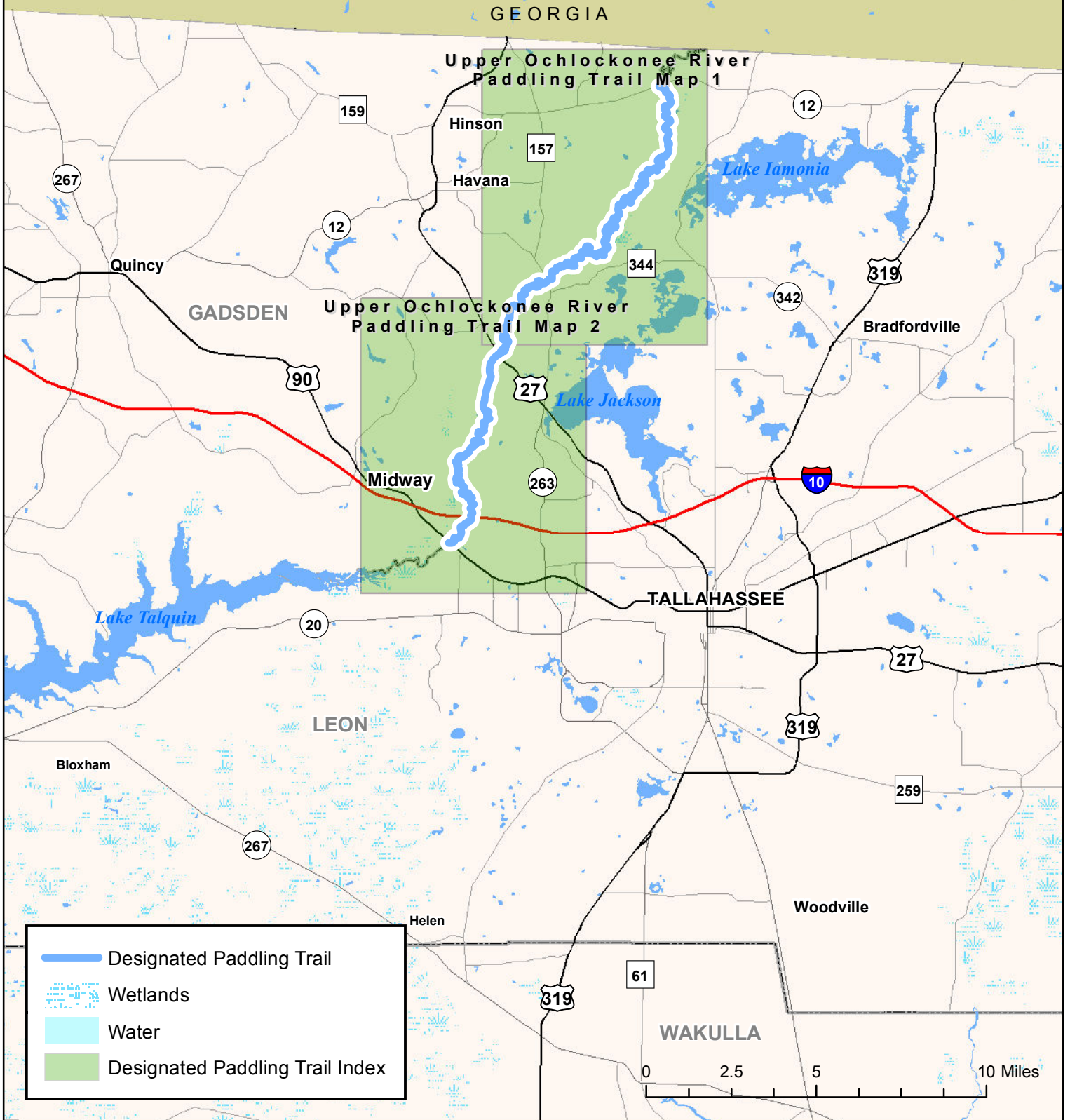


N



Florida Designated Paddling Trails

Upper Ochlockonee River



GEORGIA

Upper Ochlockonee River Paddling Trail Map 1

159

Hinson

157

Havana

12

Lake Iamonia

267

Quincy

GADSDEN

Upper Ochlockonee River Paddling Trail Map 2

90

27

Lake Jackson

342

319

Bradfordville

Midway

263

10

Lake Talquin

20

TALLAHASSEE

27

LEON

319

259

Bloxham

267

Helen

Woodville

319

61

WAKULLA

0 2.5 5 10 Miles

- Designated Paddling Trail
- Wetlands
- Water
- Designated Paddling Trail Index

Upper Ochlockonee River Paddling Trail Map 1

N

Bell Rd

Cairo Concord Rd

Concord

12

Access Point 1: SR 12
N: 30.6689 W: -84.3051

Havana



12

Concord Rd

Kemp Rd

River Ridge Plantation Conservation Easement

Hiamonee Plantation Conservation Easement

River Ridge Plantation Conservation Easement

Mertian Rd

Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy

Lake Jamonia

GADSDEN
LEON

Iron Bridge Rd

Orchard Pond Rd

Mallard Pond

Carr Lake

Access Point 2: Old Bainbridge Rd Bridge
N: 30.5858 W: -84.3594

Old Bainbridge Rd

27

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

- Upper Ochlockonee River Paddling Trail
- Canoe/Kayak Launch
- Conservation Lands
- Wetlands

Upper Ochlockonee River Paddling Trail Map 2

N

RCM Farms Conservation Easement

270

159

27

Access Point 3: Tower Rd
N: 30.5286 W: -84.3894

GADSDEN
LEON

Tower Rd

Coastal Forest Resources Conservation Easement

Lake Jackson

Dupont Rd

Old Bainbridge Rd

Lake Talquin State Forest

Capitol Circle NW

Fred George Greenway

Midway

Fred George Rd

Brickyard Rd

Thompson/Gray Conservation Easement

Ochlockonee

10

Gearhart Rd

90

Lake Talquin State Forest

Mission Rd

Joe Budd Wildlife Mgmt Area

Access Point 4: US 90
N: 30.4734 W: -84.4072

Commonwealth Blvd

Lake Talquin State Forest

Geddie Rd

- Upper Ochlockonee River Paddling Trail
- Canoe/Kayak Launch
- Conservation Lands
- Wetlands

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Upper Ochlockonee River Trip Planning

