

## S11 Day Paddles - Babcock-Web WMA Webb Lake

### Webb Lake South Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** Fred C. Babcock/Cecil M. Webb Wildlife Management Area is Florida's oldest Wildlife Management Area and protects 80,772 acres just south and east of Punta Gorda in Charlotte and Lee Counties, Florida. It is a park that supports out door recreations from paddling, camping, hiking, fishing to hunting. There are 3 concrete boat launch sites on the 395-acre Webb Lake There are no gasoline power boats permitted on Webb Lake. The lake is part of the wetlands system and is narrow but extends about 3.5 miles from end to end. There are several feeder creeks that enter the lake. Gators are common, and even deer are occasionally sighted while paddling.

**Skill Level:** Novice

**Distance/Approximate Time:** 3.6 Miles/2 Hours

**Launch Site:** Central Paddle Launch

**Takeout Site:** South Paddle Launch

**Special Considerations:** Fees are \$3.00 per person or \$6.00 per car load. This is a honor pay entrance. Stop at the entrance where the yellow pay station is and secure an envelope removing the flap. Put the envelope with your money in the pipe and the flap on your dash board. This is un-attended and there is no cash machines so exact cash is needed.. The shore line is such that canoe or kayak launching can be done just about anywhere, however, please use the boat ramps to help prevent erosion of the shoreline. A short vehicle shuttle is required. Can be paddled in either direction. Take advantage of the wind.

#### Skill Level Definitions

**Beginner:** New to paddling and may need tips and or instructions about paddling strokes, safety procedures, and entering/exiting kayaks. Comfortable on short trips of 1 to 3 miles on protected waters, when wind does not exceed 5 mph.

**Novice:** Paddlers acquainted with basic paddle strokes and can manage kayak handling independently in winds not exceeding 10 mph on protected waters. Comfortable on trips up to 6 miles.

**Intermediate:** Paddlers with experience in basic strokes and some experience on different venues, including some open water. Comfortable on trip distances of 6 to 10 miles, winds not exceeding 15 mph.

**Advanced:** Seasoned paddlers who possess skills and experience to paddle all venues and conditions. Experienced in self-rescues. Should be comfortable paddling more than 10 miles in a day.

**NOTE:** Great care has been taken to ensure this guides accuracy, but weather, tides, and water conditions can change rapidly and create hazardous conditions. These maps are for visual reference only, please consult NOAA Charts for navigation. Paddlers should have all proper safety equipment and check conditions before departure. All paddlers should always wear PFDs while on the water, and leave a float plan. There are inherent dangers in any paddle sport. There are special hazards along the Florida coast due to shifting tides, changing wind and weather, shallow waters, and treacherous bottoms with soft mud, rocks, and oyster bars.

It is up to each paddler to be aware of these dangers, to accept and be prepared for the risks involved, and to be certain they have the skills to safely paddle in these conditions.