

## S29L Day Paddles - Lakes

### Lake Yale Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** Lake Yale, is the only large Harris Chain lake that is not accessible from the rest of the Harris Chain of Lakes. The Yale Canal connecting Lake Griffin was sealed off many years ago. Lake Yale is approximately five miles long and 3 miles wide at the center. The bottom is generally sandy. Boat traffic on the lake is minimal and the setting is generally private, which is it's appeal. Fishing pressure is much less than the rest of the chain, giving Lake Yale a reputation for quiet solitude. It size (1,041 acres), natural setting and natural surroundings are hard to beat. A extensive nature area is located on the north shore of Lake Yale. There are a few lakefront homes on Lake Yale along the south and west sides. Lake Yale is mostly surrounded by marshland and sandy hills

**Skill Level:** Intermediate

**Distance/Approximate Time:** 10.8 Miles/4.5 Hours

**Launch Site:** Thomas Landing Ramp

**Special Considerations:** None

#### 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 stokes 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.