

## S19 Day Paddles - Loxahatchee River Area

## Lower Loxahatchee River Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** Although not as popular as the 8 miles on the Upper Loxahatchee River, the lower Loxahatchee does offer a change of pace, becoming a wider, more open river as you head toward the mouth. What starts out as a more wild and green trail, quickly becomes an increasingly developed urban paddle as you head toward your destination at Sawfish Park by the A1A bridge. The River opens up considerably once you reach the confluence of its 3 forks., only to narrow at the A1A bridge heading toward Jupiter Inlet. Manatees are often seen on this section of the river.

**Skill Level:** Intermediate

**Distance/Approximate Time:** 5.6 Miles/2.5 Hours

**Launch Site:** Jonathan Dickinson SP Ramp

**Takeout Site:** Sawfish Park Paddle Launch

**Special Considerations:** This paddle is tidally influenced and is best paddled on an outgoing tide. Be mindful of power boaters as you get closer to the mouth, where you'll find increasing boat traffic, especially on holidays and weekends.

### 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.