

## Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips - Suwannee Area

### Suwannee River Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** Launch is at Weeks Landing. Leave a vehicle at Munden Landing at take out. This is fairly long, nice down river paddle. Paddling from the launch site, one encounters two kinds of habitats. Where the current is strong, the river bank is relatively steep, and open water directly adjoins the cypresses, hardwoods and clumps of yellow asters (probably bur marigold). In other, shallower sites, emergent yellow pond lily, sawgrass and wild rice create diverse habitats that support a variety of fish and wildlife species.

**Skill Level:** Intermediate

**Distance/Time:** 8.7 Miles/Approximately 3.5 hours

**Launch Site:** Meet at Munden Creek Ramp and leave a vehicle. Head East on CR 349 3.2 Miles from the Community Center, turn right on SE 371<sup>st</sup> St. Veer right on SE 374<sup>th</sup> St and Munden ramp is at the end of the road. Then proceed to the launch site at Weeks Landing—9.7 miles east of the Community Center. Take a right at the fork and go to the end of the road on the river.

**Special Considerations:** This Paddle requires shuttling. This is the wide part of the river and can be difficult and rough if it's windy. Spray skirt recommended.

#### 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.