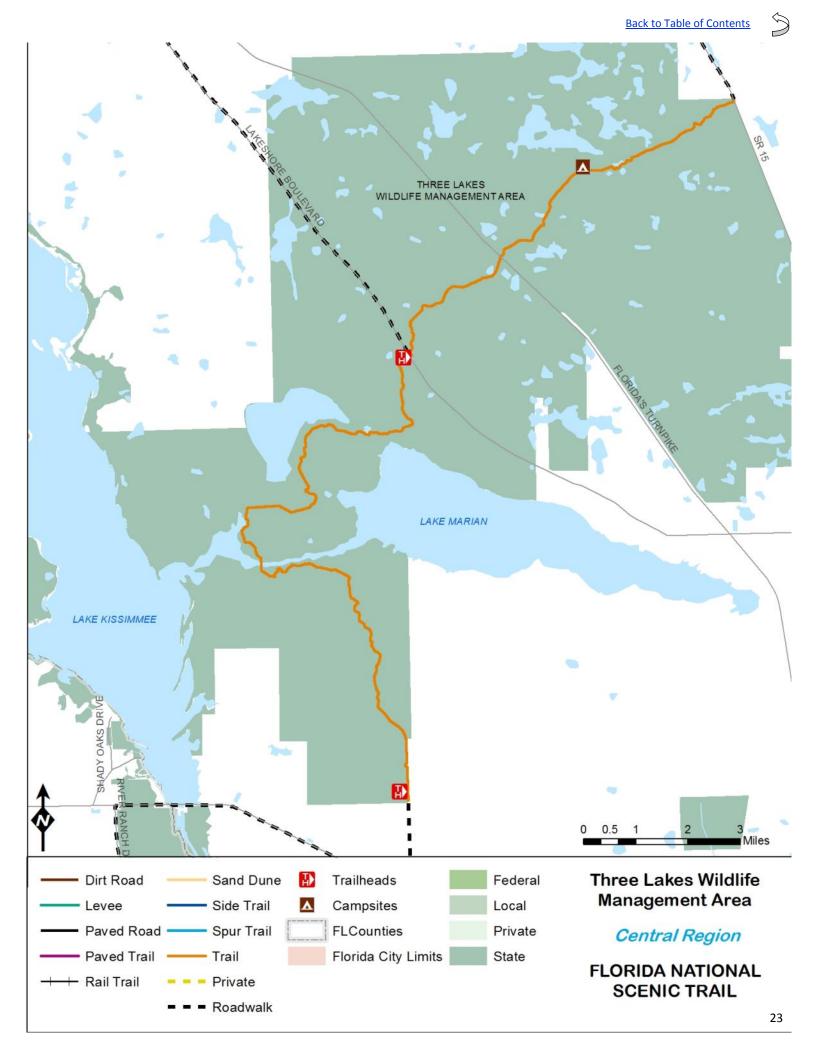


III. Central Region-East

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- Forever Florida (p. 25)
- Herky Huffman/Bull Creek Wildlife Management Area (p. 27)
- <u>Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area</u> (p. 29)
- Seminole Ranch Conservation Area (p. 31)
- C.H. Bronson State Forest & Chuluota Wilderness (p. 33)
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- <u>Little Big Econ State Forest & Flagler Rail Trail</u> (p. 37)
- Cross Seminole Trail & Seminole-Wekiva Trail (p. 39)
- Lower Wekiva River Preserve State Park (p. 41)
- Seminole State Forest (p. 43)
- Ocala National Forest (p. 45)
- Cross Florida Greenway North (p. 47)









Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area

Trail Length: 25.3 miles • Trail Classes: 3, 4 • Connectors: CR523 (0.1 mi)



Entry to trail at Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area, credit: *Jim Schmid*

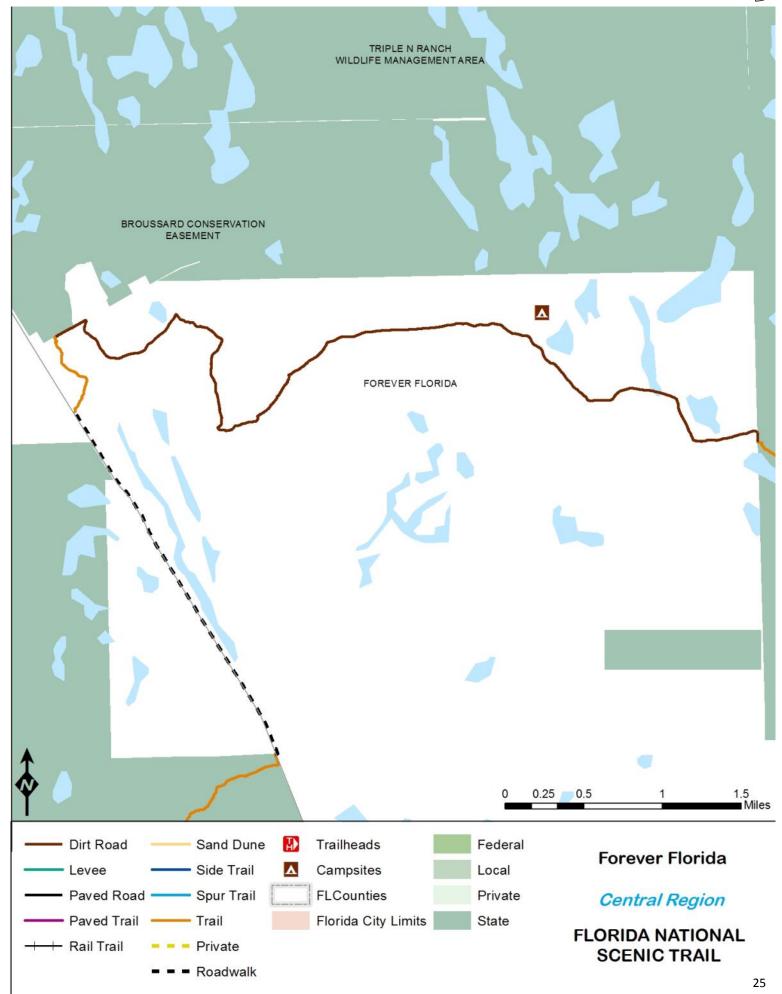


Hiking through a palmetto prairie, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Trail Association

The Trail at <u>Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area</u> passes through palmetto prairies and pine flatwoods, open scrub, and prairies. Though the Trail is fairly level, in the rainy season users may have to wade through some areas. Several loop trails are maintained by the Florida Trail Association at Three Lakes WMA. Several threatened and endangered species occur in this area, including the red cockaded woodpecker, Florida Grasshopper Sparrow, Crested caracara and sandhill cranes.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Indian River chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintained: 12/6/14 Maintained: 10/10/14
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Sept Oct.), Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct.), General Gun Mobility-impaired Season (Oct.), General Gun Season (Nov Dec.), General Gun-dog Season (Dec.), Small Game Season (Dec March), Raccoon Season (Jan.), Quail Season (Jan Feb on Saturdays only), Spring Turkey Season (March - April), Fishing & Frogging allowed year round
Facilities	2 trailheads 1 campsite
Infrastructure Total 145 ft.	9 span bridges (24 ft., 30 ft., 10 ft., 12 ft., 20 ft., 12 ft., 12 ft., 13 ft., 12 ft. [total 145 ft.], all wood);
Permits & Access	
Upcoming Projects	





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Forever Florida

Forever Florida

Trail Length: 6.8 miles • Trail Classes: 3, 4 • Connectors: None



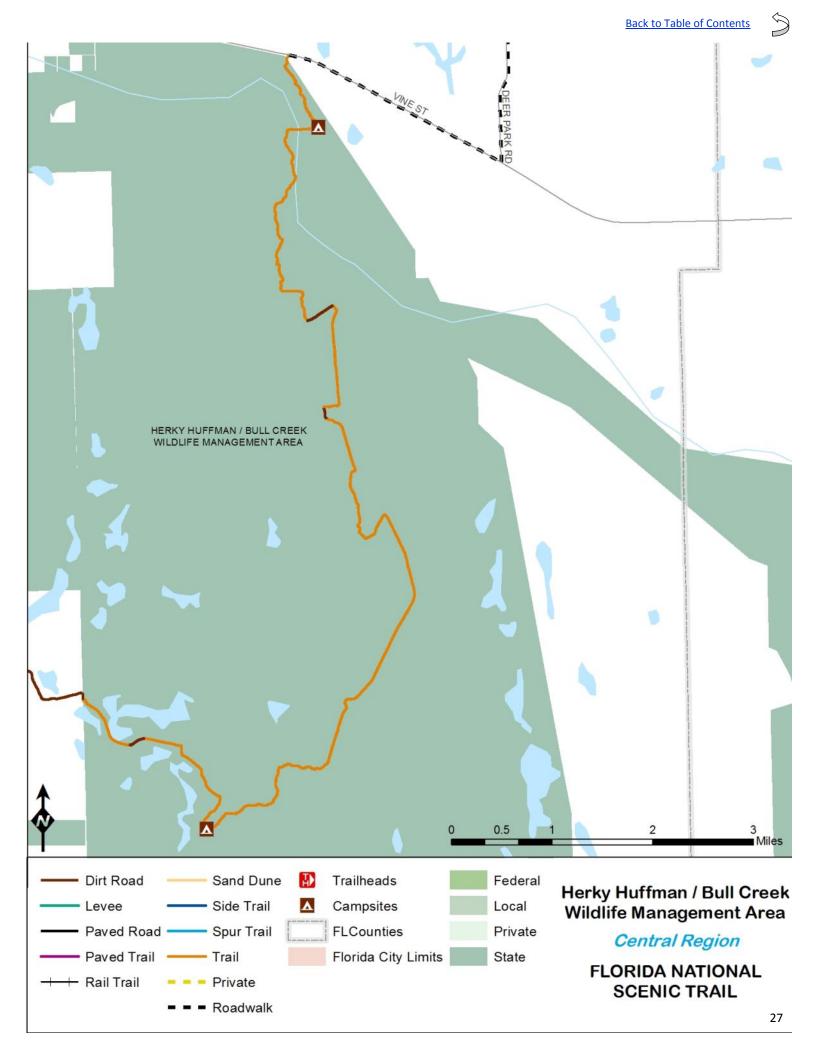


Palmetto and pine prairie at Florida Forever, credit: Sandra Friend, Florida Trail Association

Deer at Forever Florida, credit: M. Timothy O'Keefe, Florida Trail Association

The FNST on the Forever Florida property starts east of State Road 15 and follows ranch roads through pine/palmetto prairies and cypress sloughs. This 4,700 acre eco-ranch and wildlife conservation area is home to Forever Florida's eco-tours. This area is home to a wide variety of plant and animal species, including alligators, white-tailed deer, black beers, and occasionally Florida Panthers. The main development of the eco-resort at this location is north of the trail and hosts a restaurant, a nature-based gift shop, swamp buggy tours, bicycle and equestrian trails, nature walks and a butterfly garden.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Central Florida chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last Maintenance Date: 2/6/15 Maintained: 12/12-13/14, 1/9/15, 1/16/15, 1/19/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	None
Facilities	1 campsite
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	
Upcoming Projects	



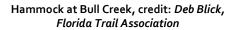


Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Herky Huffman/ Bull Creek Wildlife Management Area

Trail Length: 14.2 miles • Trail Classes: 2, 3, 4 • Connectors: None







Bull Creek, credit: Deb Blick, Florida Trail Association

The <u>Herky Huffman / Bull Creek WMA</u> contains mesic and wet flatwoods, depression marshes, and floodplain forests intersected by numerous streams. Bull Creek is the dominant water feature in the WMA. Higher areas support oak scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and xeric hammocks. Wildlife in this area includes white-tailed deer, feral hogs, wild turkey, river otters, bobwhite quail, alligator, gopher tortoise, and songbirds. This area also has cultural and historical resources, including a small cemetery, flow wells, and the remains of a turpentine still and sawmill.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Indian River chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last Maintenance Date: 5/29/15 Maintained: 7/3/14, 1/12/15, 1/30/15, 2/27/15, 4/30/15, 5/2/15, 5/8/15, 5/15/15, 5/22/15, 5/29/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Sept Oct.), Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct.), General Gun Season (Nov.), Small Game Season (Dec March), Spring Turkey Season (March - April), Fishing and Frogging allowed year round.
Facilities	2 campsites
Infrastructure 360 ft. total	11 span bridges (10 ft., 12 ft., 14 ft., 16 ft., 29 ft., 16 ft., 37 ft., 12 ft., 58 ft., 52 ft., 36 ft. [total 292 ft.]; 5 puncheons (8 ft., 12 ft., 24 ft., 12 ft., 12 ft. [total 68 ft.]); -Replacement of puncheon destroyed by fire (6/17, 18, 19/2014); Repaired footbridge #16 (6/27/2014); Built and installed bridge #17 (8/28, 29/2014); 24' Puncheon removed and replaced with 50' puncheon (6/6, 12/2015)
Permits & Access	
Upcoming Projects	Review reroute / infrastructure needs in areas of standing water and extensive hog damage; Remove infrastructure identified in 2013 assessment and consider replacement / reroutes





Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area

Trail Length: 11.8 miles • Trail Classes: 3, 4 • Connectors: None



Cypress swamps at Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area, credit: Bart Smith, Florida Trail Association

<u>Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area</u> covers 30,701 acres along 19 miles of the St. Johns River in eastern Orange County. Creeks, lush cabbage palm hammocks, slash pine flatwoods, cypress swamps, and freshwater marshes form an integral part of the 3,600-square-mile St. Johns River watershed. These habitats are essential to clean and store the St. Johns River water supply. Tosohatchee WMA is home to both resident and migratory birds, along with other wildlife including white-tailed deer, fox squirrels, alligators, and otters.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Indian River chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last Maintainence: 6/3/15 Maintained: 8/13/14, 6/4,11,25/14, 7/9/14, 7/16/14, 7/16/14, 7/30/14, 8/6/14, 8/20,27/14, 10/8/14, 10/29/14, 11/5/14
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, Bicycle & Equestrian (except during hunting season)
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Oct.), Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct Nov.), General Gun Season (Nov.), Wild Hog-dog Season (Jan Feb.), Spring Turkey Season (March - April)
Facilities	1 trailhead 1 campsite
Infrastructure	4 span bridges, all wood; 1 pole bridge, wood;
Permits & Access	
Upcoming Projects	Review reroute / infrastructure needs in areas of standing water and extensive hog damage





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St. Johns River WMD & FWC

Seminole Ranch Conservation Area

Trail Length: 4.8 miles • Trail Classes: 2 • Connectors: None





Seminole Ranch, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Trail Association

Campsite at Seminole Ranch, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Trail Association

<u>Seminole Ranch Conservation Area</u> supports a unique plant community because of the naturally salty water which flows from nearby springs. The salinity of small lakes in the Management Area approaches one-third that of seawater. At Seminole Ranch, the Trail follows a string of hydric hammocks in the St. Johns River floodplain. At Seminole Ranch, the Trail follows a string of hydric hammocks in the St. Johns River floodplain. Endangered and threatened species, including the Wood Stork, the Florida Black Bear, and Eastern Indigo Snake can be seen in this area.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Indian River chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 3/31/15 Maintained: 8/31/14, 11/11-13/14, 11/30/14, 12/31/14, 2/6-8/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery (Oct.); Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct Nov.); General Gun Season (Nov.); Small Game Season (Nov Jan.); Wild Hog Season (Jan.); Spring Turkey Season (March - April); Fishing and Frogging year round; Trapping prohibited
Facilities	1 trailhead - Good condition, could use an information kiosk with interpretive signage 1 campsite
Infrastructure 157 ft. total	8 span bridges (22 ft., 14 ft., 14 ft., 16 ft., 7 ft., 11 ft., 5 ft., 16 ft. [total 105 ft.], all wood); 4 pole bridges (20 ft., 13 ft., 13 ft., 6 ft. [Total 52 ft.], all wood);
Permits & Access	
Upcoming Projects	Review potential reroute through Orlando Wetlands Area

Rail Trail

Private

Roadwalk

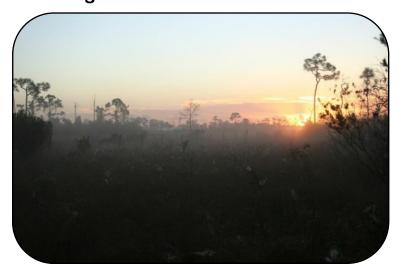
FLORIDA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL 33



Florida Forest Service & Seminole County

C.H. Bronson State Forest and Chuluota Wilderness Area

Trail Length: 7.2 miles • Trail Classes: 2 • Connectors: None



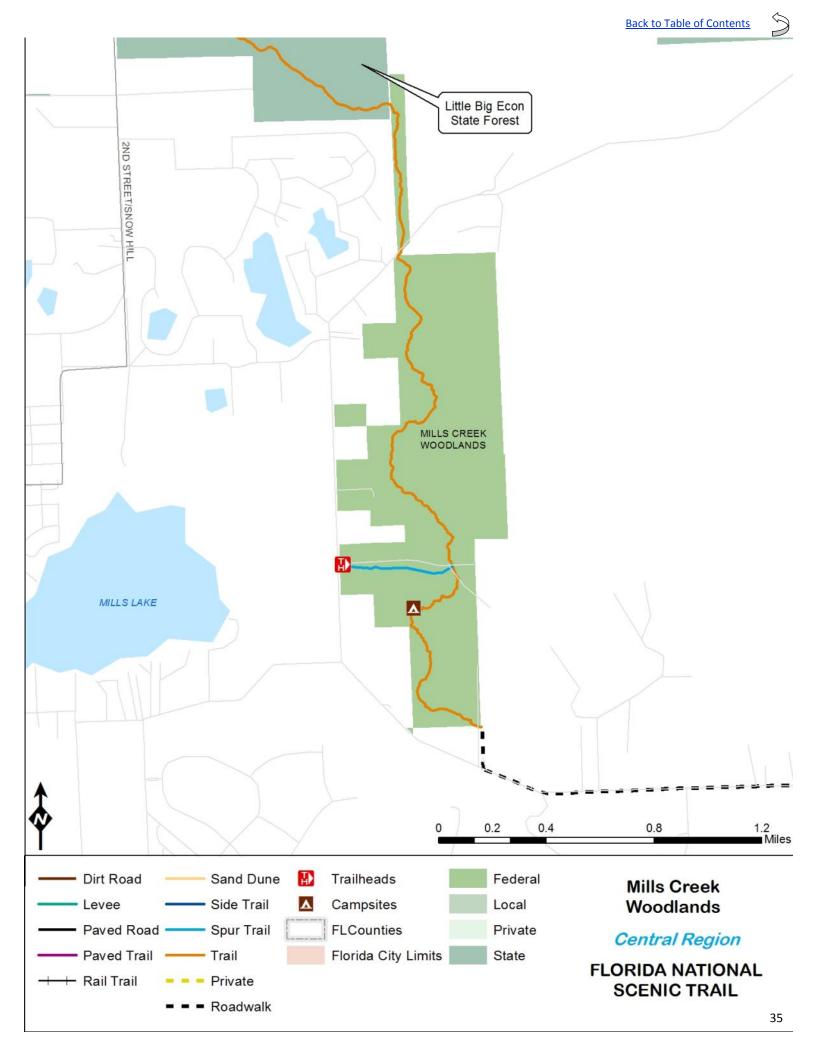


Sunset over hammocks, credit: Claudine Laabs, Florida Trail Association

Bee on a thistle, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Trail Association

Here, the FNST follows the east side of the Orlando metro area. Along the St. Johns River and its tributaries, the Trail passes through an array of habitats including bayhead swamps, pine savannas, sandhills, and scrub. The <u>Chuluota Wilderness Area</u> is a 625-acre natural area managed by Seminole County. It contains a variety of natural systems such as mesic hammocks, pond pine flatwoods, and hardwood swamp. Forest and Wilderness area wildlife includes wildlife such as the alligator, Sherman's fox squirrel, gopher tortoise, bald eagle, roseate spoonbill, sandhill crane, wood stork and Florida panther.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Central Florida chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 3/31/15, Maintained on: 10/21-23/14, 6/30/14, 8/31/14, 9/23-25/14, 10/28-30/14, 11/4 & 11/5/14, 11/18-20/14, 11/30/14, 12/15-18/14, 12/31/14 (Chuluota: Last Maintained on 3/31/15, maintained on: 9/25/14, 7/31/14, 10/31/14, 11/31/14, 12/12-14/14)
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	C.H. Bronson: Archery Season (Sept Oct.), Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct Nov.), General Gun Season (Nov.), Small Game Season (Dec Jan.), Spring Turkey Season (March - April); fishing and frogging year round Chuluota Wilderness Area: No Hunting permitted
Facilities	2 trailheads
Infrastructure	6 puncheons (20 ft., 42 ft., 24 ft., 144 ft., 156 ft., 288 ft., 30 ft. [Total 704 ft.], all wood);
Permits & Access	
Upcoming Projects	Complete Trail Assessment as part of Florida Forest Service's statewide inventory and assessment.