Overview: Beginning near the Georgia line, the narrow upper portion of the Ochlockonee twists around cypress knees and deadfalls toward Lake Talquin. Most of this river corridor is completely undeveloped, surprising when considering that the City of Tallahassee is only a few miles away. Low water will require some portaging and pullovers.

Counties: Gadsden, Leon

Nearest town: Tallahassee

Trip length: 27 miles

Mileage:

1. Mile 0—SR 12 Bridge.
2. Mile 15—Old Bainbridge Road Bridge (SR 157)
3. Mile 21—Tower Road
4. Mile 27—US 90 Bridge

*The provided mileage data is approximate (rounded to the nearest .5 mile)

Difficulty: Easy to moderate depending on water levels

Skill level: Beginner to intermediate depending on water levels

Access Points:

Access Point 1 Put-in: SR 12

Nearest town to put-in: Havana

Miles from put-in: 7

Directions to put-in: From Tallahassee travel north on Meridian Road (SR 155) to SR 12. Turn left (west) and proceed to bridge and unimproved boat launch at southwest side of the bridge

Access Point 2 Put-in: Old Bainbridge Road Bridge

Nearest town to put-in: Tallahassee

Miles from put-in: 8.5

Directions to Old Bainbridge Road Bridge access point: From Tallahassee take US 27 (Monroe Street) north about 5 miles past I-10 to CR 157 (Old Bainbridge Road). Turn right on Old Bainbridge Road and travel about 3.5 miles to the bridge over the river. Access is on the northeast side of the bridge.

Access Point 3 Put-in: Tower Road

Nearest town to put-in: Tallahassee

Miles from put-in: 2

Directions to Tower Road access point: From Tallahassee travel north on CR 157 (Old Bainbridge Road) about a quarter mile after it merges with CR 263 (Capital Circle Northwest). Just before US 27, turn left on Tower Road and proceed about 1.6 miles to the unimproved landing where the road dead ends at the river.

Access Point 4 Take-out: US 90

Nearest town to take-out: Tallahassee

Distance from take-out: 3

Directions to take-out: From CR 273 (Capital Circle Northwest) in Tallahassee, travel west on US 90 about 3 miles. Boat ramp and parking is located on the southwest side of the Ochlockonee River Bridge.

