

## S25 Day Paddles - ICW

## Pablo Creek Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** This is a long paddle for the more experienced paddler about half of which is on the ICW. Fortunately, except for a few small residential developments, it is a fairly undeveloped stretch of the Intracoastal. The entrance to Pablo Creek is on the west side about 1 mile south of the Butler Blvd bridge. The creek winds through the marsh along the south side of the Pablo Creek Golf Course and the Deep Forest Airport. In fact, the south end of the airport runway is a couple hundred yards from where you will be paddling by. Return is the same way you came.

**Skill Level:** Advanced

**Distance/Approximate Time:** 13.4 Miles/6.5 Hours

**Launch Site:** Castaway Preserve Ramp

**Special Considerations:** Boat traffic along the ICW portion. There is a restaurant next to the boat ramp.

### 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.