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US Forest Service

Mills Creek Woodlands

Trail Length: 3.1 miles • Trail Classes: 3 • Connectors: None

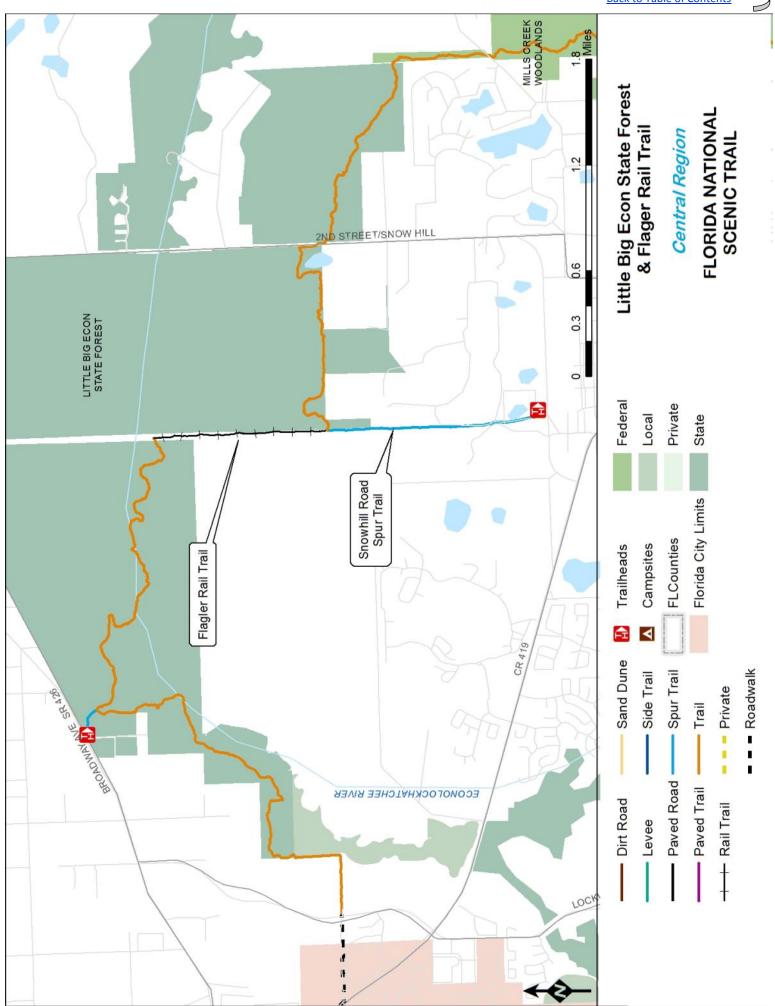
Mills Creek Woodlands is a 470-acre wooded area located in east Seminole County near Chuluota. It features a small creek and a variety of wildlife habitats including oak hammocks, hardwood swamps, open pastures, and dry scrub. The FNST here follows the curve of the Mills Creek drainage basin from Lake Mills into marshlands. The Trail leads users through an array of habitats including oak hammocks, bayhead swamps, and hardwoods which provide deep shade for Trail users. This section of trail features whitetailed deer and wild turkeys.



Hammock, credit: Florida Trail Association

Open prairie near campsite, credit: Maya Buhler, U.S. Forest Service

Volunteer Support	FTA's Central Florida chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 12/30/14 Maintained on: 7/31/14, 9/23 & 9/24/14, 10/19/14, 11/28-30/14
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Not permitted
Facilities	1 campsite
Infrastructure 32 ft. total	2 span bridges, (12 ft., all wood); 1 pole bridge (20 ft., wood);
Permits & Access	
Upcoming Projects	Work with partners to identify the best management lead for this property and reroute of FNST to eliminate current roadwalk





Florida Forest Service & Seminole County

Little Big Econ State Forest & Flagler Rail Trail

Trail Length: 8.0 miles (FFS), 2.2 miles (Seminole County) • Trail Classes: 3, 5 •

Connectors: None

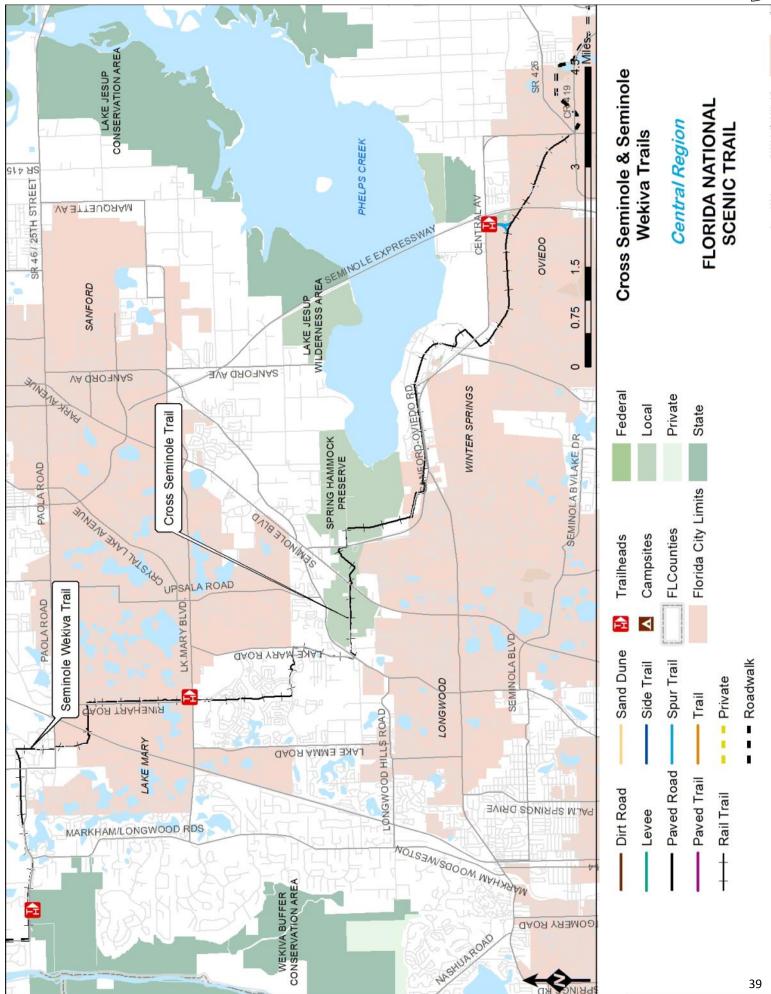


The 10,279-acre forest provides a wildlife corridor connecting the southern part of the Econlockhatchee River Basin to Tosohatchee State Preserve and St. Johns Water Management District lands. The Trail here is shaded by old oaks and magnolias atop the river bluffs, and also meanders through stands of cabbage palms. Along the river live several bird species, including the roseate spoonbill, white pelican, bald eagle, meadowlark, white ibis, and red=wing blackbird.

Little Big Econ, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Trail Assoiciation

Volunteer Support	FTA's Central Florida chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 4/28/15 Maintained on: 6/30/14, 7/31/14, 9/12 & 13/14, 9/16-18/14, 10/10-12/14, 10/21-23/14, 10/31/14, 11/4 & 5/14, 11/30/14, 2/20-22/15, 3/31/15, 4/26/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, Biking and Equestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Sept Oct.), Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct Nov.), General Gun Season (Nov.), Small Game Season (Dec.), Spring Turkey Season (March - April); fishing and frogging year round
Facilities	2 trailheads
	1 campsite (camping permit required, call 407-971-3500)
Infrastructure 1,124 ft. total	10 span bridges, (70 ft., 47 ft., 32 ft., 42 ft., 28 ft., 28 ft., 24 ft., 34 ft., 18 ft., 10 ft. [total 333 ft.], all wood); 1 puncheon, (160 ft., wood);
	1 elevated puncheon, (246 ft., wood);
	2 boardwalks / bridges County maintained, (200 ft., 185 ft. [total 385 ft.], all wood);
Permits & Access	Camping permit required
Upcoming Projects	Complete Trail Assessment as part of the Florida Forest Service statewide assessment; trail reroute and bridge construction over the Econlockhatchee River



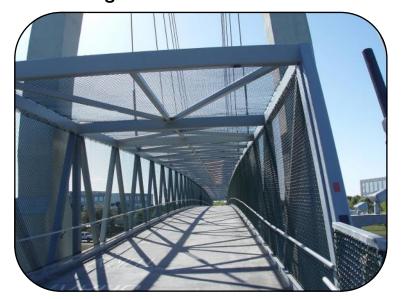


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Seminole County

Cross Seminole and Seminole Wekiva Trails

Trail Length: 20.4 miles • Trail Classes: 5 • Connectors: None





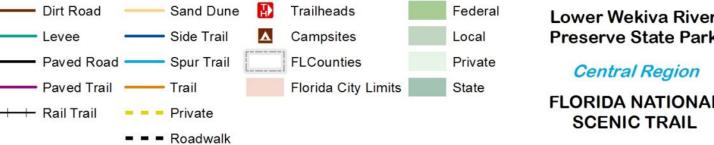
Bridge over Interstate 4, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Trail Association

Howell Branch at Cross Seminole, credit: Deb Blick, Florida Trail Association

The <u>Cross Seminole Trail</u> (CST) is a 14-foot wide multi-use paved trail which traverses through Oviedo, Winter Springs, Longwood, and Lake Mary in Seminole County. Development of the Trail has occurred in phases, with 22.8 of the approximate 25 miles constructed and opened to public use. The CST runs east-west and connects via a bridge over I-4 to the Seminole Wekiva Trail, which stretches north-south from Altamonte Springs to Sanford. The <u>Seminole Wekiva Trail</u> is also a 14-foot wide multi-use paved trail. A portion of both of these trails is co-located with the Florida National Scenic Trail for approximately 20 miles. This area of the trail is suburban with motels, restaurants, and grocery stores but no camping.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Central Florida chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 3/31/15 Maintained on: 7/1/14, 9/30/14
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, Biking and Equestrian
Hunting Seasons	No hunting permitted
Facilities	3 trailheads; both trails have benches and trash receptacles
Infrastructure 52 ft. total	2 span bridges (26 ft., 26 ft., [total 52 ft.], wood);
Permits & Access	
Upcoming Projects	Complete current gaps: An approximate 0.3 mile section between SR 434 and Oviedo Boulevard with a crossing to the Oviedo Trailhead is currently in design, and should be under construction in 2013; Development of 1.0 mile link is tied to the City of Winter Springs and Bart Phillips Land Exchanges. It is currently under design with construction slated for 2013.; A route for the final 0.2 miles between CR 419 and CR 426 in Oviedo has yet to be identified.





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LOWER WEKIVA PRESERVE STATE PARK

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FDEP-Div. of Recreation & Parks

Lower Wekiva River Preserve State Park

Trail Length: 0.7 miles • Trail Classes: 3 • Connectors: SR 419 (0.7)



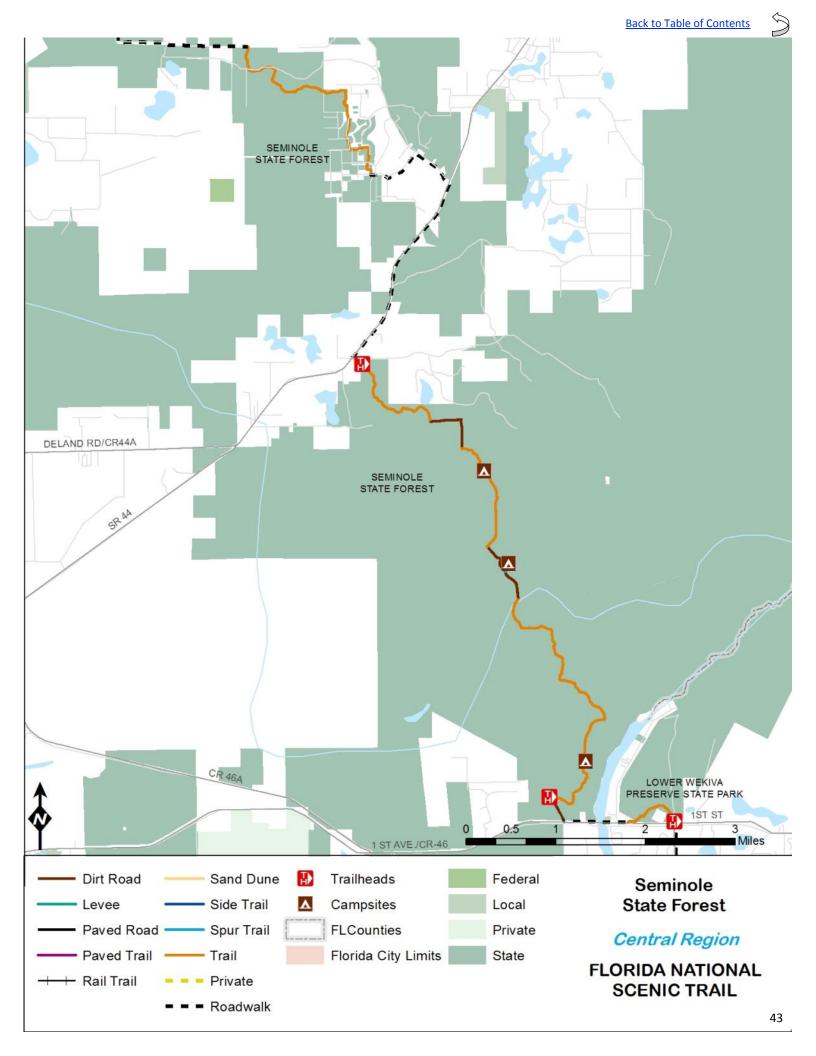


Lower Wekiva, credit: Deb Blick, Florida Trail Association

Sandhill Cranes, credit: Bart Smith, Florida Trail Association

Known for its pristine blackwater streams and associated wetlands, the <u>Lower Wekiva River Preserve State Park</u> borders portions of the Wekiva and Blackwater Rivers and St. Johns Creek. The Trail begins at the 1st Street and Paola Road trail-head and travels west across Lower Wekiva River Preserve State Park. This section of the FNST provides a small link between gaps at Cross Seminole Trail and Seminole State Forest. The Florida black bear, river otter, American alligator, sandhill crane, indigo snake and several other species are common in the Preserve.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Central Florida chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 4/23/15 Maintained on: 11/15/14, 3/31/15, 4/14/15, 4/22/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, Bicycling, Equestrian (on designated trails)
Hunting Seasons	No hunting permitted
Facilities	1 trailhead
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	None
Upcoming Projects	Planned highway development will result in loss of approximately 250 ft of Trail within 2 years



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Florida Forest

Seminole State Forest

Trail Length: 11.1 miles • Trail Classes: 3, 4 • Connectors: SR46 (0.3 mi), FFS dirt road (0.7 mi), FFS dirt road (0.7 mi), SR44 (3.6 mi)



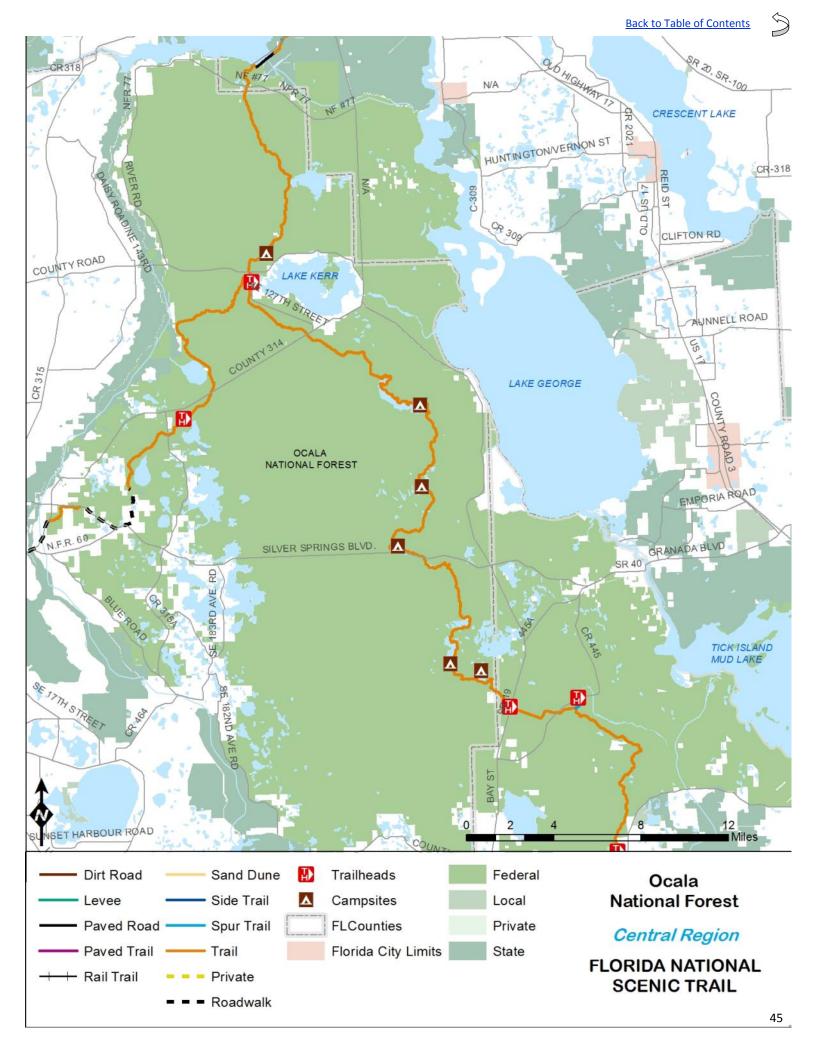


Along the trail through Seminole State Forest, credit: M. Timothy
O'Keefe, Florida Trail Association

Blackwater Creek at Seminole State Forest, credit: M. Timothy O'Keefe, Florida Trail Association

Approximately eleven miles of the Florida National Scenic Trail meander through numerous biological communities including pine flatwoods, sand pine scrub, oak and pine forests, and freshwater stream bottoms in <u>Seminole State Forest</u>. The Wekiva River, designated as an <u>Outstanding Florida Water</u>, creates the Forest's eastern boundary. Endangered plant species, such as Pigeon Wings, Britton's Grass, Whitlow-Wort, Lewton's polygala and Scrub Buckwheat are found in this area. Endangered and threatened species such as the Florida Black Bear, Florida Scrub Jay, Eastern Indigo Snake, and hooded pitcher plant are in this habitat.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Highlands chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 5/6/15 Maintained on: 9/15/14, 10/1/14, 11/8/14, 11/1114, 11/14-16/14, 11/15/14, 12/9-11/14, 1/2/15, 2/7/15, 2/28/15, 3/9/15, 3/26/15, 4/4/15, 4/14/15, 4/23/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, bicycling, equestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Sept.), General Gun– Mobility Impaired (Oct.) Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct.), General Gun Season (Nov Dec.), Small Game Season (Jan.), Spring Turkey Season (March - April); fishing and frogging year round
Facilities	2 trailheads 3 campsites
Infrastructure	1 span bridge, (16 ft., wood);
<u>124 ft. total</u>	2 boardwalks, (10 ft., 68 ft., [total 78 ft.], all wood);
	1 puncheon (30 ft., wood);
Permits & Access	
Upcoming Projects	Complete Trail Assessment as part of the Florida Forest Service statewide assessment



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US Forest Service

Ocala National Forest

Trail Length: 86.5 miles (Western Corridor) • Trail Classes: 3 • Connectors: CR314 (3.1 mi), SR40 (4.5 mi)



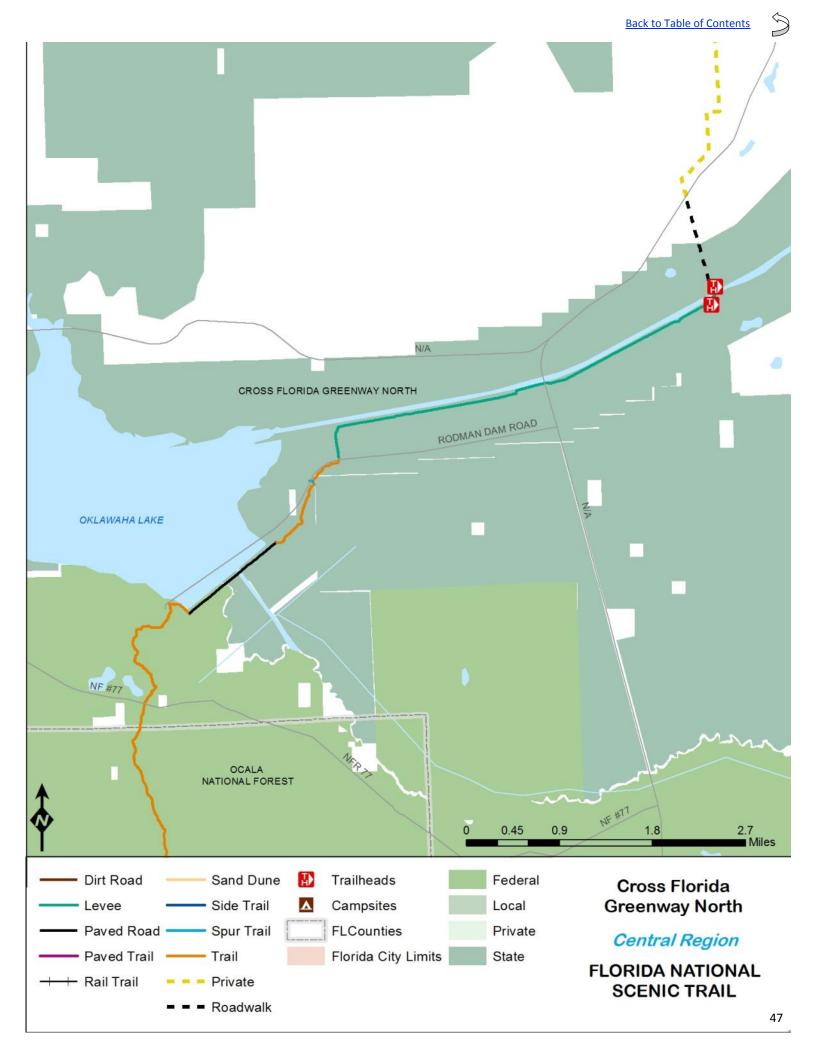
Fawn at Hopkins Prairie, credit: Janette Davison, Florida Trail
Association



Bird watching in the Ocala National Forest, credit: Bart Smith, Florida Trail Association

The majority of the Ocala National Forest is comprised of the largest contiguous stand of sand pine (*Pinus clausa*) in the world. The southern part of Ocala National Forest is composed mostly of longleaf yellow pine islands scattered among sand pine and other short leaf pines. In the northern portion of the Forest, the Trail is mostly level and dry through pine islands, hardwood forest, and along the edges of prairies and ponds. The Ocala National Forest is home to endangered species including scrub buckwheat Florida morning glory, and the Florida Scrub Jay.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Black Bear and Highlanders chapters
General Trail Maintenance	3/24/15 3,293 hours from May 2014 to June 2015
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Sept Oct.), Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct.), General Gun Season in Pipeline, Lake Delancy and Hopkins Prairie units (Nov Jan.), General Gun Season in Church Lake Unit (Dog: Nov., Still: Nov.), Fox, Opossum, Bobcat and Raccoon Season in Pipeline and Church units (Nov April), Small Game Season Church Lake Unit (Dec March) and Pipeline, Lake Delancy, and Hopkins Prairie Units (Jan March), Spring Turkey Season (March - April); fishing and frogging year round
Facilities	5 trailheads 6 campsites
Infrastructure 4,815 ft. total	4 span bridges; Eastern portion (35 ft., 136 ft., 24 ft. [total 195 ft.], all wood); Western portion: 1 span bridge (108 ft. wood). 15 puncheons (36 ft., 176 ft., 346 ft., 1160 ft., 80 ft., 112 ft., 16 ft., 16 ft., 16 ft., 104 ft., 178 ft., 48 ft., 376 ft., 16 ft., 60 ft. [total 2740 ft.], all wood) 5 boardwalks, (362 ft., 142 ft., 364 ft., 864 ft., 40 ft. [total 1,772 ft.], all wood); Boardwalks need repair; Last maintenance in Eastern portion 1/10/2015 by Highlanders Chapter
Permits & Access	
Upcoming Projects	Reroutes are complete and bombing range has been expanded





