

## S22 Day Paddles - Upper ICW

### Upper Indian River Lagoon Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** This paddle explores the shoreline along the upper Indian River Lagoon at the mouth of Turnbull Creek and down along the impoundment past Onion Farm Island and Patillo Creek. Pattillo Creek is literally a "snap shot in time" in that around 1964, -just as a developer was transforming the shallow creek into canals to build homes upon; the land around Shiloh was confiscated via eminent domain by the United States Government to build Kennedy Space Center. The huge piles of sand and shell dredged from the Indian River and Pattillo Creek are still piled high upon the banks of the creek and the natural channel to the river remains, because the developer did not have the time to dig a deep channel for boat traffic. Except for the Cedar trees growing on the sandy Spoil, the area looks as if digging only stopped last week. Take-out is just past Pattillo Creek on your left.

**Skill Level:** Intermediate/Advanced

**Distance/Approximate Time:** 10.2 Miles/4.5 Hours

**Launch Site:** Scottsmoor Landing Ramp

**Takeout Site:** Live Oak Rd Paddle Launch

**Special Considerations:** This paddle requires vehicle shuttling. On windy days the upper Indian River Lagoon can get rough, especially with southerly winds.

#### 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.