Driving distance from put-in to take-out: about 23 miles

Topo maps (USGS quads): Calvary, Lake Jackson, Havana South, Midway

Gazeteer page: 34 & 50

Outfitters within 30 miles of trail:

Access this website for local outfitters:

<http://www.visittallahassee.com/things-to-do/outdoors-and-nature/outdoorsnaturewater-paddling/>.

Shuttle service offered: See above

USGS link (water level info):

http://waterdata.usgs.gov/fl/nwis/uv/?site_no=02329000&PARAMeter_cd=00065,00060, near Havana. If the gauge level is below 12.5 feet, expect numerous pullovers.

Break / Lunch areas: Numerous sandbars at low water levels

Camping options: Most of the land along the river is in private ownership and camping is NOT allowed. It may be possible to camp on sandbars during low water levels but they will not be visible during high water and camping options will be limited.

Other lodging: Website for lodging In the Tallahassee area:

<http://www.visittallahassee.com/places-to-stay/>.

Food/Beverage restrictions: None

What to expect on the river:

Tidal influence: None

Pull-overs: May be numerous depending on water levels, especially in the segment above Old Bainbridge Road

Low branches: Possible on the upper stretches

Narrow water: No

Shallow water: Upper stretch of the river may be shallow depending on water levels.

Strong currents: Currents may be strong after heavy rainfall

Rocks: None

Houses: Very few

Shoals: None

Tight turns: None

Open water: None

Springs: None

Potable water sources: None

Wildlife: Otter, alligators, variety of fish and birds

Natural communities: River floodplain, upland mixed hardwoods on higher banks

Portages: may be numerous depending on water levels, mostly on the upper stretch above Old Bainbridge Road.

Swimming: At your own risk

Motorboats: May encounter small jon boats in the stretch near the Old Bainbridge Road ramp. Motorboat traffic may be heavy near the US 90 Bridge.

Expect at parking SR 12:

- **Parking fee:** None
- **Bathrooms:** None
- **Hours of operation (gates close):** N/A
- **Camping:** None
- **Camping fees:** N/A
- **Crowds:** No
- **Boat Ramp:** Unimproved
- **Potable water source:** None
- **Canoe/kayak launch:** None

Expect at parking Old Bainbridge Road (SR 157) Bridge:

- **Parking fee:** None
- **Bathrooms:** None
- **Hours of operation (gates close):** N/A
- **Camping:** None
- **Camping fees:** N/A
- **Crowds:** May be crowded on weekends and holidays
- **Boat Ramp:** concrete boat ramp
- **Potable water source:** None
- **Canoe/kayak launch:** None

Expect at parking Tower Road:

- **Parking fee:** None
- **Bathrooms:** None
- **Hours of operation (gates close):** N/A
- **Camping:** None
- **Camping fees:** N/A
- **Crowds:** May be crowded on weekends and holidays
- **Boat Ramp:** concrete boat ramp
- **Potable water source:** None
- **Canoe/kayak launch:** None

Expect at parking US 90:

- **Parking fee:** None
- **Bathrooms:** None
- **Hours of operation (gates close):** N/A
- **Camping:** None
- **Camping fees:** N/A
- **Crowds:** may be crowded on weekends and holidays
- **Boat Ramp:** concrete boat ramp
- **Potable water source:** None
- **Canoe/kayak launch:** None

Cultural and historical features along the trail:

This river is surprisingly undeveloped and retains a sense of wilderness despite close proximity to a large urban area.

Notes:

- Most of the land along the river is privately owned and trespassing is not allowed.
- Access to the river at US 27 is very difficult and not recommended.
- It is possible to paddle from the SR 12 Bridge to the Old Bainbridge Road Bridge for a distance of about 15 miles. Be aware during low water levels that sand and silt create shallow water conditions and portaging is likely around deadfall on this stretch of the river. This same stretch of river is technically challenging during elevated water levels and presents hazards with swift current and deadfall obstructions. The river below the Old Bainbridge Road Bridge does not present as many of these same challenges.
- For more information about the Ochlockonee watershed, access this publication by the Tall Timbers Research Station:
<http://www.talltimbers.org/images/ttlc/OchlockoneeRiver.pdf>.