FDEP- Div. of Recreation & Parks

Cross Florida Greenway North

Trail Length: 7.0 miles • Trail Classes: 3, 4, 5 • Connectors: Kilpatrick Rd (1.1 mi)



Manmade dunes in the canal diggings, credit: Diane Dammiller, Florida Trail Association

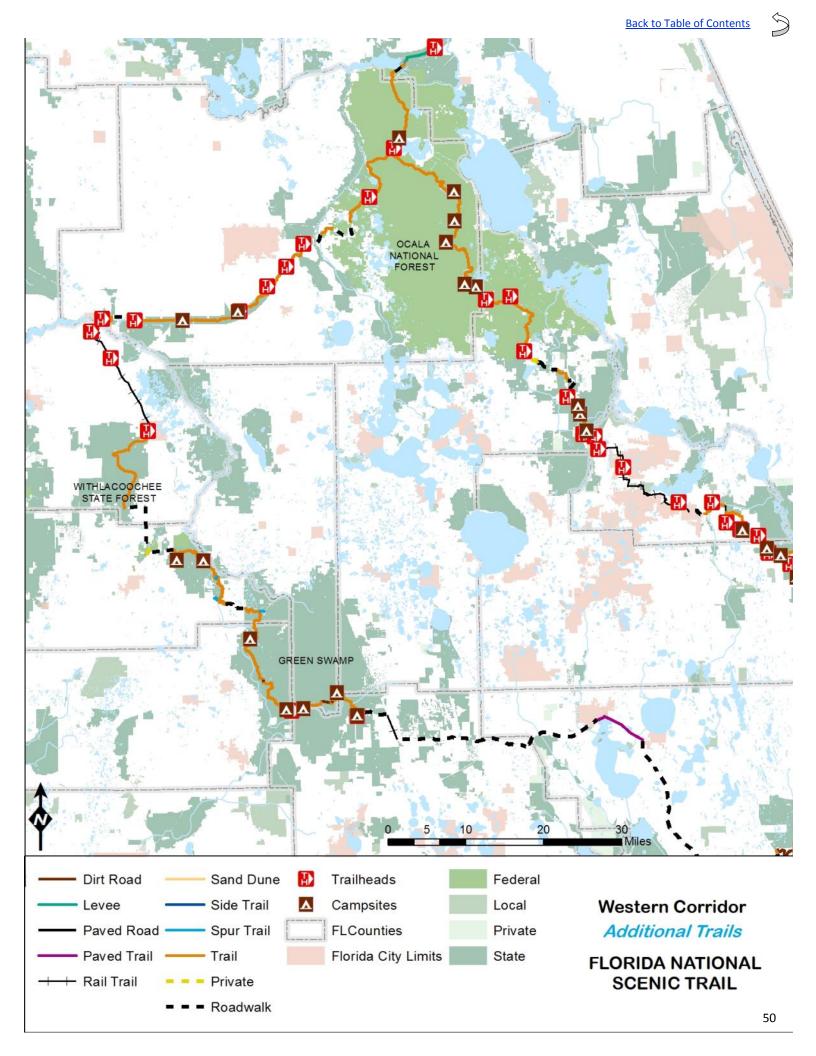
The Trail here follows the <u>Cross Florida Greenway</u> through Rodman Campground along the banks of the Cross Florida Barge Canal. Remnants of the canal project can be seen in this segment of Trail as it crosses the 7,000-foot damn, as it follows along the canal spoil berms, and as the Trail crosses the Buckman Lock gate. The Trail here is open to horseback riding and bicycling, as well as foot travel. This area provides habitat for endangered and threatened species including the gopher tortoise, indigo and pine snakes, and seven rare plants including the only known site for federally listed rosemary.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Florida Crackers chapters
General Trail Maintenance	Annual maintanence by OGT
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, equestrian, and bicycle
Hunting Seasons	Permitted in Caravella Ranch WMA: Archery Season (Sept.), Special Opportunity Dove Season (Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan.), Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct.), Supervised Small Game Season (Oct.), Small Game Season (Nov Jan.), General Gun Season (Nov.), Spring Turkey Season (March); Fishing and frogging allowed year round
Facilities	2 trailheads - (Rodman Dam and Buckman Lock) Campground at lock
Infrastructure 16 ft. total	1 span bridge (16 ft., wood);
Permits & Access	The Buckman Lock Combinations is 1966. It is staffed Mon—Sun, 63.0 am—3.00pm
Upcoming Projects	Continue maintenance through mowing, Buckman Visitor Center undergoing restroom repairs

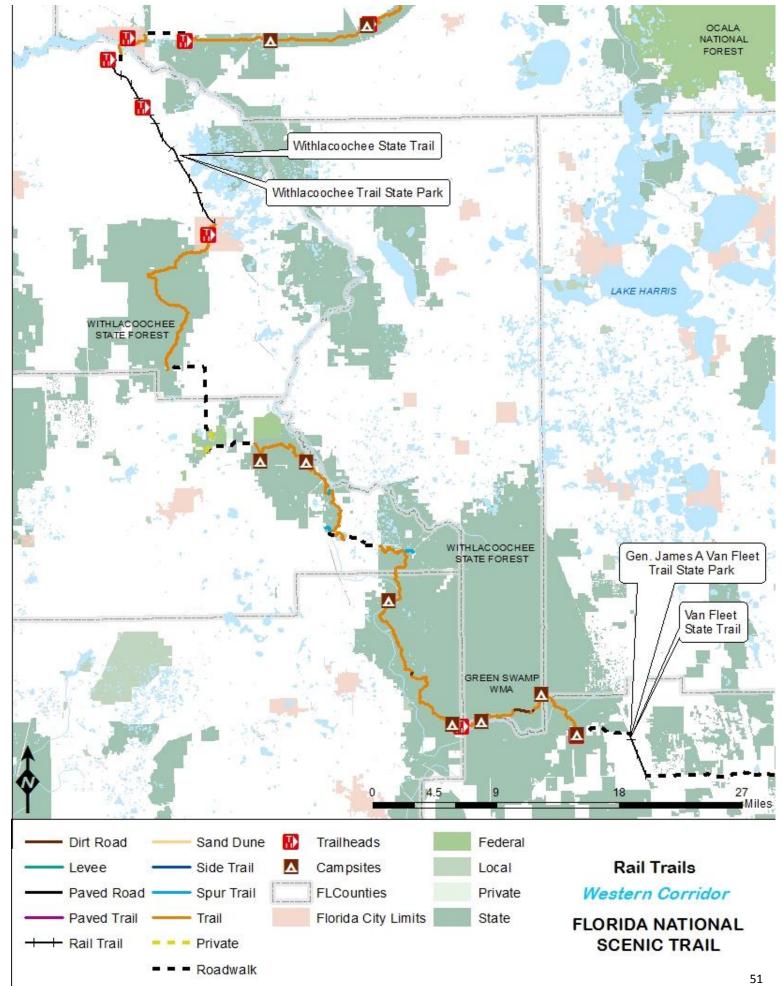


IV. Central Region – Western Corridor

- Van Fleet and Withlacoochee State Rail Trails (p. 51)
- Green Swamp Water Management Area (p. 53)
- Withlacoochee State Forest Region (p. 55)
- City of Inverness (p. 57)
- Cross Florida Greenway-West (p. 59)









Western Corridor Rail Trails

Van Fleet State Trail, Withlacoochee State Trail

Total Trail Length: 17.9 miles • Trail Class: 5 • Connectors: Withlacoochee-Dunnellon Bridge (1.6 mi), Deen Still Rd (11.1 mi)



Southbound on Withlacoochee State Trail credit: Dan TD, Wikimedia



Southbound Van Fleet Trail credit: Dan TD, Wikimedia

Connecting the Green Swamp region of the Western Corridor to the less developed parts of Osceola County, the Van Fleet State Trail is one of Florida's most rural, paved rail-trails. This small section of trail is managed by the <u>General James A. Van Fleet Trail State Park</u>. Landscapes include the river swamp, bottomland forest, pine flatwoods, former citrus lands and cattle ranches. An equestrian trail parallels the length of the paved path.

The northernmost rail trail is the <u>Withlacoochee State Trail</u>, a paved multi-use recreational trail running parallel to the Withlacoochee River, connects to the City of Inverness as well as the Cross Florida Greenway. The Withlacoochee State Trail's length, popularity and proximity to numerous communities have given rise to seven trailheads, information kiosks, colorful murals and convenient parks.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Suncoast, Heartland and Central Florida Chapters
General Trail Maintenance	
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian
Hunting Seasons	None
Facilities	Withlacoochee State Trail– 2 trailheads
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	No Restrictions
Upcoming Projects	

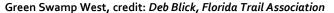


SWFWMD

Green Swamp Water Management Area

Trail Length: 29.8 miles • Trail Classes: 2, 4, 5 • Connectors: Poyner/Rock Ridge Rd (4.4 mi)





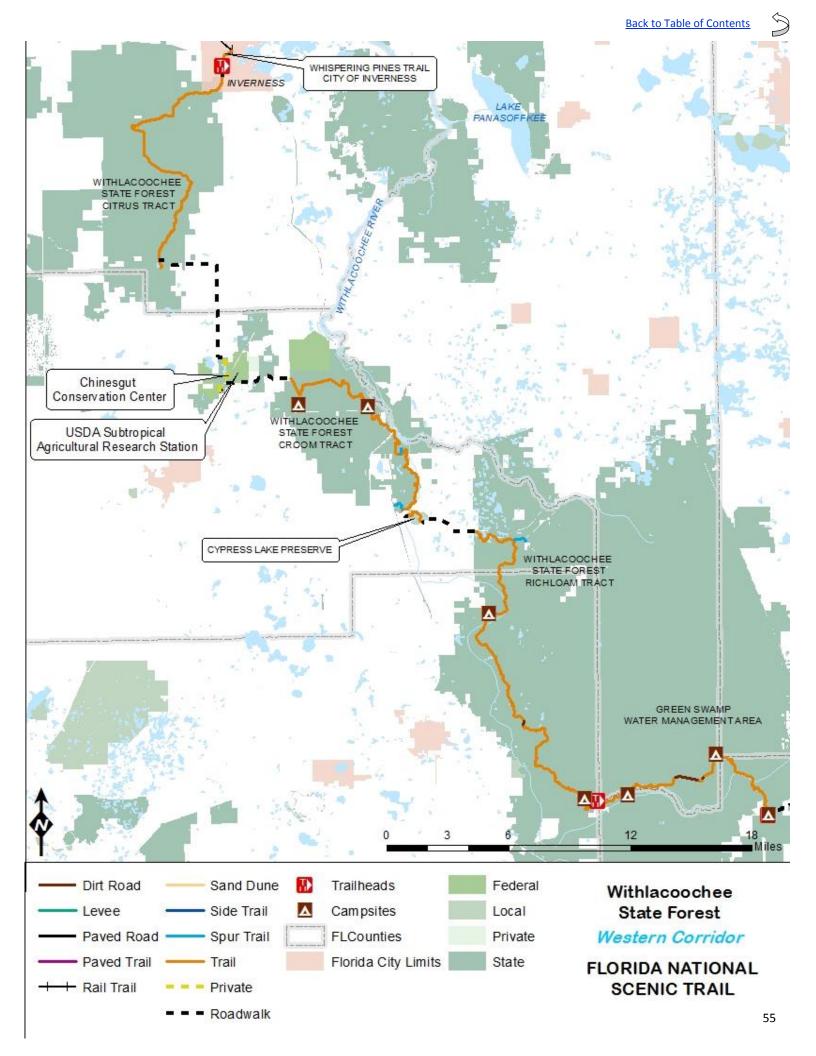


Trail at Green Swamp, credit: Jim Schmid

Green Swamp consists of 50,692 acres in Lake, Polk, and Sumter counties managed by the <u>Southwest Florida Water Management District</u>. It is a vast watershed of pine forests and cypress swamps and a critical recharge area for the Floridian aquifer as well as the source of the Hillsborough, Withlacoochee, Ocklawaha, and Peace rivers.

Most of the landscape is pine flatwoods, cypress domes, and hardwoods swamps. Freshwater fishing is good along this segment of the Withlacoochee River. Portions of the trail are inundated in all but the driest years. Wildlife that may be seen on the area include alligator, white-tailed deer, bobwhite quail, armadillo, gray squirrels, feral hogs, and a variety of birds.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Suncoast and Heartland Chapters
General Trail Maintenance	
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Wild Hog (Oct. 1-4, 8-11), Archery (Oct. 30, Nov. 1, 6-8, 13-15, 20-22 and 26-29), General Gun (Dec. 5-Jan 31), Small Game (February 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28 and March 5-6)
Facilities	2 trailheads 5 campsites
Infrastructure 659 ft. total	17 Span bridge (48 ft., 36 ft., 25 ft., 32 ft., 31 ft., 35 ft., 34 ft., 56 ft., 44 ft., 53 ft., 40 ft., 35 ft., 40 ft., 50 ft., 100 ft. [total 659 ft.] all wood)
Permits & Access	Camping during non-hunting periods requires SWFWMD permit, (352) 796-7211. Camping during hunting periods requires a camping permit from the FWC
Upcoming Projects	





Withlacoochee State Forest & Hernando County

Withlacoochee State Forest-Citrus, Croom and Richloam Tracts, Cypress Lake Preserve

Trail Length: 43.4 miles • Trail Classes: 2, 3, 4 • Connectors: SR 480 (3.0 mi), CR 481 (4.6 mi), Lake Lindsey Rd. (0.2 mi), Chinsegut Consv Trail (1.9 mi), Broad St. (0.5 mi), Deer Run Rd. (1.5 mi), Perry Oldenburg (1.1 mi), Willow St. (0.9 mi), SR 50 (2.0 mi), Ridge Manor Blvd (1.7 mi)



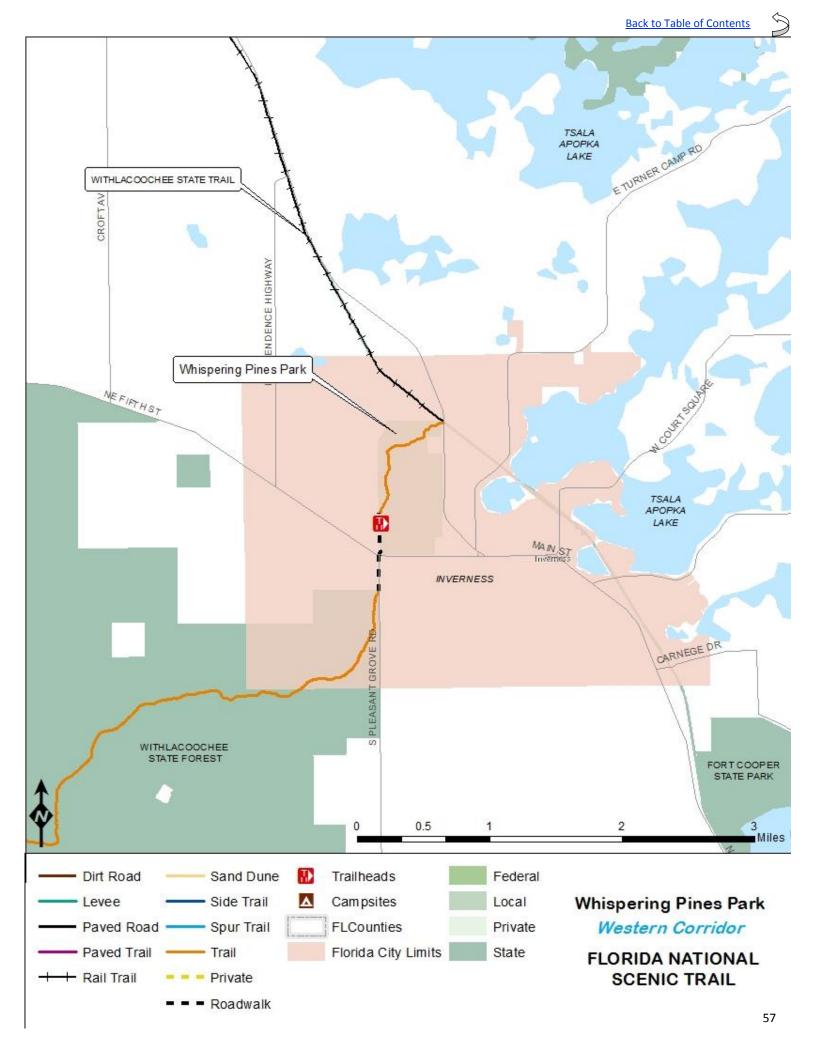


Richloam Tract, credit: Deb Blick, Florida Trail Association

Citrus Tract, credit: Sandra Friend

Richloam is the southernmost tract in Withlacoochee State Forest and comprises approximately 49,200 acres. This tract is the wettest in the Withlacoochee trails system. The Withlacoochee State Forest Croom tract comprises 20,470 acres in the center of the forest. It is the most popular and most visited forest tract, particularly the Hog Island Section, which offers a full facility campground. The Croom tract's south tip is adjacent to Cypress Lakes Preserve, a small preserve owned and managed by Hernando County. The Withlacoochee Citrus tract Trail passes through areas of sandhill scrub, oak thickets, and stands of sand pine and longleaf pine.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Suncoast Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Hunting prohibited in Cypress Lake Preserve. Hunting permitted throughout Citrus, Croom and Richloam Wildlife Management Areas typically from October to November. Check FWC website for specific dates for each tract.
Facilities	2 campsites
Infrastructure 210 ft. total	5 span bridges (26 ft., 24 ft., 28 ft., 80 ft., 26 ft., 26 ft. [total 210 ft.] all wood)
Permits & Access	Cypress Lake- Daylight only, no permits needed
Upcoming Projects	



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City of Inverness

Whispering Pines Park

Trail Length: 1 mile • Trail Classes: 3 • Connectors: Forest Drive (0.3 mi), CR 591 (0.3 mi)



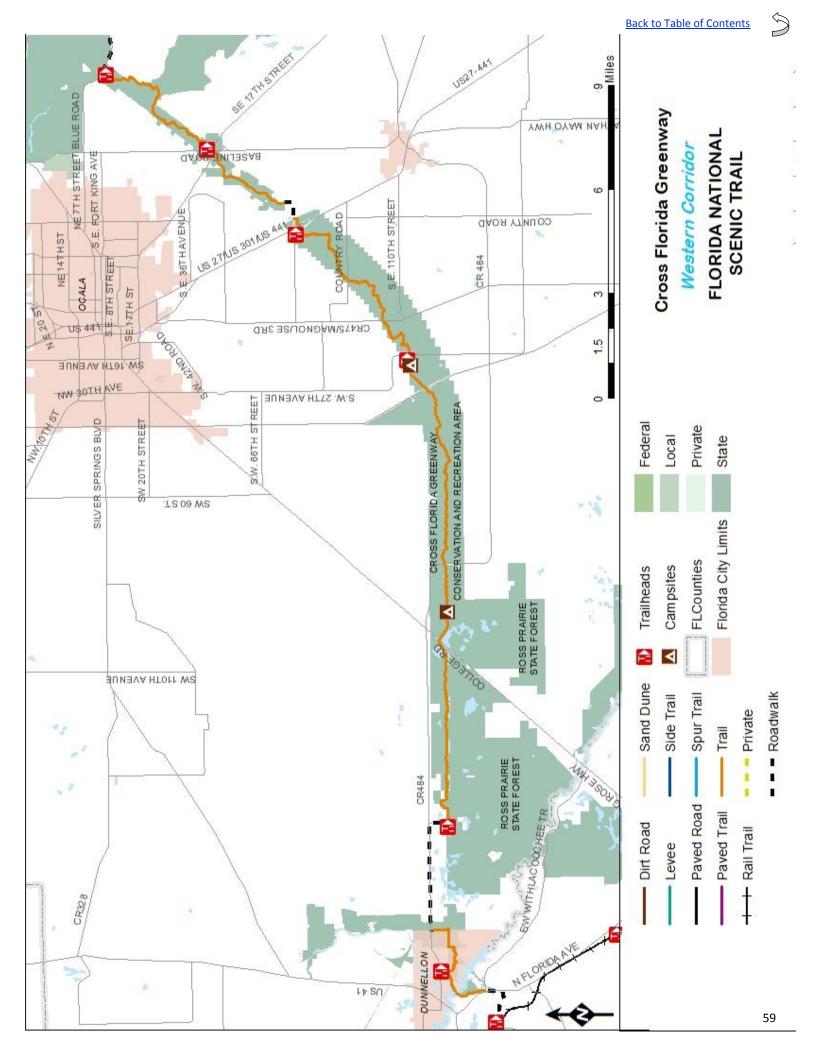
Under the overpass at Whispering Pines Park, credit: DanTD, Wikimedia Commons



Whispering Pines Park Sign credit: DanTD, Wikimedia Commons

The <u>City of Inverness</u> serves as the manager for the Whispering Pines trail, located within Whispering Pines Park. The urban trail meanders through Inverness, serving as an oasis for trail users to find hot showers, warm meals and other amenities between hikes. Located only minutes from downtown and nestled among pine and hardwood trees, this city park boasts multiple recreation activities and connects several natural areas and trails throughout Inverness.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Suncoast Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, bicycle
Hunting Seasons	None
Facilities	1 trailheads
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	Open 7 AM to 10 PM. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.
Upcoming Projects	



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FDEP- Div. of Recreation & Parks

Cross Florida Greenway State Recreation and Conservation Area- West

Trail Length: 40.9 miles • Trail Classes: 3, 4 • Connectors: CFG Dunnellon Bridge (3.7 mi), SE 80th Street (0.7 mi), CR 314 (3.1 mi)



Spring Hiking on the Cross Florida Greenway, credit: *Dianne Damiller*



Land Bridge Loop of the Cross Florida Greenway, credit: Dianne Damiller

The Cross Florida Greenway wanders through typical central Florida oak hammocks and pine forests and traverses a wide variety of natural habitats. Crossing Central Florida from the Gulf of Mexico to the St. Johns River is the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway occupies much of the land formerly known as the Cross Florida Ship and later Barge Canal projects. A series of historic events transformed this corridor from one of the nation's largest uncompleted public works project to a world class greenway managed by the DEP Office of Greenways and Trails. The 40 miles of corridor along the Florida Trail encompasses diverse natural habitats for observing Florida's native flora and fauna and offer a wide variety of trails and recreation areas.

