

## S24 Day Paddles - ICW

### Lower Pellicer Creek Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** Pellicer Creek, with its undisturbed salt marsh, is one of the most pristine estuarine/riverine systems along Florida's east coast. The creek presents a mostly easy paddle, although wind and tide can offer challenges at times in the lower section. Along the paddling trail between Faver-Dykes State Park and Princess Place Preserve, where you can stop and stretch, the creek is fairly wide, lined with marsh grass... no shade here! Wildlife include alligators, deer, bobcats, otter, birds (more than 100 species can be seen during migration season), and fish (fishing is popular especially on the flats to the east); manatee and dolphin are also seen.

**Skill Level:** Novice/Intermediate due to navigation issues near the mouth.

**Distance/Approximate Time:** 5.4 Miles

**Launch Site:** Faver-Dykes State Park Ramp

**Takeout Site:** River to Sea Preserve Park Paddle Access

**Special Considerations:** Best launching right at high tide. Good map, compass and GPS recommended. This paddle requires shuttling vehicles. Be mindful of boat traffic while crossing the Intracoastal. Entrance fee at Faver-Dykes State Park. No bathroom facilities at the takeout.

#### 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.