

## S13NC Day Paddles - Northwest Coastal Area

## Dollar Bay Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** The route goes south through Dollar Bay. Watch for boat traffic. Eventually you'll be hugging the west shore, so move over when you can. You'll see a cut to the west near the south end. As you wind your way south you'll see two beach access points where you can stop. The second access is at Bartell Bay. The bay gets shallow at low tide. At the south end of the Bay there are some mangrove tunnels that work their way out to a small bay and the boat channel that goes back north to the launch.

**Skill Level:** Intermediate

**Distance/Time:** 7.8 Miles/4 Hours

**Launch Site:** Bayview Park is a Collier County owned and maintained facility. It has parking for about 2 dozen cars and 2 dozen boat trailers. There are rest rooms, picnic tables and pavilions. The launch fee is \$4 and there is a ticket machine near the rest rooms that takes credit cards. The ramp itself is concrete and you will compete with boat trailers launching, but they're careful and friendly.

**Special Considerations:** High speed power boats are a concern here and the bay can get choppy if the wind picks up. GPS compass and maps 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.