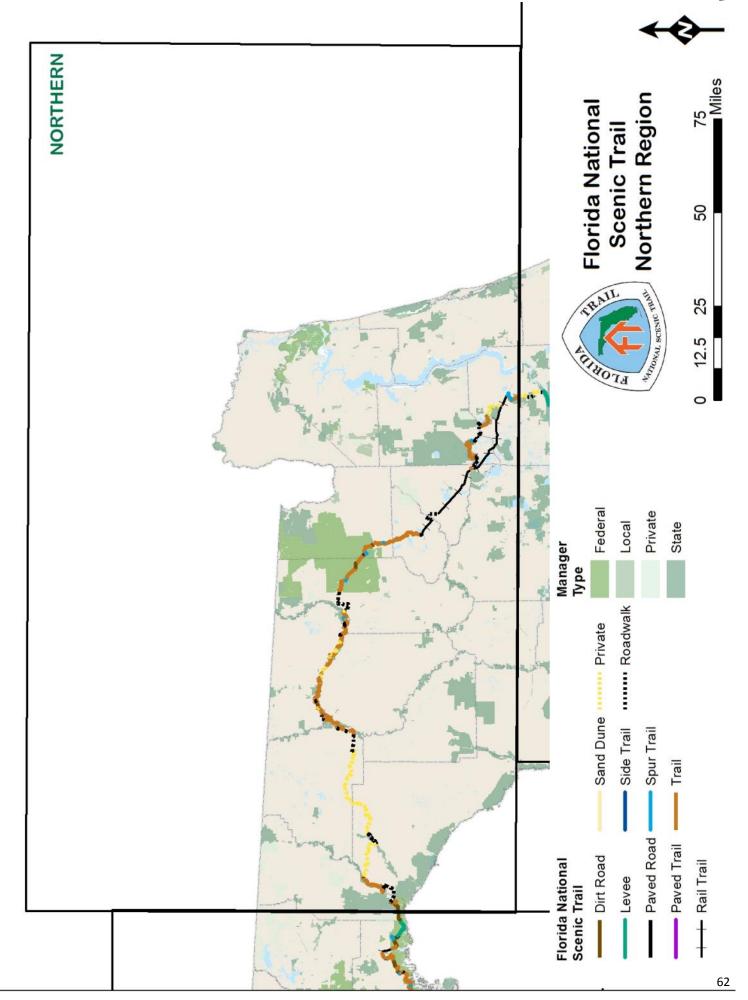
Volunteer Support	FTA's Florida Crackers Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, bicycle
Hunting Seasons	None
Facilities	6 trailheads 2 campsites
Infrastructure 406 ft. total	4 span bridges (42 ft., 82 ft., 202 ft., 80 ft. [total 406 ft.] all wood)
Permits & Access	Trails open 8 AM till sundown, 365 days a year. No fees apply
Upcoming Projects	

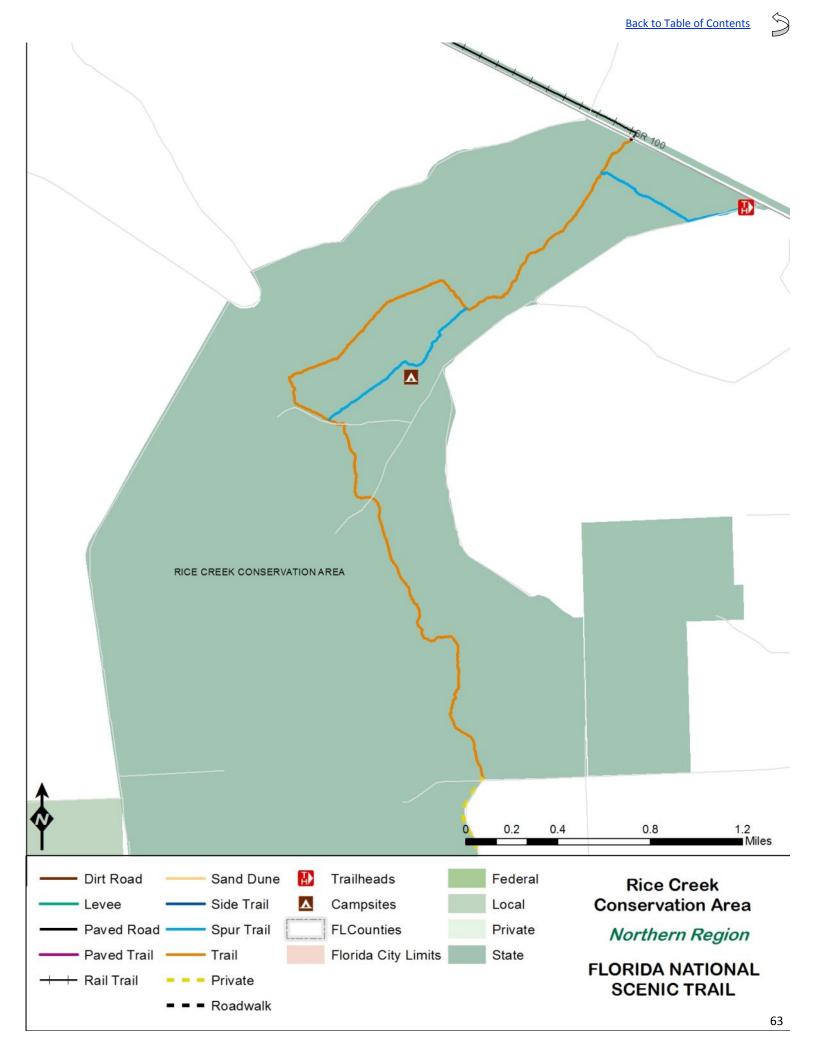


V. Northern Region

- Rice Creek Conservation Area (p. 63)
- Etoniah Creek State Forest & Palatka-Lake Butler State Trail (p. 65)
- Plum Creek (p. 67)
- Osceola National Forest & Olustee Battlefield (p. 69)
- Fall Creek, Little Shoals, & Gar Pond Tracts (p. 71)
- Forest Service Tracts & Stephen Foster Culture Center State Park (p. 73)
- Swift Creek & Camp Branch Conservation Areas (p. 75)
- Suwannee River Farms Management Areas (p. 77)
- Holton Creek & Lower Alapaha Conservation Areas (p. 79)
- Suwannee River State Park (p. 81)
- Twin Rivers State Forest (p. 83)
- Aucilla River (p. 85)









St. Johns River Water Management District

Rice Creek Conservation Area

Trail Length: 5.1 miles • Trail Classes: 2 • Connectors: None



Rice Creek, credit: Sandra Friend, Florida Trail
Association



The FNST through Rice Creek Conservation Area, credit: Sandra Friend,
Florida Trail Association

Located three miles west of Palatka, <u>Rice Creek Conservation Area</u> contains a lush segment of the FNST. Rice Creek Swamp covers approximately 70 percent of Rice Creek Conservation Area. The area was an indigo and rice plantation during the 18th century. Most of the uplands were managed as commercial pine plantations before the St. Johns River Water Management District took over the property in 2002. Rare species in Rice Creek habitats include the American Redstart bird, Florida black bear, and several plant species, including Chapman's Sedge and Blueflower Butterwort.

Volunteer Support	Black Bear Chapter
General Trail	3/20/15,
Maintenance	383 hours from May 2014 to June 2015
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	No Hunting
Facilities	1 trailhead (route 100)
	1 campsite
Infrastructure	33 span bridges (1886 ft., 12.1 ft., 12 ft., 16.4 ft., 24.2 ft., 33.3 ft., 36 ft., 54.9 ft., 47.7 ft., 24.3 ft.,
<u>3,150.4 ft. total</u>	22.3 ft., 13 ft., 17.8 ft., 128.7 ft., 46.5 ft., 18.2 ft., 10 ft., 31.9 ft., 24.2 ft., 61.3 ft., 55.3 ft., 23.7 ft., 48.3 ft., 32 ft., 16.5 ft., 12.4 ft., 120 ft., 28.1 ft., 12.3 ft., 19.9 ft., 15.8 ft. [total 2,905.1 ft.], all wood)
	15 span bridges: side trail (14.4 ft., 24.4 ft., 18.3 ft., 12.2 ft., 12.2 ft., 12.1 ft., 12.1 ft., 18.1 ft., 20 ft., 26.3 ft., 7.9 ft., 9 ft., 23.6 ft., 20.1 ft. [total 245.3 ft.], all wood)
	Constant repairs (funded by SJWMD); Last Repair 2/17/2015
Permits & Access	None needed
Upcoming Projects	Regular maintenance



Florida Forest Service, FDEP-Div. of Rec. & Parks, Florida Dept. of Military Affairs, US Forest Service

Etoniah Creek State Forest to Palatka Lake Butler State Trail

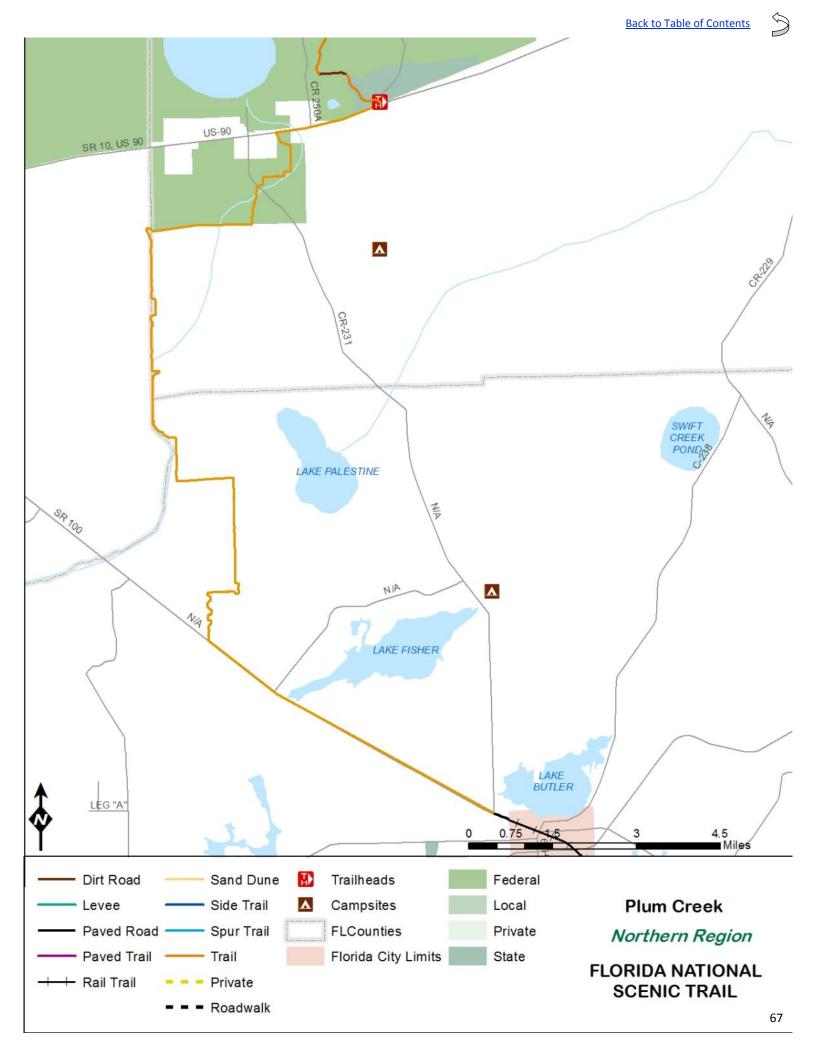
Trail Length: 5.1 miles (FFS), 24.2 miles (FDEP State Parks), 4.2 miles (FDMA), 0.8 miles (USFS) • Trail Classes: 3, 5 • Connectors: Carraway Rdwlk (3.5 mi), Plum Creek Rd (3.2 mi), Coral Farms Rd (6.2 mi), Christian Camp Rd (1.9 mi), Camp Blanding Rdwlk (5.3 mi), Keystone Airpark Rdwlk (2.1 mi), CR231 (2.2 mi), SR100 (1.7 mi), CR237 (1.5 mi)



Bridge through Etoniah Creek State Forest, credit: M. Timothy O'Keefe, Florida Trail Association

The Palatka-Lake Butler (PLB) State Trail is a rail trail located along the former Norfolk-Southern Railroad right-of-way. The trail corridor is being constructed on the existing, abandoned railroad bed through Putnam, Union, Clay, and Bradford counties. This portion of the FNST crosses flatwoods, sandhills, and wetlands, and passes through several small towns. The majority of the PLB State Trail is mowed grass, with a small portion of paved trail.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Black Bear (Etoniah Creek) and North Florida Trailblazers (Goldhead Branch SP and Camp Blanding) Chapters
General Trail	4/25/15,
Maintenance	683 hours from May 2014 to June 2015
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Sept Oct.), Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct.), Small Game Season (Nov Jan.), General Gun Season (Nov.), Spring Turkey Season (March - April); Fishing and frogging allowed year round
Facilities	3 trailheads
	2 campsites, 1 shelter
Infrastructure	7 span bridges (9.4 ft., 56 ft., 20 ft., 17 ft., 20 ft., 12 ft., 45 ft. [total 179.4 ft.] all wood);
<u>547.4 ft. total</u>	2 puncheons (14 ft., 14 ft. [total 28 ft.] all wood);
	Last bridge built 4/27/15 by North Florida Trailblazers at Alligator Creek
	Several Span Bridges washed out or closed on PLB trail—are on FDOT replacement schedule on private Plum Creek connector:
	1 span bridge (28 ft., wood);
	10 puncheons (12 ft., 12 ft., 20 ft., 20 ft., 24 ft., 36 ft., 48 ft., 48 ft., 60 ft., 32 ft. [total 312 ft.], all wood);
Permits & Access	No longer need to make a one way trip through Camp Blanding. There is new trail around Magnolia Lake
Upcoming Projects	Move the Trail to PLB State Trail and build a bridge at the New River



(V

Plum Creek Timber Company

Plum Creek

Trail Length: 17.5 miles • Trail Classes: 3 • Connectors: None



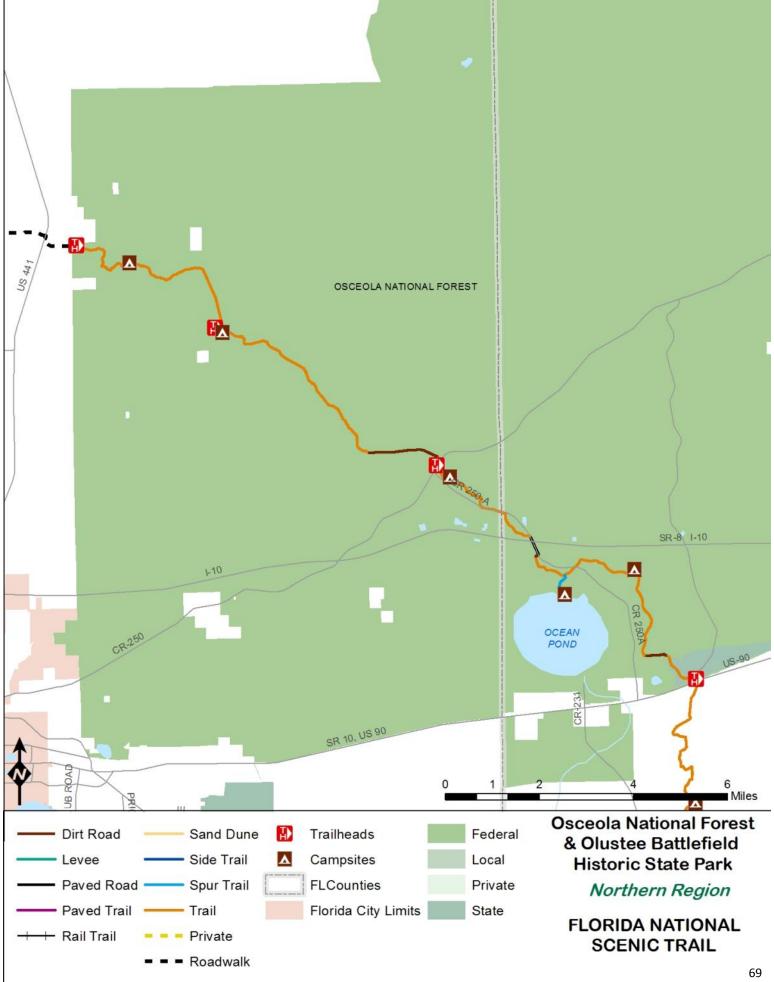
the Plum Creek Timber Company and managed primarily for silviculture and game hunting. The majority of the forest is planted pines, with a few hardwood areas along the banks of the Swift Creek and the St. Mary's River. The Trail here is on forest roads and frequently travels through clear-cut areas. Some endangered species in this area include the swallow-tailed kite and gopher tortoise.

Here the FNST enters Lake Butler Forest, owned by

Pine Forest, credit: Madeline Pinaire

Volunteer Support	FTA's Cracker Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	2/14/15, 152 hours from May 2014 to June 2015
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Hunting (by contract or lease)
Facilities	2 campsites
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	
Upcoming Projects	







US Forest Service & FDEP-Div. Of Rec. & Parks

Osceola National Forest & Olustee Battlefield

Trail Length: 21.0 miles (USFS), 0.9 miles (FDEP Rec & Parks) • Trail Classes: 3, 4,

5 • Connectors: FR 208 (0.5 mi), CR260A (0.4 mi), FR 265 (1.5 mi)





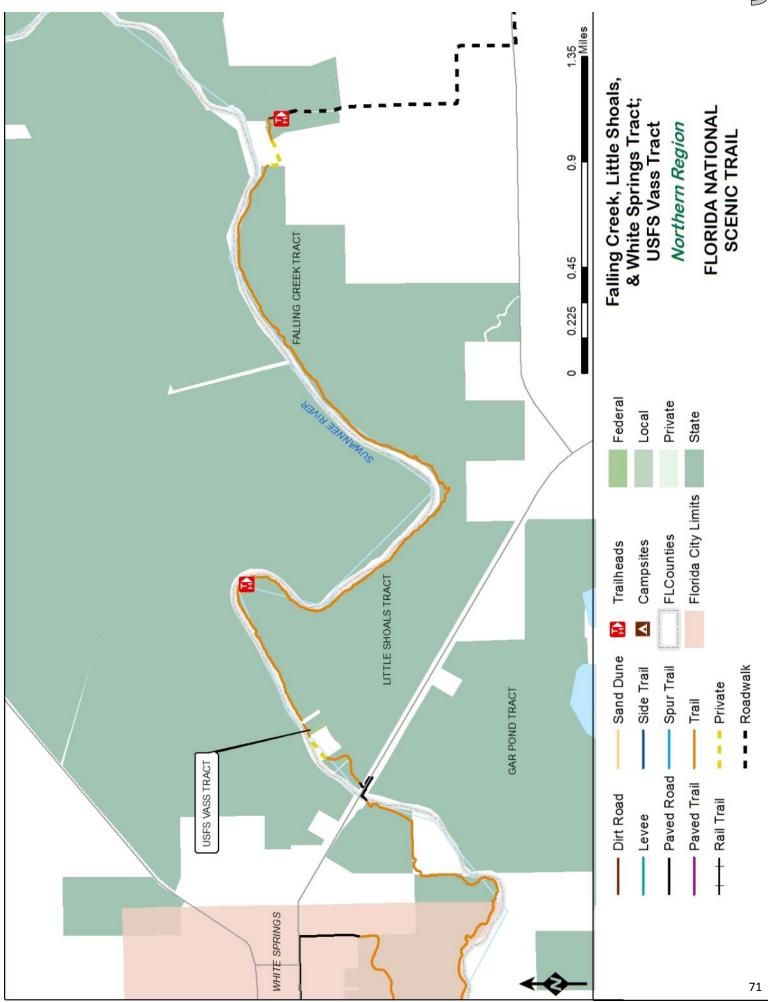


Sunset over Ocean Pond, credit: Deb Blick, Florida Trail Association

The Trail at Osceola National Forest is mainly flat, leading through pine and hardwood forest and across many streams. In some parts of the Forest, old forest roads are used to connect segments of trail. There are many bridges and boardwalks to help users across running water and wet areas, but wading may be required after a heavy rain, as the Trail tends to collect water. The uplands and sandhills in the Forest support populations of red-cockaded woodpeckers, gopher tortoises, and black bears.

