

S22 Day Paddles - St Johns River

Lake Cone Paddle Information Sheet

Description: Lake Cone is a 250 acre lake in the St Johns River Basin. The creeks going to and from the lake are mostly lined by natural grasses and vegetation, and some trees including cypress. There is a small hammock on the south end of the lake that is a popular picnic area for airboaters.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Distance/Approximate Time: 8.7 Miles/4 Hours

Launch Site: CR 50 Ramp

Takeout Site: Hatbill Park Ramp

Special Considerations: This paddle requires shuttling vehicles. Not recommended during periods of low water levels. A good map, compass and GPS recommended, especially paddling from the lake back to the river. A high airboat flag is recommended since this is airboat country and the grasses can limit visibility. This paddle requires shuttling vehicles.

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.