

Coastal, Rivers and Blueways Trails

New River Trail - Leg 3**Gully Branch Campsite #4 to Pope Place Campsite #9 Information Sheet**

Description: Launch from Gully Branch Rec Area and paddle downstream. Once past the Gully Branch Bridge, there are no more bridges on this leg. Low water is not usually an issue from this point on, however you will soon start noticing tidal influence as well as increasing marsh. Continue south to Pope's Place campsite #9 on your right. This is a leisurely short paddle, and can be skipped if you are more adventurous and want to go all the way to Carrabelle which will give you a 16.5 mile paddle for the day.

Skill Level: Novice if stopping at Pope Place.

Intermediate if you continue to Carrabelle

Distance/Time: 6.2 Miles/Approximately 2.5 Hours

Launch Site: Gully Branch Rec Area Campsite #4

Campsite: Pope Place Campsite #9

Special Considerations: This is a Tate's Hell State Forest campsite and requires a permit. Contact the Tates Hell Forest Service office in Carrabelle (877) 879-3859) or Reserve America - Tates Hell - New River to reserve campsite/s.

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.