Volunteer Support	FTA's North Florida Trailblazers Chapter
General Trail	2/23/15
Maintenance	518 hours from May 2014 to June 2015
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Sept Oct.), Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct.), Small Game Season (Jan March), General Gun Season (Nov Jan.), Fox, Raccoon, Opossum, and Bobcat Season (Nov March), Spring Turkey Season (March - April); Fishing and frogging allowed year round
Facilities	5 Trailheads - (Deep Creek, West Tower, Turkey Run, Cobb Camp, Ocean Pond, Olustee Battlefield 6 campsites
Infrastructure 2,530 ft. total	9 span bridges (5 ft., 12 ft., 58 ft., 22 ft., 10 ft., 8 ft., 21 ft., 14 ft., 27 [total 177 ft.] all wood); 5 puncheons (14 ft., 224 ft., 13 ft., 110 ft., 19 ft. [total 380 ft,] all wood);
<u>2,330 II. tūtai</u>	27 boardwalks (18 ft., 278 ft., 26 ft., 12 ft., 322 ft., 12 ft., 20 ft., 16 ft., 106 ft., 16 ft., 310 ft., 10 ft., 8 ft., 10 ft., 20 ft., 56 ft., 22 ft., 50 ft., 28 ft., 55 ft., 118 ft., 202 ft., 78 ft., 106 ft., 18 ft., 32 ft., 10 ft. [total 1,973 ft.], all wood; Maintenance as needed
Permits & Access	No permits required, special event fee charged for annual February Battle of Olustee Reenactment
Upcoming Projects	Need for more signage and a "temporary trail person"; update existing crossing, identify structures in most need of repair and begin process; continued support needed to identify potential volunteers who can assist with trail maintenance and upkeep







Suwannee River Water Management District & USFS

Falling Creek, Little Shoals, White Springs Tract; USFS Vass Tract

Trail Length: 6.8 miles (includes SRWMD Big Pine Tract), 0.1 miles (USFS) •

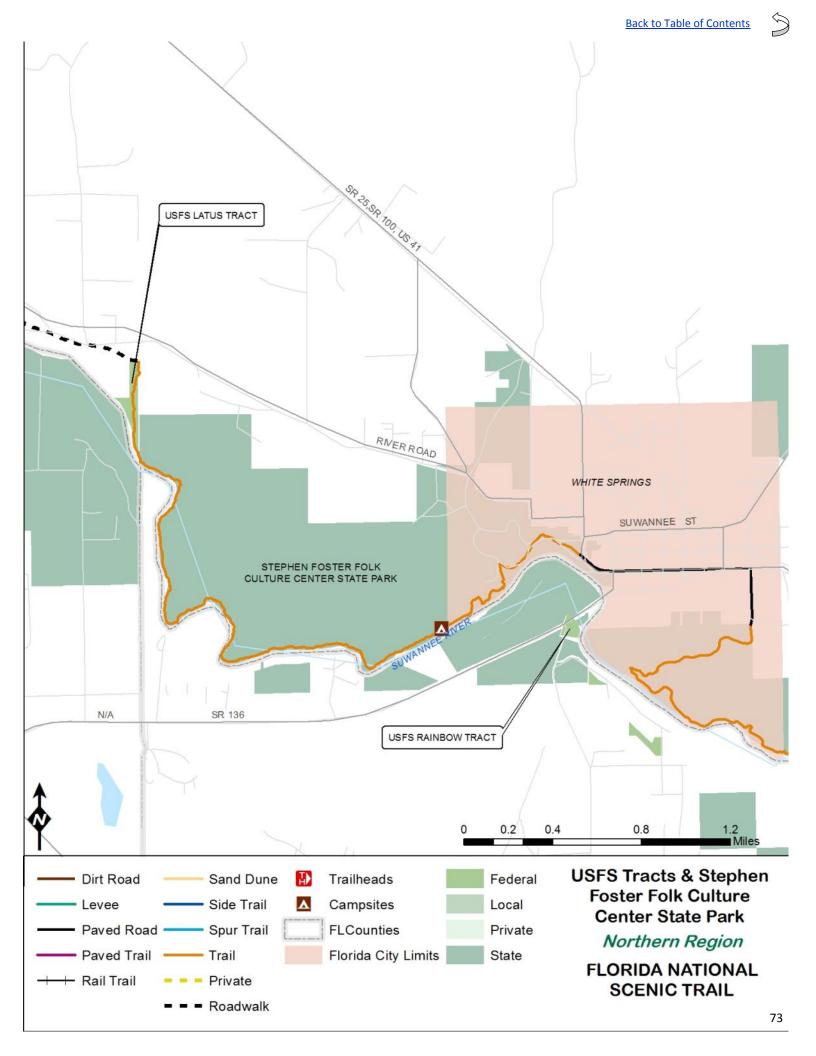
Trail Classes: 2, 3 • Connectors: Private Property (0.2 mi), Private Property (0.1 mi), Private Property

These tracts are part of a network of land which fronts the <u>Suwannee River</u> and is managed by the <u>Suwannee River Water Management District</u>. The Trail passes through mesic flatwoods and xeric hammocks with floodplain swamp and bottomland forest interspersed along the river. The US Forest Service owns the small Vass Tract with 0.1 miles of FNST, which is surrounded by the Little Shoals tract and private property. Rare species in this area include the Bachman's Sparrow, Bald Eagle, Florida Mouse, Gopher Tortoise, Swainson's Warbler, and Wading Bird Rookeries, along with several plant species such as the Giant Orchid and Bartram's Ixia.



Suwannee River, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Trail Association

Volunteer Support	FTA's North Florida Trailblazer Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	1/18/15 50 hours from May 2014 to June 2015
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	None
Facilities	4 Trailheads - (Adams Memorial Dr, Wayside Park, Little Shoals and Bell Springs
Infrastructure 366 ft. total	3 span bridges (12 ft., 32 ft., 40 ft. [total 84 ft.] , 2 wood and one steel); 5 puncheons (16 ft., 16 ft., 16 ft., 16 ft., 218 ft. [total 282 ft.], all wood); Maintenance is as needed and ongoing
Permits & Access	None needed
Upcoming Projects	





US Forest Service & FDEP-Div. Of Rec. & Parks

US Forest Service Tracts and Stephen Foster State Park

Trail Length: 0.5 miles (USFS), 3.7 miles (FDEP Rec & Parks) • Trail Classes: 3, 5 • Connectors: White Springs Connector (1.1 mi)





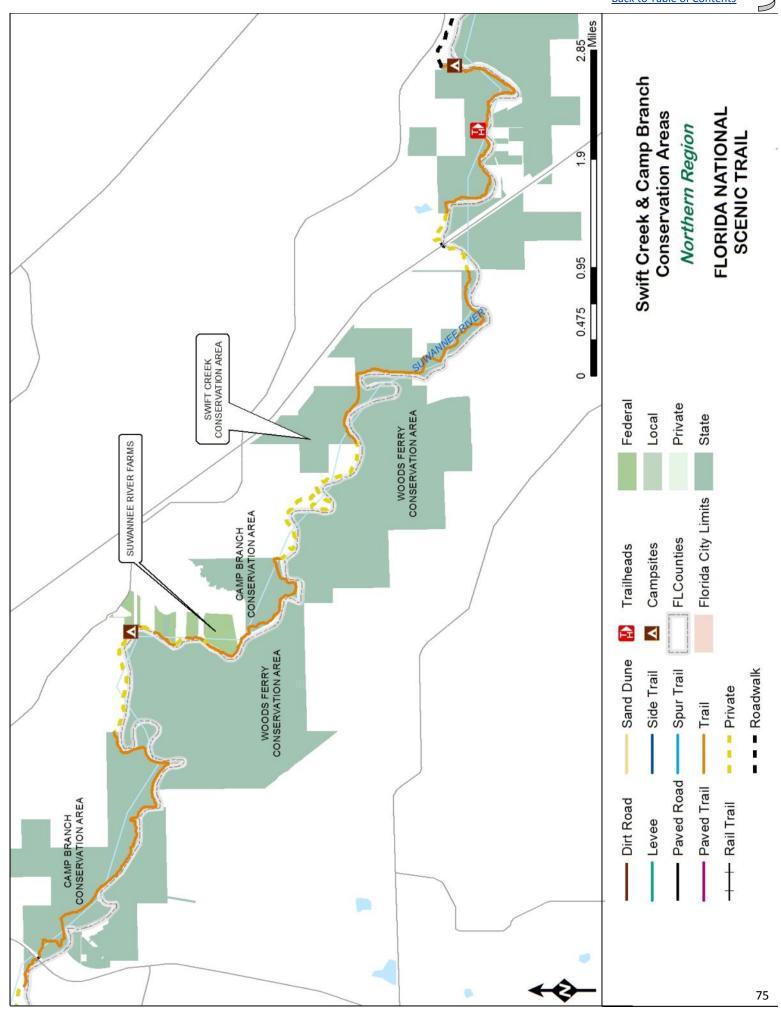


Suwannee River, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Trail Association

Here, Trail visitors can stop at White Springs, a historic and popular trail town and the first Florida Trail Gateway Community. West of White Springs and situated on the banks of the Suwannee River, the Trail enters Stephen Foster State Park. The Park includes a museum featuring exhibits about Foster's most famous songs, as well as a craft square devoted to the crafts and music of early Florida. The Trail follows the cypress-lined banks of the River for approximately four miles in Stephen Foster State Park before entering the Forest Service Latus tract. These area is home to gopher tortoise, flatwoods salamander, Florida gopher frog, Eastern Indigo Snake, White Ibis, Sherman's Fox Squirrel, and Florida Black Bear.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Cracker Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	3/22/15 94 hours from May 2014 to June 2015
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Hunting not permitted
Facilities	1 trailhead (Stephen Foster), 1 campground (Stepehn Foster), 1 campsite
Infrastructure 16 ft. total	1 span bridge (16 ft., wood); Last Maintained 03/2015
Permits & Access	White Springs gateway community
Upcoming Projects	none







Suwannee River Water Management District

Swift Creek and Camp Branch Conservation Areas

Trail Length: 9.9 miles • Trail Classes: 2, 3 • Connectors: Private Property (0.4 mi), i75 underpass (0.1 mi), Private Property (0.3 mi), Private Property (2.0 mi), Private Property (0.1 mi), Private Property (0.2 mi), Private Property (

erty (0.1 mi), Private Property (0.9 mi)



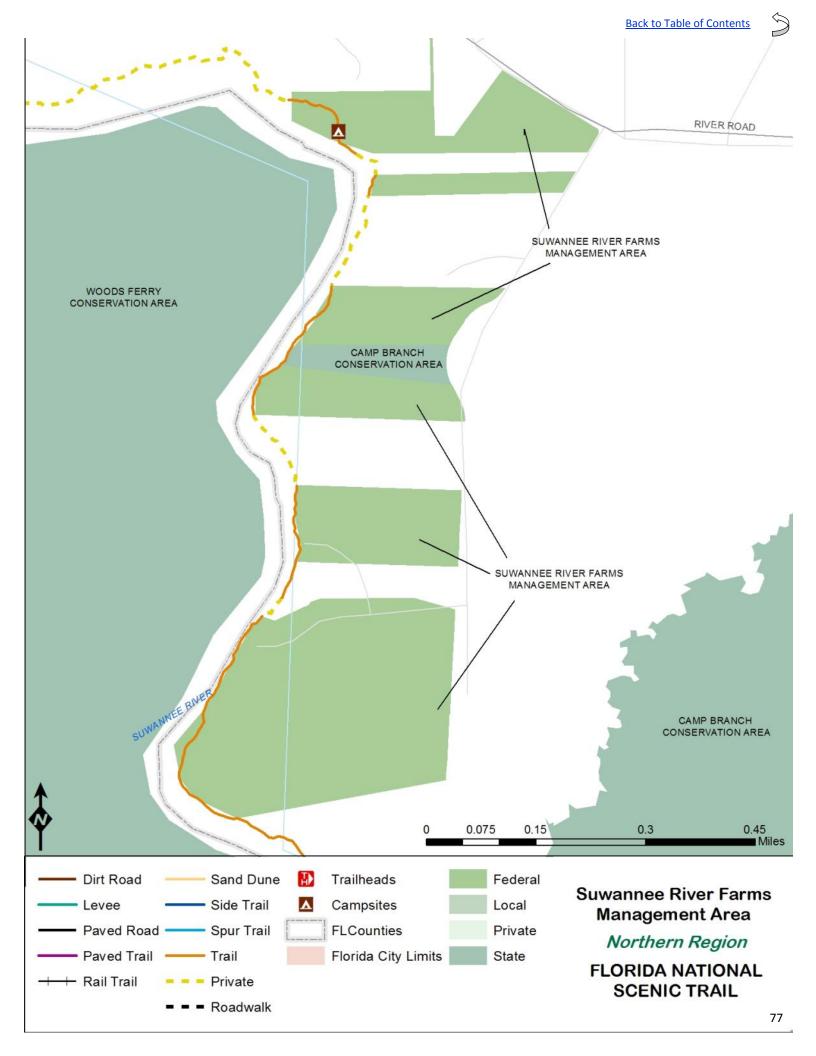
Looking at the Suwannee River from the trail, credit: Marcus Garrett



Blaze at Swift Creek Conservation Area, credit: Jim Schmid

The Area contains 3.5 miles of the upper Suwannee River and is located entirely within the River's floodplain. Habitats along this portion of the FNST include scrubby flatwoods, bluffs and ravines, and oak hammocks. Travel in this area is not easy; moderate to strenuous effort will be required as users travel up and down the floodplain channels of the Suwannee River.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Cracker Chapter
General Trail	3/21/15
Maintenance	217 from May 2014 to June 2015
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	None
Facilities	1 campsite
Infrastructure 82 ft. total	6 span bridges (8 ft., 9 ft., 16 ft., 8 ft., 41 ft., [total 82 ft.], 5 wood, 1 steel); Last Maintenance data 4/25/2015
Permits & Access	None needed
Upcoming Projects	Swift Creek Bridge

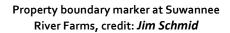


US Forest Service

Suwannee River Farms Management Area

Trail Length: 1.0 mile • Trail Classes: 2, 3 • Connectors: Property (0.1 mi), Private Property (0.1 mi), Private Property (0.1 mi)







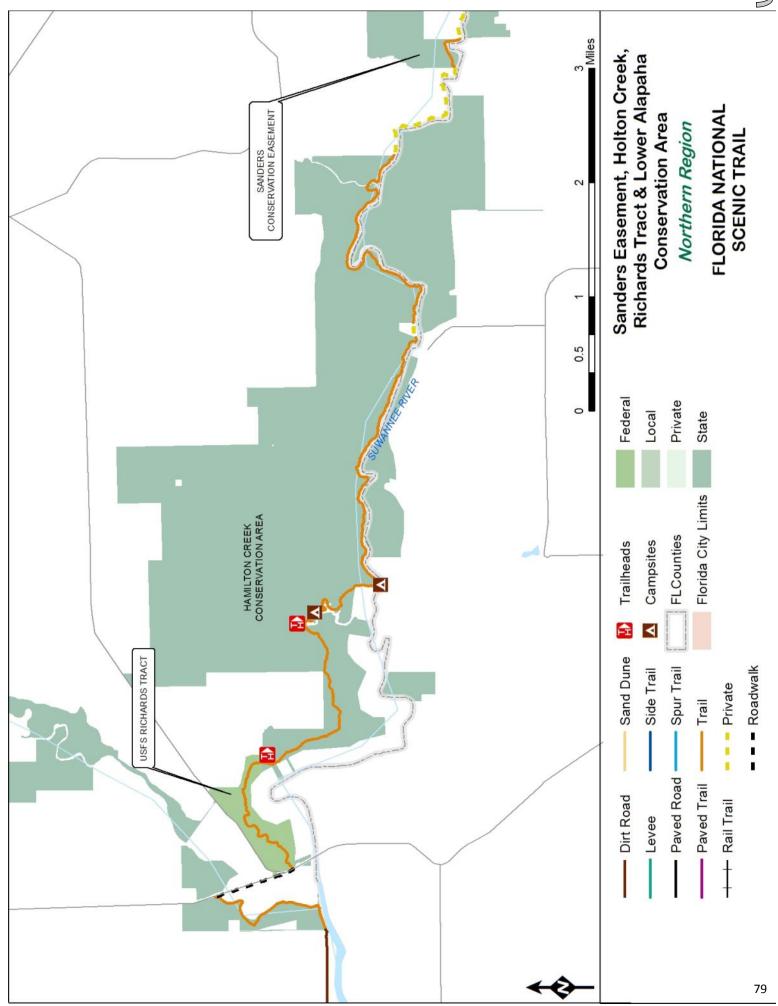
Misty morning on the Suwannee River, credit:

Kristen Johns

The Suwannee River Farms Management Area is owned and managed by the U.S. Forest Service as part of the Florida National Scenic Trail. The Management Area is made up of several tracts along the Suwannee River. Here, the FNST continues to follow the Suwannee River north, directly across from Woods Ferry Conservation Area. Sections of the Suwannee River Farms Management Area are separated by a small patch of land that is part of Camp Branch Conservation Area and the White conservation easement property. This area is home to several federally endangered species, including wood storks, red-cockaded woodpeckers, gray bats, and eastern indigo snakes. In addition, this area contains 11 other known species of State or Federal concern, including the Florida black bear.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Cracker Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Unknown
Facilities	1 campsite (Crooked Branch)
Infrastructure 9 ft. total	1 span bridge (9 ft., wooden);
Permits & Access	No permits required
Upcoming Projects	Complete infrastructure assessments and complete replacement design.







Suwannee River Water Management District & USFS

Holton Creek, Sanders Easement, Richards Tract, & Lower Alapaha Conservation Areas

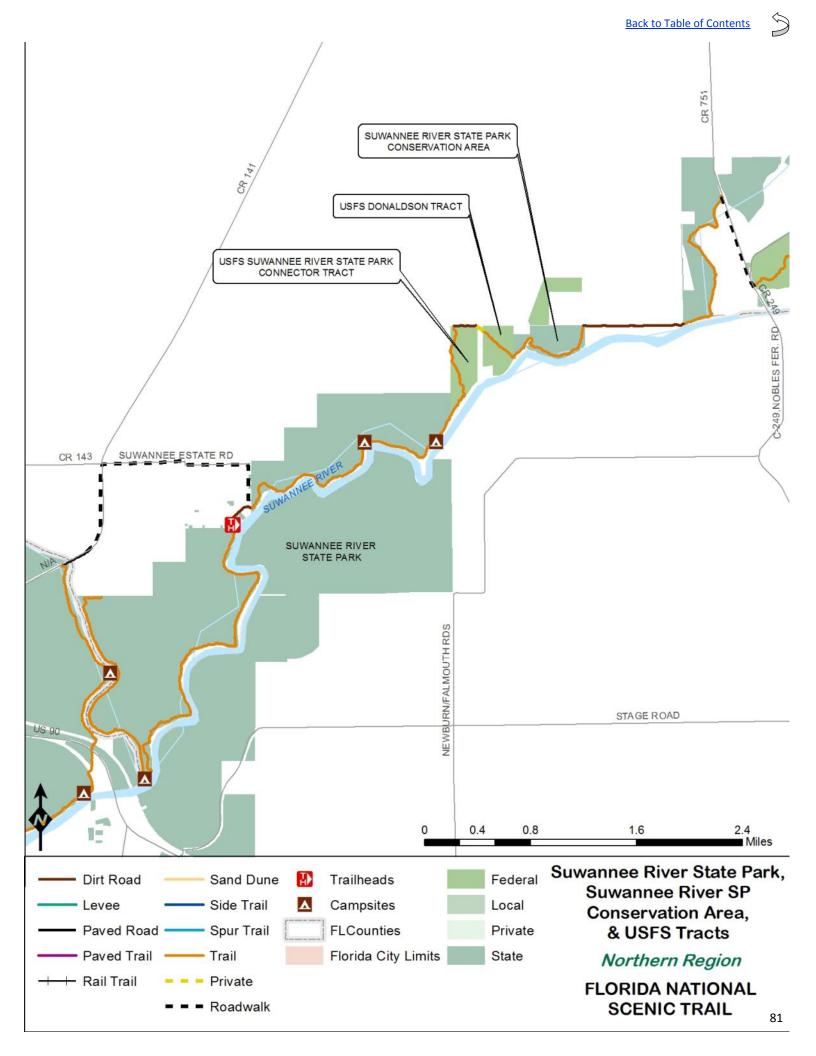
Trail Length: 10.0 miles (SRWMD), 1.4 miles (USFS) • Trail Classes: 3, 4 • Connectors: Property (0.1 mi), Private Property (0.1 mi), Private Property (0.2 mi), Private Property (0.1 mi); CR751 (0.7 mi)

Holton Creek Conservation Area was acquired by the Suwannee River Water Management District to protect limestone outcrops and seepage slopes along the Upper Suwannee River. The Trail at Holton Creek follows along the Suwannee River and gives users the chance to see wild turkeys, white-tailed deer, eastern cottontail rabbits, gopher tortoises, American alligators, and red-tailed hawks. Covering the floodplain forest along several miles of the lower Alapaha River, the Lower Alapaha Conservation Area is part of a project to protect the lower river. The Alapaha River runs from the Georgia line for 18 miles to the Suwannee. It is one of the major tributaries of the Suwannee and in Florida is surrounded by undeveloped forest land. The FNST at Lower Alapaha follows the Alapaha River for over half a mile.



FNST at Lower Alapaha Conservation Area, credit: Jim Schmid

Volunteer Support	FTA's Cracker Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	1/7/15 214 hours from May 2014 to June 2015
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Holton Creek: General Gun Mobility-Impaired Season (Oct Dec.); Spring Turkey Mobility-Impaired Season (Mar. & Apr.)
Facilities	2 trailheads, 2 campgrounds (Gibson Park, Holton River Camp), 2 campsites
Infrastructure 40 ft. total	1 span bridge (40 ft., steel);
Permits & Access	No permits required
Upcoming Projects	Annual Maintenance scheduled for Oct. 2015





FDEP-Div. of Recreation and Parks,

Suwannee River State Park, Suwannee River State Park Cons. Area, & USFS Tracts

Trail Length: 7.4 (FDEP State Parks), 0.8 miles (SRWMD), 1.3 miles (USFS) •

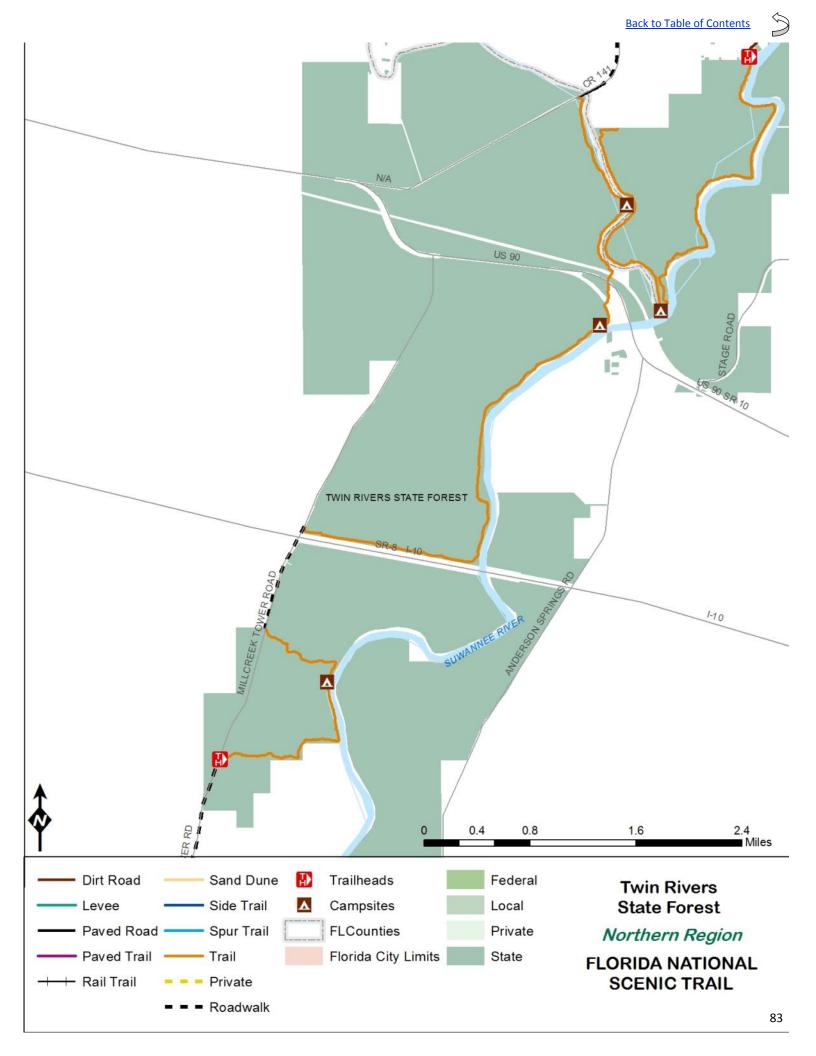
• Trail Classes: 2, 3, 4, 5 • Connectors: CR141 / 75th Way (2.4 mi)



Trail and orange blaze at Suwannee River State Park, credit: *Jim Schmid*

Suwannee River State Park is located at the confluence of the Withlacoochee and Suwannee Rivers. The park contains over 1,800 acres of sinks, streams, springs, limestone outcroppings, and rivers. The park is home to an abundance of plant and animal species including the threatened gopher tortoise, as well as fox, deer, song birds, wildflowers, and diverse native forests. The protected Gulf Sturgeon and other fish and reptiles are abundant in the Suwannee River. The FNST at Suwannee River State Parks generally follows the course of the Suwannee River and its floodplain channels.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Suwannee Chapter
General Trail	5/24/15
Maintenance	102 hours from May 2014 to June 2015
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Hunting not permitted
Facilities	1 trailheads,
	3 campsites
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	Park entrance fee may apply, camping fees apply
Upcoming Projects	



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Florida Forest Service

Twin Rivers State Forest

Trail Length: 11.2 miles • Trail Classes: 3 • Connectors: River Rd (CR423) (0.8 mi)

and River Rd (CR423) (1.6 mi)

Visitors to the FNST in <u>Twin Rivers State Forest</u> will travel along the Withlacoochee and Suwannee Rivers. The forest offers a variety of natural communities including sandhills, upland pine, bottomland forest, and upland hardwood. White-tailed deer, bobwhite quail, and wild turkey are frequently seen in the Forest. This segment of the FNST is on three major tracts of Twin Rivers State Forest: Ellaville, Black, and Mills Creek North units. The Trail leaves Twin Rivers State Forest to utilize highway bridges for river and road crossings.



