

## S24 Day Paddles - St Johns River Eastern Watershed

### Leg 4 Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** This a long stretch of the St Johns River for the more experienced paddler, and the last down river leg in Segment 24. The river at this point widens to about 3 miles max, which is about the river's widest point. There are no islands or bridges to pass on this stretch. About a third of the way along this trip you'll pass Cedar Creek on your left.

**Skill Level:** Advanced

**Distance/Approximate Time:** 11.4 Miles/6 Hours

**Launch Site:** Palmetto Bluff Ramp

**Takeout Site:** Williams Park Paddle Launch

**Special Considerations:** Best paddled on an outgoing tide. This paddle requires shuttling vehicles. There are no amenities at the launch site, but there are bathroom facilities at the takeout site. Be careful of the boat traffic in the river and stay close to the shoreline. Increased river width can be a safety concern on windy days.

#### 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.