

Loxahatchee River Canoe Trail

Wind through lush cypress and mangrove swamps on this beautiful south Florida river.

The Loxahatchee River Canoe Trail is officially designated as part of Florida's Statewide System of Greenways and Trails. This is also the first river in Florida designated as a National Wild and Scenic River. The coffee-colored Loxahatchee meanders through a subtropical river swamp. The Seminole's named the river "Loxahatchee", which means river of turtles. Bald cypress, pond apple, orchid, and fern line the bank. Heron and osprey fly overhead. Wildlife to watch include otter, raccoon, alligator,

bobcat and, as the river's name suggests, turtles basking in the sun. Along the trail in the state park is Trapper Nelson's cabin, an interpretive site where you can learn about this interesting character.



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Counties: Martin, Palm Beach

Mileage: 8

Skill Level: Intermediate

Difficulty: Moderate

Usual Current: Average (2-3 mph)

Notes and Precautions

There are two water control structures on the trail, but there are canoe / kayak pull-throughs. There can be blockages and pullovers, especially in low water. Winds, tides and power boat wakes on the last three miles to the park can make paddling difficult.

Access

1. Riverbend Park – SR 706 1.5 miles west of Florida Turnpike at Palm Beach County Riverbend Park.
2. Jonathan Dickinson State Park – Take SR 706 east to US 1, north to park entrance. (8 miles)

There may be access points (both public and private) in addition to those listed here. Please remember that some sites require a fee for launching and/or parking.



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