Trail and FNST sign at Twin Rivers State Forest, credit: *Jim Schmid*

Volunteer Support	FTA's Suwannee Chapter
General Trail	3/21/15
Maintenance	126 hours from May 2014 to June 2015
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Blue Springs Unit-Twin Rivers WMA: Bird Dog Training Season (NovDec.), Quail Season (JanFeb., Saturdays only)
	Twin Rivers WMA: Archery Season (Sept Oct.); Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct.); Family Hunt
	(Nov.); General Gun Season (Nov.); Small Game Season (Nov Dec.); Spring Turkey Season (Mar
	Apr.); Fishing (Allowed year round)
Facilities	2 trailheads (Mill Creek unit and Black unit)
	2 campsites
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	No permits needed
Upcoming Projects	Complete Trail Assessment as part of the Florida Forest Service statewide assessment.



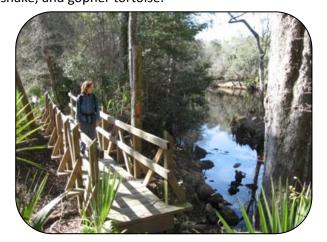


Suwannee River WMD & FWC

Aucilla River WMA

Trail Length: 7.9 miles (SRWMD), 5.6 miles (FWC) • Trail Classes: 3 • Connectors: None

Noted for its unique beauty and geology, this section of the FNST follows the Aucilla River through the Middle Aucilla Conservation Area and the Aucilla Wildlife Management Area. Users will travel in the Aucilla Wildlife Management Area along the Aucilla River's rapids, following the Trail until it reaches the Aucilla Sinks. At the Sinks, the river dips into limestone sinkholes and "disappears" underground. The river rises in and out of the limestone for approximately seven miles. The Trail along the river is usually dry unless the river is at flood stage, at 9 feet. The Middle Aucilla Conservation Area contains floodplain forests with a mixture of pine flatwoods and pine/hardwood forests. Endangered and threatened species in this area include the red-cockaded woodpecker, wood stork, eastern indigo snake, and gopher tortoise.



Looking over the river, credit: Sandra Friend, Florida Trail Association

Bridge next to the Aucilla River, credit: Jim Schmid

Volunteer Support	FTA's Apalachee Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 3/31/15 Maintained on: 10/27/14, 11/1/14, 12/3/14, 12/23/14, 12/31/14, 1/1/15, 1/10/15, 1/17/15, 2/27-3/1/15, 3/25/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery (Sept Oct.); Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct.); Family Still (Oct.); General Gun Season (Nov Dec.); Wild Hog-Still (Dec.); Small Game & Trapping Seasons (Dec March); Spring Turkey (Mar Apr.)
Facilities	2 campsites
Infrastructure	2 span bridges, both wood;
Permits & Access	No permits required, parked vehicles may not obstruct roads, gates or firelanes
Upcoming Projects	 General trail maintenance including removal of downed trees and re-blazing. Additional signage is needed to warn hikers of rock outcrops and for interpretation.



VI. Panhandle Region

- St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge & St. Marks Rail Trail (p. 89)
- Apalachicola National Forest (p. 91)
- Blountstown Greenway & State Road 20 (p. 93)
- Upper Chipola River Water Management Area (p. 95)
- <u>Econfina Creek Water Management Area</u> (p. 97)
- Pine Log State Forest (p. 99)
- Nokuse Plantation & Choctawhatchee River Water Management
 Area (p. 101)
- Eglin Air Force Base (p. 103)
- Yellow River Water Management Area (p. 105)
- Gulf Islands (Gulf Islands National Seashore, Santa Rosa County, Navarre Beach, Pensacola Beach) (p. 107)



National Park Service & FDEP- Div. of Rec.& Parks

St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge & St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail

Trail Length: 41.5 miles (NPS), 2.8 miles (FDEP-State Parks) • Trail Classes: 1, 3, 4, 5 • Connectors: None

Crossing U.S. 98 from the Aucilla Wildlife Management Area, the FNST enters <u>St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge</u>. Established in 1931 as a refuge for migratory birds, the Refuge covers over 68,000 acres of upland forests, salt marsh, tidal creeks, islands, and estuaries. The Trail here travels through Gulf coastal pine flatwoods, hardwood hammocks, and a salt marsh wilderness. The terrain is flat and dry over most of the Trail except during periods of heavy rain. For approximately seven miles the Trail follows a series of dikes built to impound freshwater for the thousands of water-

fowl that winter here. Additional species visitors may encounter include: southern bald eagles, ospreys, otters, alligators, white-tailed deer, and black bears. The historic St. Marks Lighthouse overlooking Apalachee Bay and the Visitor Center along Lighthouse Road are popular attractions at the Refuge. The St. Marks Rail Trail runs from Tallahassee to St. Marks, with just under three miles designated as FNST.



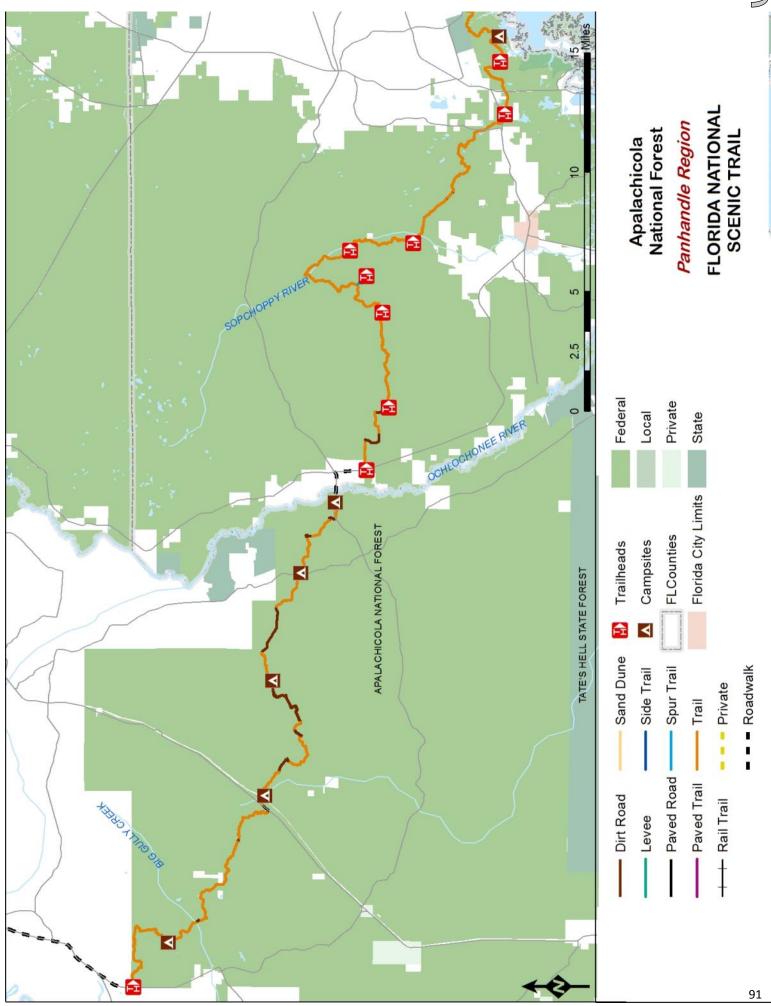
Alligator at St. Marks, credit: Kate Taluga



Gulf Fritillary Butterfly on St. Marks levee hike, credit: Maya Buhler

Volunteer Support	FTA's Apalachee Chapter
General Trail	Last maintenance: 3/1-3/31/15
Maintenance	Maintained on: 11/10/14, 3/5-3/8/15, 2/5/15, 2/20/15, 2/22/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, bicycle
Hunting Seasons	Archery (Sept Oct.); Muzzleloading Gun Season (Oct Nov.); General Gun Season (Nov Jan.); Small Game (Jan March); Spring Turkey Season (March - Apr.)
Facilities	6 trailheads - 7 campsites
Infrastructure	5 span bridges (20 ft., 28 ft., 28 ft., 20 ft., 50 ft. [total 146 ft.], all wooden),
921 ft. total	9 boardwalks (25 ft., 25 ft., 30 ft., 30 ft., 480 ft., 107 ft., 30 ft., 35 ft. [total 762 ft.], all wooden);
	1 pole bridge (17 ft., wood);
Permits & Access	Permit and small fee needed for each campsite used; only available to thru-hikers; written permit required before entering refuge
Upcoming Projects	





11

US Forest Service

Apalachicola National Forest

Trail Length: 63.8 miles • Trail Classes: 1, 3, 4, 5 • Connectors: CR372 (0.7 miles), P{rivate Property (1.5 miles), FH 13 (0.7 mi)

The Florida National Scenic Trail in the Apalachicola National Forest (ANF) offers numerous cultural, scenic, and environmental attractions. The 576,742 -acre Forest is home to a variety of plant communities, water features, and recreation sites. Moving northwest across the ANF, the Trail follows the Sopchoppy River and crosses Monkey Creek, a highly popular segment among visitors. The Trail heads west and crosses Bradwell Bay Wilderness Area, over 24,600 acres of dense, remote swamp. Bradwell Bay is considered to be one of the most strenuous sections of the entire FNST. The west end of the Trail at the ANF traverses low pine savannas with views of wild ground orchids and pitcher plants. Much of the Trail at ANF is in flat, dry pine and palmetto fields with occasional titi swamps. The ANF is home to endangered species including the ash bat, red-cockaded woodpecker, wood stork, eastern indigo snake and four mollusks. Cultural opportunities exist here, including a pioneer homestead.

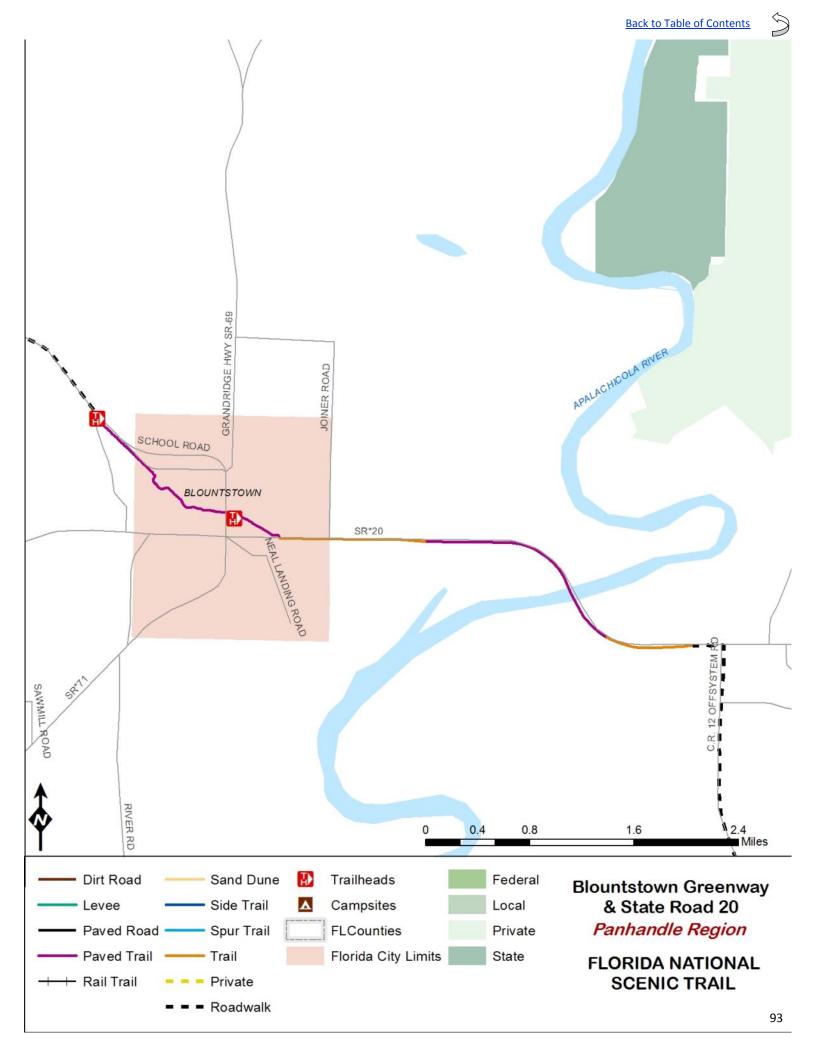


Pitcher Plants near Camel Lake campground, credit: Sandra Friend



Langston House, credit: Andrea Repp

Volunteer Support	FTA's Apalachee Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 3/20/15 Maintained on: 6/7/14, 6/14/14, 6/29/14, 7/4/14, 7/18/14, 8/15/14, 9/27/14, 8/9/14, 9/1/14, 9/6/14, 9/27/14, 10/4/14, 10/11/14, 10/13/14, 11/2/14, 11/11/14, 12/31/14, 1/3/15, 1/17/15, 1/22/15, 1/25/15, 1/31/15, 2/1/15, 2/28/15, 3/1/15, 3/7/15, 3/13/15, 3/20/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Apalachicola WMA: Fox, Raccoon, Opossum, & Bobcat Season (Oct Mar.); Archery Season (Oct Nov.); Small Game Season (Nov Mar.); General Gun Season (Nov Feb. 4); Muzzleloading Gun Season (Dec.); Archery/Muzzleloading Gun Season (Feb.); Trapping Season (Feb Mar.); Spring Turkey Season (Mar Apr.); Fishing and frogging (year round)
Facilities	7 trailheads 5 campsites
Infrastructure 3,485 ft. total	23 span bridges (42 ft., 32 ft., 20 ft., 16 ft., 12 ft., 12 ft., 10 ft., 20 ft., 16 ft., 12 ft., 12 ft., 20 ft., 20 ft., 24 ft., 20 ft., 16 ft. [total 446 ft.], 22 wood, 1 fiberglass); 2 boardwalks (48 ft., 96 ft. [total 144 ft.], both wood); 10 puncheons (20 ft., 20 ft., 20 ft., 35 ft., 102 ft., 12 ft., 2622 ft., 12 ft., 12 ft., 40 ft. [total 2,895 ft.], all wood); 3 pole bridges (8 ft., 20 ft., 20 ft. [total 48 ft.], all wood);
Permits & Access	No permits/fees apply, camping allowed 200 feet from the trail and in established campgrounds
Upcoming Projects	





City of Blountstown & Fl. Dept. of Trans-

Blountstown Greenway & State Road 20

Trail Length: 1.8 miles (City of Blountstown), 3.5 miles (FDOT) • Trail Classes: 5 •

Connectors: None

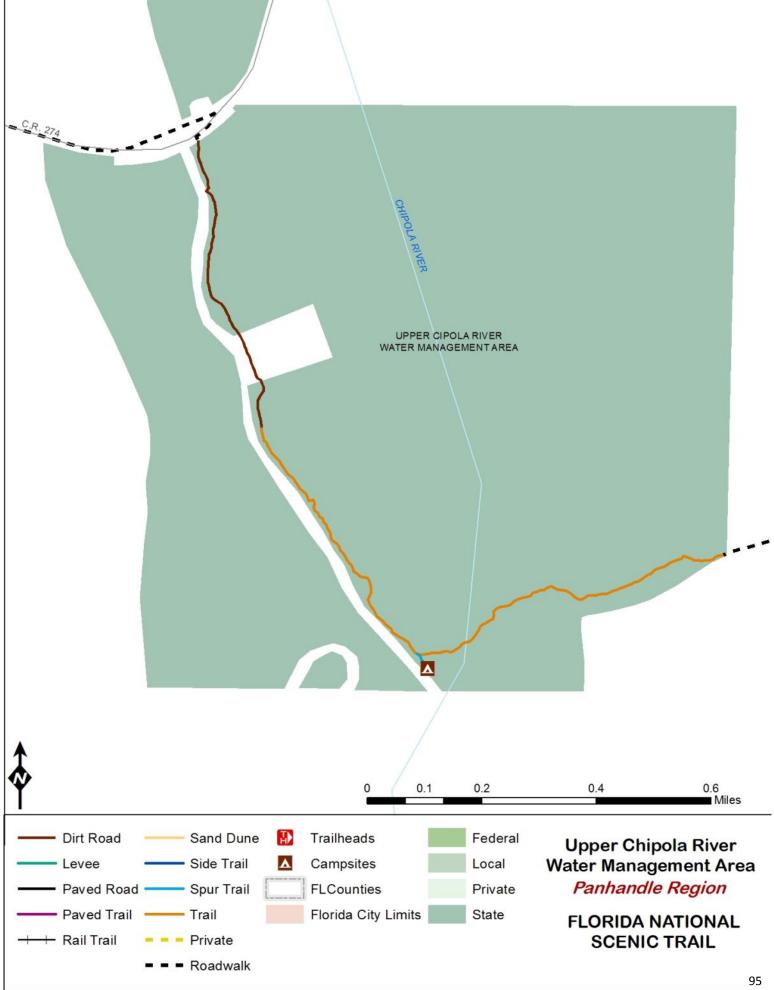
The Blountstown Greenway was built on the M&B Railroad Right of way, which begins at the Apalachicola River and travels northwest to Sam Atkins Park. The old railroad served the area from 1909 to 1972. Connecting Pioneer Settlement with the Apalachicola River, the Blountstown Greenway passes through the heart of Blountstown (the seat of Calhoun County). The Greenway is a multi-use trail open to hiking, bicycling, and skating. The trail is becoming more popular each year as more groups are scheduling trail bike rides, hikes, and runs. The Trail follows a berm along State Road 20 and a protected pedestrian route along the Apalachicola River Bridge before connecting to the Blountstown Greenway.



Blountstown Courthouse, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Tail Association

Volunteer Support	FTA's Panhandle Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	
Allowed Use	Pedestrian, bicycle, skating
Hunting Seasons	Hunting not permitted
Facilities	2 trailheads
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	No permits required
Upcoming Projects	







Northwest Florida Water Management

Upper Chipola River Water Management Area

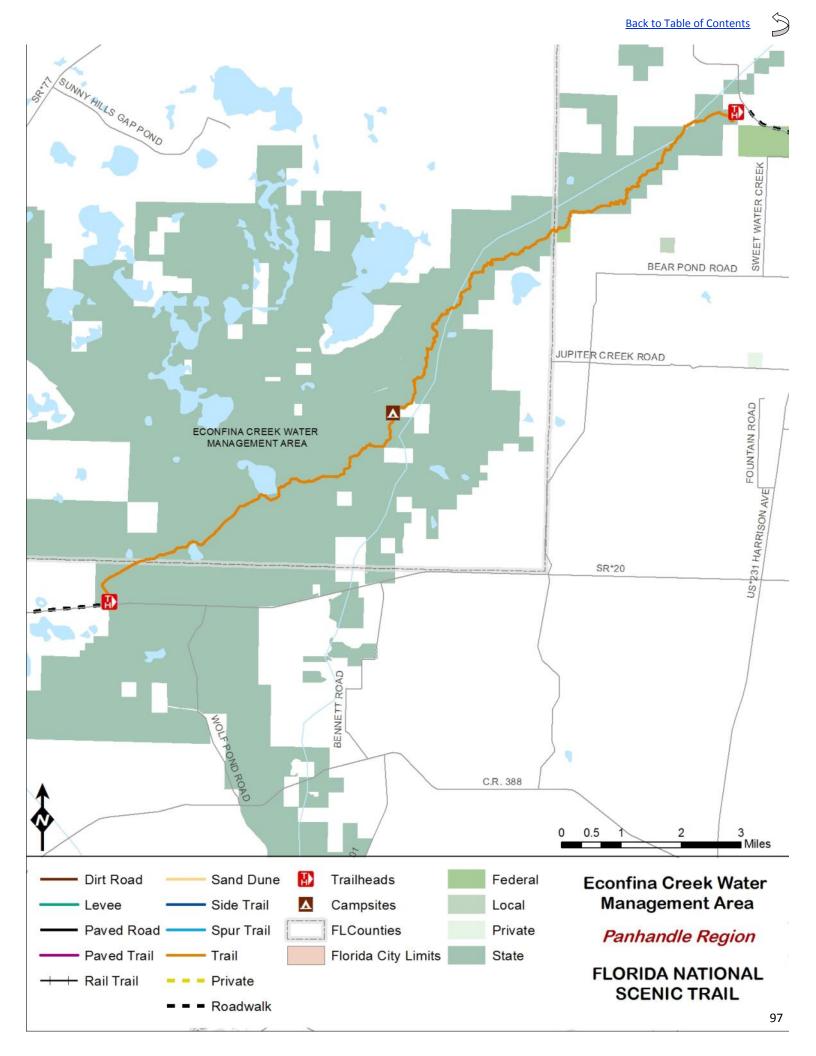
Trail Length: 1.6 miles • Trail Classes: 3, 4 • Connectors: None



Upper Chipola, credit: Jim Schmid

The Trail on the <u>Upper Chipola River Water Management Area</u> begins at the property's south entrance to the Altha tract on NW Black Bottom Road. It continues 1.1 miles until the Trail joins a dirt road for an additional 0.5 miles, finally exiting at County Road 274. This property encompasses numerous creeks that converge to form the Chipola River between the Alabama border and Florida Caverns State Park. Carbonate-rich waters originating in the piedmont make this river system especially plentiful in mollusk species. The US Forest Service plans to certify this piece of trail as FNST in 2013.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Apalachee Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Altha Tract: Archery Season (Oct Nov.); Small Game Season (Jan Mar.); Family Hunt (Nov.); Trapping Season (Dec Mar.); Muzzleloading Gun Season (Dec.); Spring Turkey Season (Mar Apr.); Fishing & Frogging (year round)
Facilities	1 campsite
Infrastructure	2 span bridges (12 ft., 14 ft. [total 26 ft.], both wood);
Permits & Access	Camping permits required, obtained from NWFWMD.
Upcoming Projects	





Northwest Florida Water Management District

Econfina Creek Water Management Area

Trail Length: 17.5 miles • Trail Classes: 3 • Connectors: None

The <u>Econfina Creek</u> segment of the Florida National Scenic Trail is unique because of its diverse flora and fauna. Econfina Creek and its surrounding forests are found on an unusual collection of geographic features such as bluffs, deep ravines, and springs giving it a high diversity of rare plants and animals. Visitors may see interesting plants including oak leaf hydrangea, ash/pyramid magnolias, and liverworts. The summer tanager and a variety of warblers are

also common to the area. Econfina Creek and the Creek's narrow canyon make for a scenic trail experience. Users can expect many stream and river crossings.

