

S13ENPE Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips - ENP Everglades City

Turner River Lefthand Loop Information Sheet

Description: It is suggested that this loop paddle be done counter clockwise, starting up the Turner River first. About a half-mile up the Turner River you will pass a series of Indian mounds on your right with nice hiking trails; worth a stop. After about another half-mile you will take the left hand fork of the Turner River and come to a small lake with some islands and the entrance to the mangrove tunnel to the left. After about a mile and a half, it hooks up with Halfway Creek where you take a left to continue back down to Chokoloskee Bay. At medium to high water you can cut off a few miles of the trip by starting on the causeway about a quarter-mile from the Island instead of at the ranger station.

Skill Level: Advanced

Distance/Time: 11.9 Miles/5 Hours

Launch Site: ENP Visitors Center Paddle Launch in Everglades City

Special Considerations: Map, compass and GPS recommended.

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.