

## S26ICW - Intracoastal Waterway Day Paddles

## Sawpit Creek to Dee Dee Bartels Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** This is a long paddle for the more experienced paddler. Except for Amelia City and Fernadina Beach on the north end, it is mostly undeveloped, with a large expanse of marsh bordering both sides. There is a great restaurant at the A1A Bridge on the west bank that has a roped off unused ramp for launching right next to it that you can land at. The landing at Dee Dee Bartels has a small beach landing on the north side of the ramp if you want to avoid the heavily used boat ramp. There is a short portage to the parking lot.

**Skill Level:** Advanced

**Distance/Approximate Time:** 14.3 Miles/6.5 Hours

**Launch Site:** Big Talbot Island State Park - Sawpit Creek Ramp

**Takeout Site:** Dee Dee Bartels Ramp

**Special Considerations:** This paddle requires shuttling vehicles. Strong tidal currents, best starting your paddle 3 hours before high tide. Heavy boat traffic ,especially on weekends. Both the launch site and takeout site have bathroom facilities.

### 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.