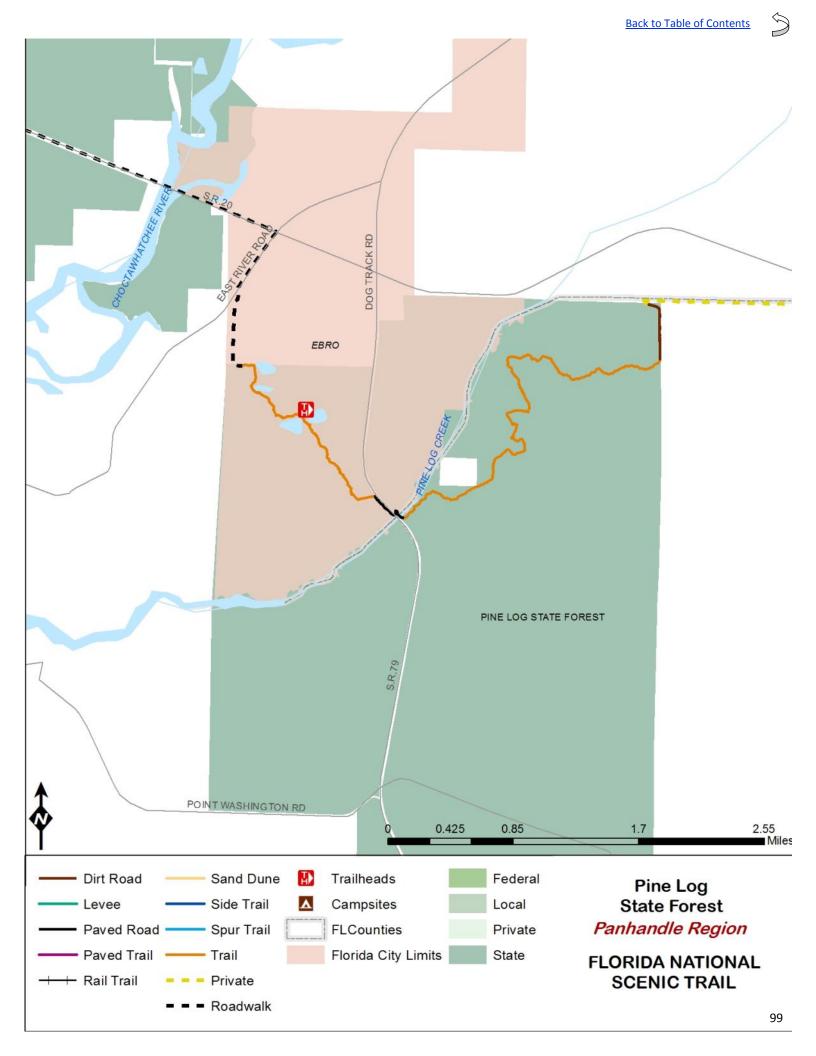


Fender Bridge, credit: Jim Schmid



Waterfall along Econfina Creek, credit: Sue Wiles, Florida Trail
Association

Volunteer Support	FTA's Apalachee Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 4/25/25 Maintained on: 6/14/114, 7/12/14, 7/31/14, 8/14/14, 8/20/14, 9/1/14, 9/27/14, 10/19/14, 10/26/14, 11/1/14, 11/2/14, 1/1/15, 1/11/15, 1/18/15, 1/24/15, 1/31/15, 2/1/15, 2/14/15, 2/22/15, 2/27/15, 2/28/15, 3/7/15, 3/4/15, 3/8/15, 4/11/15, 4/15/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Oct Nov.); Small Game Season (Nov Mar.); General Gun Season (Nov Feb.); Muzzleloading Gun Season (Dec.); Archery/Muzzleloading Gun Season (Feb.); Spring Turkey Season (Mar Apr. 26); Raccoon Season (Nov Mar. & Apr July); Fishing & Frogging (year round)
Facilities	2 trailheads 1 campsite
Infrastructure 761 ft. total	34 span bridges (15 ft., 15 ft., 10 ft., 20 ft., 31 ft., 28 ft., 48 ft., 16 ft., 27 ft., 30 ft., 17 ft., 10 ft., 30 ft., 10 ft., 24 ft., 21 ft., 16 ft., 12 ft., 16 ft., 12 ft., 12 ft., 16 ft., 12 ft., 16 ft., 12 ft., 16 ft., 12 ft., 16 ft., 12 ft., 64 ft. [total 138 ft.], all wood); 1 bog bridge (6 ft., wood);
Permits & Access	Camping permits can be obtained through NWFWMD
Upcoming Projects	





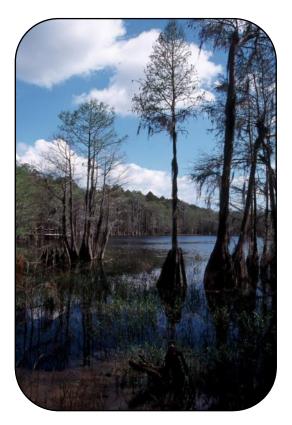
Florida Forest Service

Pine Log State Forest

Trail Length: 5.7 miles • Trail Classes: 3, 4, 5 • Connectors: None

In <u>Pine Log State Forest</u> (PLSF), Florida's first state forest, the FNST travels through natural pine flatwoods and pine plantations along forest roads. The lower elevations are dominated by cypress and titi, while higher elevations are used for pine silviculture. The forest routinely undergoes prescribed burns as it is a working forest. At PLSF, active timber sales and traditional forestry practices are mixed with restoration of longleaf/wiregrass ecosystems and a very active recreation program. This area is home to the flatwoods salamander, gopher tortoise, southern milkweed, white-top pitcher plan, and Chapmans' crownbeard.



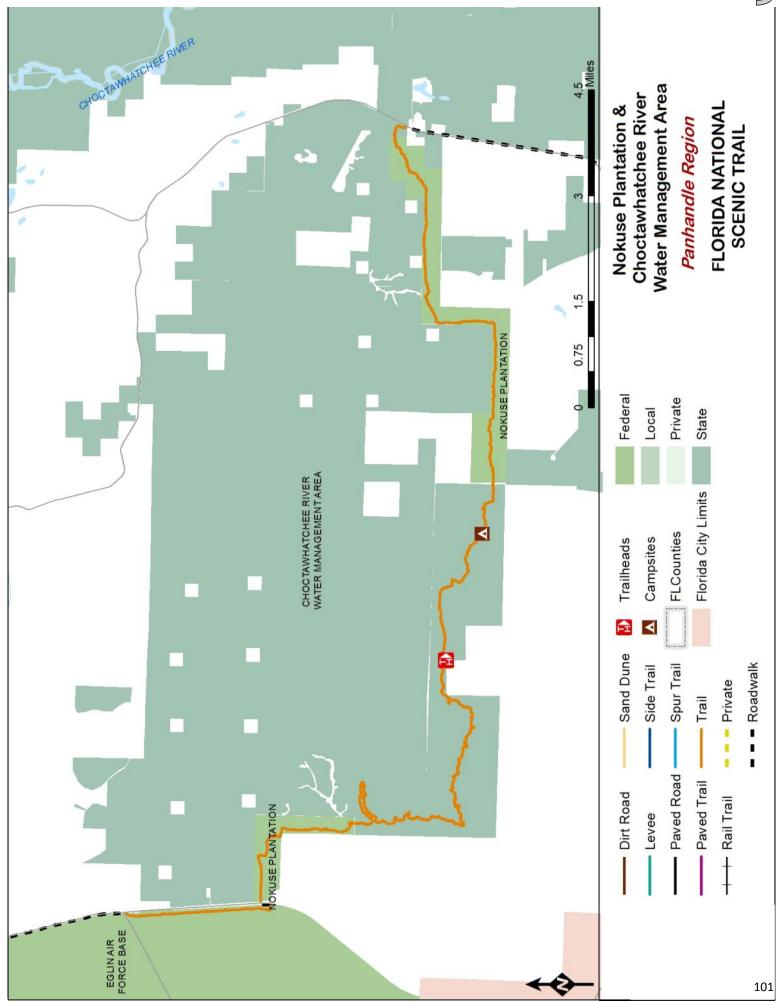


Pine log state forest, credit: Sandra Friend, Florida Trail Association

FNST sign and trail at Pine Log State Forest, credit: Jim Schmid

Volunteer Support	FTA's Panhandle Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 4/11/15 Maintained on: 6/6/14, 6/10/14, 7/29/14, 9/30/14, 11/11/14, 11/22/14, 1/13/15, 2/8/15, 3/10/15, 4/4/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Pine Log WMA: Archery Season (Oct. 25– Nov. 16); Small Game Season (Dec. 9– 31); General Gun Season (Nov. 27– 30, Jan. 24– Feb. 1); Muzzleloading Gun Season (Dec. 6– 8); Spring Turkey Season (Mar. 14– 15, Mar. 21– Apr. 12); Trapping Prohibited; Fishing & Frogging (year round)
Facilities	1 trailhead at the Sand Pond Recreation Area
Infrastructure 176 ft. total	8 span bridges (14 ft., 10 ft., 20 ft., 20 ft., 20 ft., 12 ft., 8 ft., 24 [total 128 ft.], all wood); Maintained December 2014 1 boardwalk (48 ft., wood);
Permits & Access	The campground (fee) is the only camping allowed during hunting dates
Upcoming Projects	Repair decaying bridges, reroute 1/4 mile of trail off of forest road along eastern boundary of Pine Log SF







Nokuse Plantation & Northwest Florida WMD

Nokuse Plantation and Choctawhatchee River Water Management Area

Trail Length: 10.4 miles (NWFWMD), 8.9 Miles (Nokuse Plantation) •

Trail Classes: 3 • Connectors: US 331 Crossing (0.2 mi)



Nokuse Plantation from the FNST, credit: Florida Trail Association

This section of the FNST passes through Nokuse Plantation, travels through Lafayette Creek Management Area, and then re-enters Nokuse Plantation. The Trail offers upland, wetland, and freshwater natural habitats along Lafayette Creek and Magnolia Creek in Walton County. While travelling through Nokuse Plantation and Northwest Florida WMD, users have the opportunity to see unique steephead habitats, gopher tortoise relocation and restoration efforts, and longleaf pine and wiregrass habitat restoration activities. Species of concern in this area include the flatwoods salamander, eastern diamondback, swallowtailed kite, bald eagle, Florida black bear, and Eastern fox squirrel.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Choctawhatchee Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 2/3/15 Maintained on: 6/17/14, 11/21/14, 1/4 - 1/9/15, 1/20/15
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery (Oct. 24- Nov. 22); Small Game (Nov. 14- March 6); General Gun (Nov. 26-29, Dec. 12–Feb. 3); Trapping (Dec. 1- March 1 in still hunt areas, Feb. 4-March 1 in dog hunt areas); Muzzle-loading Gun (Dec. 5-7); Archery/Muzzleloading Gun (Feb. 4-14, Nov. 26-29, Dec. 12 – Feb. 14) Spring Turkey (March 12– April 24)
Facilities	2 trailheads 2 campsites
Infrastructure 287 ft. total	10 puncheons (16 ft., 16 ft.,
Permits & Access	Camping reservations/permits required, obtain through NWFMWD
Upcoming Projects	Move trailhead at 6 Runs Park to the intersection of the Trail and Highway 81

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US Air Force

Eglin Air Force Base

Trail Length: 64.9 miles • Trail Classes: 3, 4, 5 • Connectors: SR285 (0.1 mi)

Eglin Air Force Base (EAFB) covers 464,000 acres in the Florida Panhandle. A permit is required to recreate on the reservation. In addition to providing maps, regulations, and permit fee information, the Natural Resources office has educational displays that promote Eglin's rare and sensitive natural communities and management efforts. Nearly three-quarters of Eglin Air Force Base is comprised of sandhill communities. The rolling sandhill ridges are covered in sandy, well-drained soils that support longleaf pine and several species of scrub oaks. Eglin is home to several rare and endangered species, including the red-cockaded woodpecker, flatwoods salamander, piping plover, wood stork, West Indian Manatee, Eastern Indigo snake, and

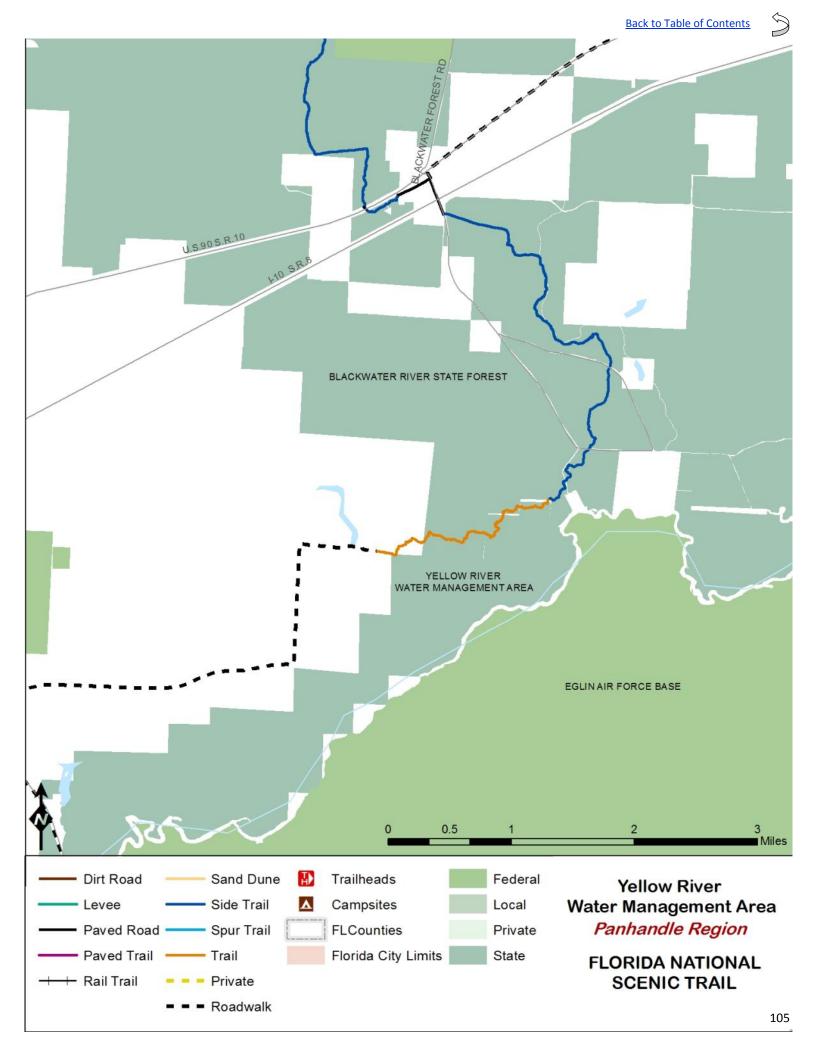


Camping at Eglin, credit: Robert Coveney, Florida Trail Association



Span bridge at Eglin AFB credit: Jim Schmid

Volunteer Support	FTA's Western Gate and Choctawhatchee Chapters
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 4/4/15 Maintained: 30 recorded dates in the past year
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Oct - Nov); Dog Training (Oct Nov.); Early Muzzleloading Gun Season (Dec.); General Gun (Nov Jan.); Youth Hunt Weekend (Jan.); Late Primitive Weapon (Feb.); Small Game Season (Jan - March); Dove Season TBA; Spring Turkey Season (March - Apr.); Varmint/Predator (May - June); Trapping (Dec March)
Facilities	6 trailheads, 14 kiosks, 9 campsites
Infrastructure 789 ft. total	32 span bridges (65 ft., 43 ft., 17 ft., 65 ft., 28 ft., 16 ft., 12 ft., 60 ft., 16 ft., 48 ft., 16 ft., 17 ft., 22 ft., 12 ft., 12 ft., 12 ft., 12 ft., 46 ft., 114 ft., 17 ft., 17 ft., 28 ft., 17 ft., 16 ft., 16 ft., 45 ft., [total 789 ft.], all wood); 1 puncheon (wood); 8 pole bridges (all wood);
Permits & Access	Thru-hikers are exempt from Eglin Recreation Use and Camping permits, but must have an official letter from the FTA confirming their status and listing approximate travel dates; hikers must complete tear-off registration cards available at each Trailhead Kiosk
Upcoming Projects	New Alaqua Creek Bridge, repair existing bridges add needed





Northwest Florida Water Management District

Yellow River Water Management Area

Trail Length: 1.1 miles • Trail Classes: 3 • Connectors: None

The <u>Yellow River Water Management Area</u> is a diverse tract of land with upland pine forest, upland hardwood forest, seepage slopes, floodplain marsh, tidal marsh, streams, and lakes. The FNST on the property connects to the side trail at Blackwater River State Forest to a roadwalk which joins with FNST at the west end of Eglin Air Force Base.



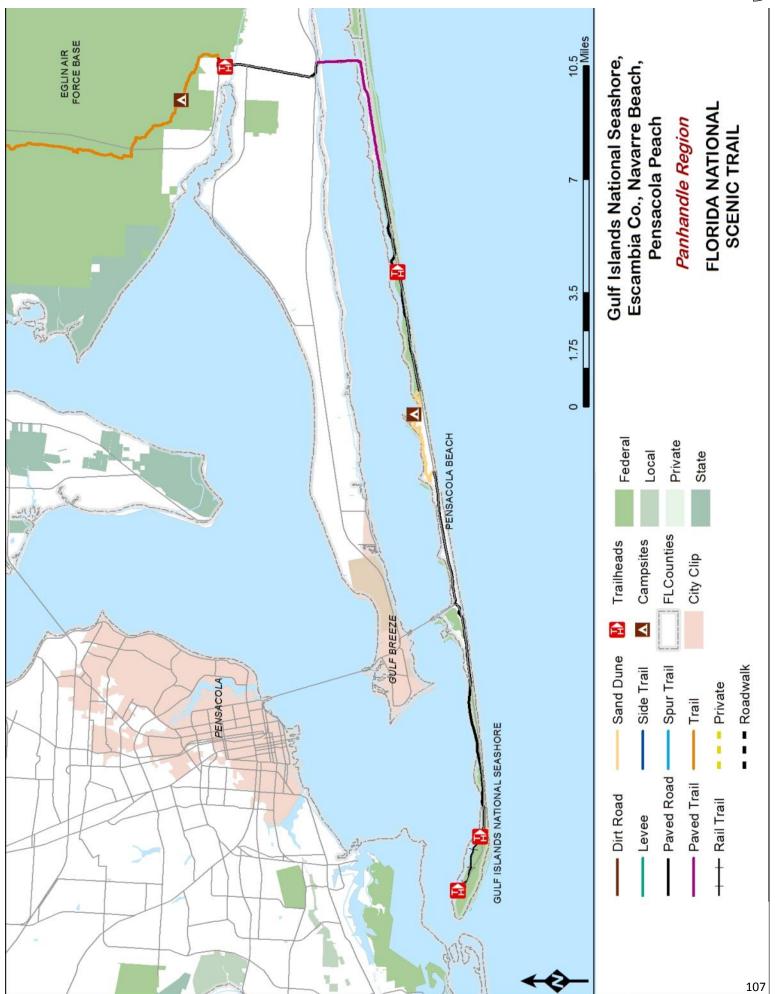
Yellow River hiking trail, credit: Jim Schmid



Yellow River hiking trail sign, credit: Jim Schmid

Volunteer Support	FTA's Western Gate and Choctawhatchee Chapters
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintained: 5/27/15 Maintained: 18 recorded dates in the past year
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Oct Nov. and Dec Feb.); Small Game Season (Nov March); General Gun Season (Nov Feb.); Trapping Season (Dec March); Muzzleloading Gun Seasons (Dec.); Archery/Muzzleloading Gun Season (Feb.); Spring Turkey Season (March - Apr.)
Facilities	None
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	No permits required
Upcoming Projects	Identify potential route to close the trail gap between between FNST on northern Eglin and the Yellow River Water Management Area







National Park Service, Santa Rosa Island Authority, Escambia Co., Univ. of West Fl.

Gulf Islands (Navarre Beach, GUINS, UWF, SRIA, Pensacola Beach)

Trail Length: 13.9 miles (NPS), 11.5 miles (Escambia County), 2.7 miles (SRIA),1.2 miles (UWF) •

Trail Classes: 1, 3, 4, 5 • Connectors: None

Trail at Gulf Islands National Seashore, credit: Jim Schmid





Gulf Islands along the beach, credit: Linda Benton, Florida Trail Association

<u>Gulf Islands National Seashore</u> (GUINS) is known for its outstanding natural features and wildlife typical of a Northwest Florida barrier island ecosystem. The Seashore is home to loggerhead sea turtles, least terns, and piping plovers. Users will pass through dunes, maritime forests, flatwoods, and tidal creeks along the Trail. Traveling along the parallel road shoulder is an available alternative to dune walking. The Trail follows a public bicycle path at Pensacola Beach trail, giving users access to shopping, dining, and lodging.

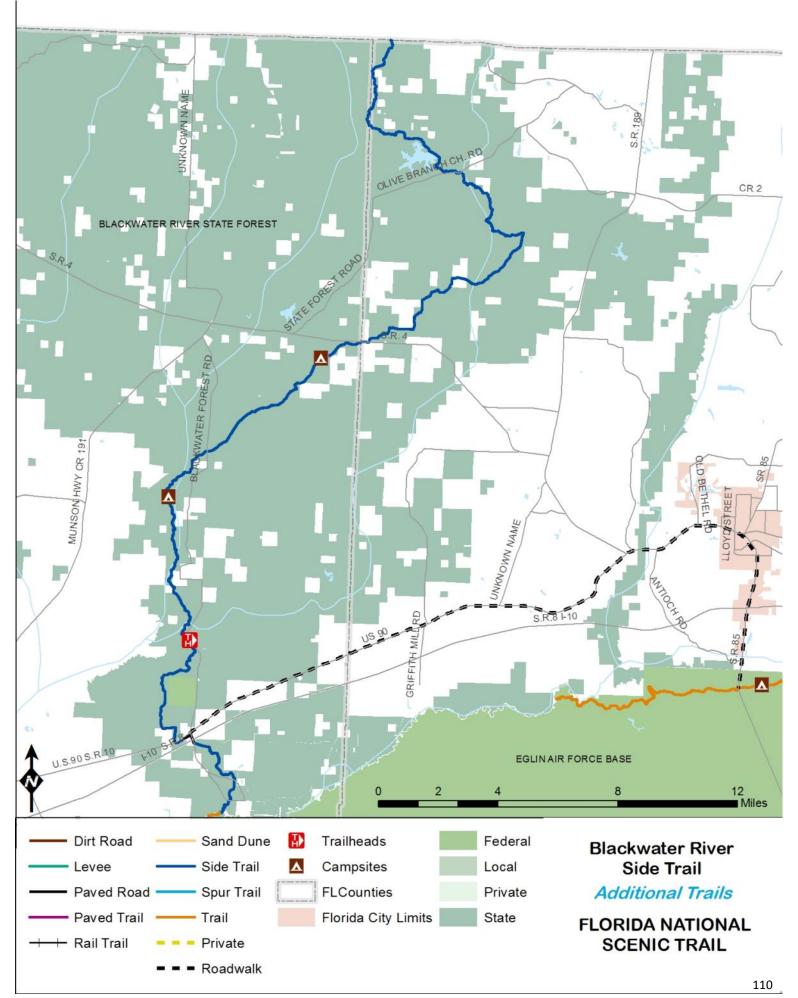
Volunteer Support	FTA's Western Gate Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Prohibited
Facilities	4 trailheads
	1 campsite
Infrastructure	None
Permits & Access	Campground and parking fees required.
Upcoming Projects	Trailhead / kiosk improvement at the Northern terminus



VII. Additional Trails

Blackwater River State Forest & Blackwater River State Park (p. 110)







Blackwater Side Trail

Blackwater River State Forest (FFS) & Blackwater River State Park (FDEP- Div. Rec. & Parks)

Trail Length: 46.0 miles (FFS), 1.3 miles (FDEP) • Trail Classes: 3 •

Connectors: None



Credit: Sandra Friend, Florida Trail Association



Blackwater side Trail, credit: Linda Benton, Florida Trail
Association

The Blackwater Side Trail primarily runs through <u>Blackwater River State Forest</u>. This forest is one of the largest state forests in Florida, and is named for the Blackwater River, which begins in Alabama and meanders approximately 30 miles southwest through the forest and into Blackwater Bay near Milton, Florida. Blackwater River State Forest is known for its longleaf pine/wiregrass ecosystem, which, in combination with the Conecuh National Forest to the north and <u>Eglin Air Force Base</u> to the south, is the largest contiguous ecological community of this type in the world.

Volunteer Support	FTA's Western Gate Chapter
General Trail Maintenance	Last maintenance: 6/4/15 Maintained: 35 recorded dates in last year
Allowed Use	Pedestrian
Hunting Seasons	Archery Season (Oct Nov.); Small Game Season (Nov March); General Gun Still Season (Nov Feb.); General Gun Dog Season (Nov Feb.); Muzzleloading Gun Seasons (Dec.); Family Still Hunt (Dec.); Quail Season (Feb.); Archery/Muzzleloading Gun Season (Jan March); Spring Turkey Season (March - Apr.); Fox, Raccoon, Opossum and Bobcat Seasons (May - March); Trapping Prohibited; Frogging and Fishing allowed year round
Facilities	1 trailheads 3 campsites
Infrastructure 881 ft. total	8 span bridges (12 ft., 12 ft., 14 ft., 14 ft., 52 ft., 15 ft., 11 ft., 16 ft. [total 146 ft.], all wood); 9 boardwalks (65 ft., 75 ft., 45 ft., 43 ft., 111 ft., 164 ft., 164 ft., 30 ft., 70 ft. [total 667 ft.], all wood); 3 puncheons (16 ft., 16 ft., 36 ft. [total 68 ft.], all wood);
Permits & Access	Admission and camping fees may apply In Blackwater River State Pa
Upcoming Projects	Trail Parking should be moved to north parking lot. Hikers are currently parking along road and blocking fire lane.



Appendix A: Florida National Scenic Trail Land Managers by Region

SOUTHERN REGION

Big Cypress National Preserve

Bob DeGross, Chief of Interpretation and Public Affairs

33100 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, FL 34141

Bob_Degross@nps.gov

W: (239) 695-1107

C: (239) 293-3643

Miami Canal, L1, L2, & L3

Dan Cotter, Section Leader, SFWMD Public Use and Wildlife

3301 Gun Club Rd., West Palm Beach, FL 33406

scoughlin@sfwmd.gov

W: (800) 432-2045 x 2301

Alt: (561) 682-2301

Lake Okeechobee

Adam Tarplee, Natural Resources Program Manager, US Army Corps of Engineers

1400 Centrepark Blvd., Suite 750, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Adam.n.tarplee@usace.army.mil

W: (561) 472-8880

C: (904) 392-6503

Kissimmee River Lands

Evan Hall, Park Manager

33104 NW 192nd Ave.

Okeechobee, FL 34972

Evan.hall@dep.state.fl.us

W: 863-462-5360

<u>Avon Park Air Force Range</u>

Brent Bonner, APAFR Environmental Flight Chief

29 South Blvd. Building 600, Avon Park, FL 33825-9381

W: 863-452-4256



Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park

Evan Hall, Manager

33104 NW 192nd Ave, Okeechobee, FL 34972

Evan.hall@dep.state.fl.us

W: (863) 462-5360

KICCO Wildlife Management Area

Don Cotter, Section Leader, SFWMD Public Use and Wildlife

3301 Gun Club Rd., West Palm Beach, FL 33406

dcotter@sfwmd.gov

W: (800) 432-2045 x 2301

Alt: (561) 682-2301

CENTRAL REGION

Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area

Steve Glass, District Wildlife Biologist, Three Lakes WMA

1232 Prairie Lakes Rd., Kenansville, FL 34739

Steve.glass@myFWC.com

W: (407) 436-1818

Forever Florida

Ken Wilshire, General Manager Florida Eco-Safaris, Inc.

4755 N. Kenansville Rd., St. Cloud, FL 34773

gm@floridaecosafaris.com

W: (407) 957-9794

Herky Huffman / Bull Creek Wildlife Management Area

Brett Walker, Biologist HH/BC WMA

1231 Prairie Lakes Rd., Kenansville, FL 34739

Brett. Walker @myFWC.com

W: (407) 498-0991

Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area

Tom O'Neil, Wildlife Biologist Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area

3365 Taylor Creek Rd., Christmas, FL 32709

W: (407) 568-5893

C: (407) 230-4729



Seminole Ranch Conservation Area

Peter Henn, Land Manager SJRWMD—HH/BC WMA & Seminole Ranch CA 601 South Lake Destiny Rd., Suite 200, Maitland, FL 32751 phenn@sjrwmd.com

W: (407) 659-4867

C.H. Bronson State Forest & Chuluota Wilderness

Stephen Stipkovits, Forester, C.H. Bronson SF 1350 Snowhill Rd., Geneva, FL 32732 stephen.stipkovits@freshfromflorida.com

W: (407) 971-3500

Richard Durr, Manager, Seminole County Greenways & Natural Lands Division of Leisure Services 845 Lake Markham Rd., Sanford, FL 32771 rdurr@seminolecountyfl.gov

W: (407) 665-2173

Mills Creek Woodlands

Seminole Ranger District

40929 SR 19, Umatilla, FL 32784

W: (352) 669-3153

<u>Little Big Econ State Forest & Flagler Rail Trail</u>

Stephen Stipkovits, Forester, Little Big Econ SF 1350 Snowhill Rd., Geneva, FL 32732 stephen.stipkovits@freshfromflorida.com

W: (407) 971-3500

Richard Durr, Manager, Seminole County Greenways & Natural Lands Division of Leisure Services 845 Lake Markham Rd., Sanford, FL 32771 rdurr@seminolecountyfl.gov

W: (407) 665-2173

Cross Seminole Trail & Seminole-Wekiva Trail

Richard Durr, Manager, Seminole County Greenways & Natural Lands Division of Leisure Services 845 Lake Markham Rd., Sanford, FL 32771 rdurr@seminolecountyfl.gov

W: (407) 665-2173



Lower Wekiva Preserve State Park

Robert Brooks, Manager, Lower Wekiva Basin SP 1800 Wekiwa Circle, Apopka, FL 32712 Robert.brooks@dep.state.fl.us

W: (407) 884-2009

Seminole State Forest

Joe Bishop, Manager, Seminole SF 9610 County Road 44, Leesburg, FL 34788 Joseph.Bishop@freshfromflorida.com W: (352) 260-6677

Ocala National Forest

Brett Bush, ORA Ocala NF 17147 E. SR 40, Silver Springs, FL 34488 bbush@fs.fed.us W: (352) 625-2520 x 2509

C: (352) 840-3434

Cross Florida Greenway

Mickey Thomason, Manager, CFG 8282 SE Highway 314, Ocala, FL 34470 Mickey.thomason@dep.state.fl.us W: (352) 236-7143

Withlacoochee State Trail

Joe Howard, Manager 315 North Apopka Ave., Inverness, FL 34450 Joe.howard@dep.state.fl.us W: (352) 302-0051

General James A. Van Fleet State Trail

Scott Spaulding, Park Manager c/o Lake Louisa State Park 7305 U.S. Highway 27, Clermont, FL 34714 Scott.spaulding@dep.state.fl.us W: (352) 394-3969

(1)

Green Swamp Wildlife Management Area

Colleen Kruk, Operations and Land Management

2379 Broad St., Brooksville, FL 34601

Colleen.kruk@watermatters.org

W: (352) 796-7211 C: (352) 279-3876

Withlacoochee State Forest

Keith Mousel, Center Manager

15019 Broad St., Brooksville, FL 34601

Keith.mousel@freshfromflorida.com

W: (352) 754-6777 x 120

Cypress Lakes Preserve

Dawn Velsor, Lead Environmental Planner

20 North Main St., Brooksville, FL 34601

dawnv@co.hernando.fl.us

W: (352) 540-6529 C: (352) 279-3876

NORTHERN REGION

Rice Creek Conservation Area

Nels Parson, Land Use Manager, SJRWMD

4049 Reid St., Palatka, FL 32177

nparson@sjrwmd.com

W: (386) 329-4410 / (407) 893-3127

Etoniah Creek State Forest & Palatka-Lake Butler State Trail

Kevin Patton, Park Manager

6239 SR 21, Keystone Heights, FL 32656

Kevin.patton@dep.state.fl.us

C: (352) 258-0047

Plum Creek

Sheli Derato, Resource Supervisor

13005 SW 1st Road, Suite 241, Newberry, FL 32669

Sheli.Derato@plumcreek.com

W: (352) 333-3733 x 209

C: (352) 221-2047



Osceola National Forest & Olustee Battlefield

Debra Stucki, Recreation Program Manager, Osceola NF

24872 US Highway 90, Sanderson, FL 32087

dstucki@fs.fed.us

W: (386) 752-2577 x 4509

C: (386) 623-4067

Michelle Waterman, Park Manager, Olustee Battlefield SP

P.O. Drawer G, White Springs, FL 32096

Michelle.waterman@dep.state.fl.us

W: (386) 397-2733

Fall Creek, Little Shoals, & Gar Pond Tracts

Edwin McCook, Land Manager Specialist

9225 CR 49, Live Oak, FL 32060

EJM@srwmd.org

W: (386) 362-1001

<u>Forest Service Tracts & Stephen Foster Culture Center State Park</u>

Michelle Waterman, Park Manager, Stephen Foster CCSP

P.O. Drawer G, White Springs, FL 32096

Michelle.waterman@dep.state.fl.us

W: (386) 397-2733

Swift Creek & Camp Branch Conservation Areas

Edwin McCook, Land Manager Specialist

9225 CR 49, Live Oak, FL 32060

EJM@srwmd.org

W: (386) 362-1001

Suwannee River Farms Management Areas

Shawn Thomas, FNST Administrator

325 John Knox Rd., Suite F-100, Tallahassee, FL 32303

shawncthomas@fs.fed.us

W: (850) 523-8579

Holton Creek & Lower Alapaha Conservation Areas

Edwin McCook, Land Manager Specialist

9225 CR 49, Live Oak, FL 32060

EJM@srwmd.org

W: (386) 362-1001

A-7



<u>Suwannee River State Park</u>

Craig Liney, Park Manager, Suwannee River SP

3631 201st Path, Live Oak, FL 32060

Craig.liney@dep.state.fl.us

W: (386) 362-2746

Twin Rivers State Forest

Steve Carpenter, Forestry Supervisor

7620 133rd Rd., Live Oak, FL 32060

Steven.carpenter@freshfromflorida.com

W: (386) 208-1460

Aucilla River

Morgan Wilbur, Area Supervisor, Aucilla WMA

3911 Hwy 2321, Panama City, FL 32409

Billy.sermons@myFWC.com

W: (850) 767-3621

PANHANDLE REGION

St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge & St. Marks Rail Trail

Chris Webber, SMNWR

PO Box 68, St. Marks, FL 32355

Christopher_Weber@fws.gov

W: (850) 925-6424

C: (850) 251-8521

Rob Lacy, Trail Ranger, St. Marks Rail Trail

3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 795, Tallahassee, FL 32399

C: (850) 922-6007

<u>Apalachicola National Forest</u>

Marcus Beard, District Ranger

57 Taff Rd., Crawfordville, FL 32327

mbeard@fs.fed.us

W: (850) 926-3561 x 6530

C: (386) 623-4067



Blountstown Greenway & State Road 20

Emory Pierce, Blountstown City Manager 20591 Central Avenue West, Blountstown, FL 32424 epierce@blountstown.org

W: (850) 674-5488

Upper Chipola River Water Management Area

Tyler Macmillan, Chief, NWFMD Land Management Operations

81 Water Management Dr., Havana, FL 32333

Tyler.macmillan@nwfwmd.state.fl.us

W: (850) 539-5999

Econfina Creek Water Management Area

Tyler Macmillan, Chief, NWFMD Land Management Operations

81 Water Management Dr., Havana, FL 32333

Tyler.macmillan@nwfwmd.state.fl.us

W: (850) 539-5999

Pine Log State Forest

Johnny Sabo, District Manager

715 West 15 St., Panama City, FL 32437

Johnny.Sabo@freshfromflorida.com

W: (850) 747-5639

Nokuse Plantation & Choctawhatchee River Water Management Area

Tyler Macmillan, Chief, NWFMD Land Management Operations

81 Water Management Dr., Havana, FL 32333

Tyler.macmillan@nwfwmd.state.fl.us

W: (850) 539-5999

Matthew Aresco, Director, Nokuse Plantation

1329 County Hwy 3280, Bruce, FL 32455

aresco@lakejacksonturtles.org

W: (850) 585-1152

Eglin Air Force Base

Justin Johnson, Wildlife Biologist, EAFB

Eglin AFB 107 Hwy 85 North, Niceville, FL 32578



Justin.johnson@eglin.af.mil

W: (850) 883-1152

Yellow River Water Management Area

Tyler Macmillan, Chief, NWFMD Land Management Operations

81 Water Management Dr., Havana, FL 32333

Tyler.macmillan@nwfwmd.state.fl.us

W: (850) 539-5999

Gulf Islands (Gulf Islands National Seashore, Santa Rosa County, Navarre Beach, Pensacola Beach)

Daniel Brown, Superintendent, GUINS

1801 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, FL 32563

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Blackwater River State Forest

ADDITIONAL TRAILS

Blackwater River State Forest

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Blackwater River State Park

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For more information about the Florida National Scenic Trail and to learn more about volunteering, please contact the Florida Trail Association at:

Florida Trail Association

5415 SW 13th St., Gainesville, FL 32608 fla@floridatrail.org

W: (352) 378-8823

Or visit the Florida Trail Association website at:

http://www.floridatrail.org/

Web Links Referenced in Document

- Pg. 3 http://www.fs.usda.gov/fnst
- Pg. 4 http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/fnst/land-resources-management/resource-management
- Pg. 6 http://www.floridatrail.org/;
 - http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/fnst/working-together/?cid=stelprdb5422488;
 - http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5369350.pdf;
 - http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/fnst/working-together/?cid=STELPRDB5422480
- Pg. 10 http://www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/hiking.htm
- Pg. 14 http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/LakeOkeechobee.aspx;
 http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/LakeOkeechobee.aspx;
 http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Portals/44/docs/Recreation/Lake%20Okeechobee%20Scenic%20Trail%20Update%20110113 508.pdf
- Pg. 16 http://myfwc.com/hunting/wma-brochures/sw/kissimmee-river/
 http://www.sfwmd.gov/portal/page/portal/pg grp sfwmd landresources/pg sfwmd landresources recopps cl seaboa http://www.sfwmd.gov/portal/page/portal/pg grp sfwmd landresources/pg sfwmd landresources recopps cl oakcrk
- Pg. 18 http://www.floridastateparks.org/kissimmeeprairie/
- Pg. 20 http://myfwc.com/viewing/recreation/wmas/cooperative/kicco
- Pg. 24 http://myfwc.com/viewing/recreation/wmas/lead/three-lakes/
- Pg. 26 http://www.dep.state.fl.us/lands/fl_forever.htm
- Pg. 28- http://myfwc.com/viewing/where/by-region/central/bull-creek-wma/
- Pg. 30 http://myfwc.com/viewing/recreation/wmas/lead/tosohatchee
- Pg. 32 http://www.sjrwmd.com/recreationguide/seminoleranch/index.html
- Pg. 34 http://floridahikes.com/bronson-chuluota-wilderness
- Pg. 36 http://www.outintheboonies.com/Mills Creek/
- Pg. 38 http://sirwmd.com/middlestjohnsriver/econriver.html;
 http://myfwc.com/viewing/recreation/wmas/lead/tosohatchee
- Pg. 40 http://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/departments-services/leisure-services/greenways-natural-lands/trails/cross-seminole-trail.stml;
 http://www.bikeorlando.net/seminole-wekiva-trail.htm
- Pg. 42- http://floridastateparks.org/lowerwekivariver/
- $Pg.\ 44 \underline{http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service/Our-Forests/State-Forests/Seminole-State-Forest}; \\ \underline{http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wqssp/ofw.htm}$
- Pg. 46 http://www.fs.usda.gov/ocala
- Pg. 48 http://www.floridastateparks.org/crossflorida/
- Pg. 52- https://www.floridastateparks.org/trail/Van-Fleet
 https://www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/guide/regions/crossflorida/trails/with-state.htm
- Pg. 54- https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/recreation/areas/greenswamp.html

- Pg. 56- http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service/Our-Forests/State-Forests/Withlacoochee-State-Forest/
 http://www.hernandocounty.us/plan/esl/preserves/
- Pg. 58- http://www.inverness-fl.gov/165/Whispering-Pines-Park
- Pg. 60- https://www.floridastateparks.org/trail/Cross-Florida
- Pg. 64 http://sjrwmd.com/recreationguide/ricecreek/
- Pg. 66 https://www.floridastateparks.org/trail/Palatka-Lake-Butler
- Pg. 68 http://www.northfloridatrailblazers.org/lake-butler-forest
- Pg. 70- http://www.fs.usda.gov/osceola; http://www.floridastateparks.org/olusteebattlefield/
- Pg. 72 http://floridastateparks.org/suwanneeriver/default.cfm;
 http://www.srwmd.state.fl.us/
- Pg. 74 http://www.whitesprings.org/; http://www.floridastateparks.org/stephenfoster/
- Pg. 76 http://www.srwmd.state.fl.us/index.aspx?nid=229;
 http://www.srwmd.state.fl.us/index.aspx?nid=166
- Pg. 80 http://myfwc.com/viewing/recreation/wmas/cooperative/holton-creek
- Pg. 82 http://floridastateparks.org/suwanneeriver/default.cfm
- Pg. 84 http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service/Our-Forests/State-Forests/Twin-Rivers-State-Forest
- Pg. 86 http://myfwc.com/viewing/recreation/wmas/lead/aucilla
- Pg. 94 http://www.fws.gov/refuge/st marks/
- Pg. 96 http://www.fs.usda.gov/apalachicola
- Pg. 98- http://myfwc.com/viewing/recreation/wmas/cooperative/chipola-river/
- Pg. 100 http://www.nwfwmd.state.fl.us/lands/recreation/area/econfina/
- Pg. 104- http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service/Our-Forests/State-Forest/Pine-Log-State-Forest
- Pg. 102 http://www.nwfwmd.state.fl.us/
- Pg. 104 http://www.eglin.af.mil/
- Pg. 106 http://myfwc.com/viewing/recreation/wmas/cooperative/yellow-river
- Pg. 108 http://www.nps.gov/guis/index.htm.
- Pg. 111- <a href="http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service/Our-Forests/State-Forests/Blackwater-River-State-Forests/Florida-Forests/State-Forests/Blackwater-River-State-Forests/Florida-Fores

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