Kayak & Canoe CAMPING Okefenokee

National Wildlife Refuge

by Scott Lynch



Always a favorite spot to snap a pic! Entrance to the National Wilderness Area on the Orange Trail, 1.5 miles beyond the Suwannee Canal Recreation Area.

Front cover: Kayak/canoe camping at Cedar Hammock.

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Group of kayakers on a multi-day Okefenokee camping adventure! Pink Trail.

This book is distributed with the understanding that the author assumes no legal responsibility for the completeness or accuracy of this information, nor for any injuries or damages incurred while attempting any of the activities or visiting any of the destinations described within it. The text is based on information available at the time of publication. Always paddle, camp and adventure at your own risk!

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BLAZE LLC, www.BlazeThatTrail.com P.O. Box 70291, N. Charleston, SC 29415 Contact the author at slynch@blazethattrail.com.

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(in alphabetical order) Paddled	
Blue Trail2	2 🗖
Brown Trail2	4 🔲
Green Trail2	_
Orange Trail2	_
Pink Trail3	
Purple Trail3	_
Red Trail3	5
Yellow Trail4	0 🗖
Paddle Camping Sites	
(in alphabetical order) Camped	
Big Water4	4 🗆
Bluff Lake4	6 🗆
Canal Run4	8 🗖
Cedar Hammock5	0 🗖
Floyds Island5	2 🗖
Maul Hammock5	
Mixons Hammock5	6 🔲
Monkey Lake5	8 🔲
Round Top6	0 🗖
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INTRODUCTION

ABOUT this GUIDEBOOK & Your Trip

If you're looking for information on the history of the Okefenokee, or a deep dive into the regional flora and fauna, look elsewhere. Let's face it, while that type of information has its place, when you're on the water in a strange, far-from-home wilderness, you want to know where to paddle, how long it should take, what to expect along the way, and where to pitch your tent or hammock for the night. This is what you'll get with this book. What follows is intentionally concise, written by an experienced paddle-camper for other paddle-campers.

Although you don't have to be an expert, tenured paddle-camper to venture into the Okefenokee, it should not be your first trip of this type, and you must do your homework. A backcountry wilderness trip requires study and preparation, reading guidebooks, pouring over maps, talking to Refuge staff, watching videos and checking weather reports. **Bottom line - be prepared. Be overprepared.** You should always assume you're not going to have cell phone service, and no one is coming to save you - at least not right away!

SAFTEY CONCERNS in the Okefenokee

Primary safety concerns are the same as any other type of outdoor activity:

- Bring more drinking and cooking water than you think you'll need. Due to heavy sediments and high tannic acid, filtering/ purifying Okefenokee swamp water is not recommended.
- Have ample protection from sun exposure sunblock, long sleeve shirt, long pants and wide brim hat.
- · Biting insects can be formidable, even in cooler months.
- Share your put-in/take-out location, paddling route, launch and return times with family and friends.
- It's always a good idea to bring a buddy along with you. Share your awesome Okefenokee experience with someone else.
- Do your homework on the route, conditions and where you're camping. Know how to use and practice with your gear.
- Be prepared for long, arduous days of paddling and sitting in your kayak/canoe. Once you get on the water, there are not many places to get out, stretch your legs or use the bathroom.

Alligators

Without fail, alligators are the number one concern asked about when discussing Okefenokee with newcomers. Let's get one thing out of the way: you will see alligators. There are lots of them. However, after thousands of miles paddled in the deep Southeast and the Okefenokee, I can assure you that alligators are not a concern.

Here's the best advice I can give you: just don't make a big deal about alligators. They don't want anything to do with you. Use common sense. Treat alligators with the upmost respect. Never feed an alligator, or any wildlife! Never approach them on purpose, and just paddle on by, giving them the widest berth possible. You will be fine

PFD's or "Life Jackets," and Whistles

Georgia law states each person must have a Personal Flotation Device (PFD or "life jacket") in the kayak or canoe. Children under 13 are required to wear their PFD when in a kayak or canoe. It's recommended that everyone always wears a PFD when paddling. In addition, it's recommended that each person have an emergency whistle attached to their PFD.

Water Levels & Currents

Rising water levels and extreme low waters can be a concern for some Okefenokee trails; low waters - especially on the east/northeast side of the Refuge in colder months. The Refuge authorities will close waterways at times and/or advise about water level concerns. Be sure to ask about this when making camping reservations and call a few days before your trip to check water levels.

The water is moving and there are slight currents in the Okefenokee. Although it is not usually too much of an issue, depending on water levels and recent storms, currents can be challenging on some narrow trails. Know your paddling limits and study the trail descriptions on pages 22 - 41.

CAMPING PERMITS

There are nine backcountry, waterway-camping locations in the Okefenokee. Seven of these are on platforms built over the water and two are on islands / land. Camping permits can be made for anywhere from one to four nights. One and two night permits are only available during peak season, which is March 1 - April 30.

To Make a RESERVATION: Call 912-496-3331 between 7 a.m. and 10 a.m., Tuesday through Thursday EST, excluding federal holidays. Reservations can be made 2 months in advance and can only be made by phone. Fees are charged for camping.

Before calling for a camping permit, you must set up a profile in **Recreation.gov**. Only one party is allowed to camp at a site for a night, and permits are limited to 20 people. Only canoes and/or kayaks are authorized on overnight wilderness camping trips; no motors of any type are allowed. Pets and swimming are prohibited. Leave no trace; pack it in, pack it out.

Open fires are permitted only at Canal Run, Mixons Hammock and Floyds Island. Fire rings are provided at these sites.

Camping rules and permit fees are subject to change. Review camping information on this webpage before you call the Refuge:

fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee/visit-us/activities/camping



Kayak camping at Monkey Lake.

Distances Between Campsites, Boat Ramps

Paddling distances are accurate within +/- 0.75 mile. See Refuge map on pages 12 - 13 and paddling routes from boat ramps on pages 19 - 20.

Suwannee Canal Recreation Area (SCRA) boat ramp to:

	<u>miles</u>
Cedar Hammock	_3
Monkey Lake	8
Canal Run	
Floyds Island	_13*
Round Top	_12*
SFSP	17 (not recommended in 1 day)

Stephen C. Foster State Park (SFSP) boat ramp to:

	<u>miles</u>
Mixons Hammock	2
Big Water	11*
Canal Run	
Floyds Island	9
Billys Island (hiking, picnic)	2
Minnies Lake	4
Round Top	
SCRA	

Kingfisher Landing (KF) boat ramp to:

	miles
Bluff Lake	8
Maul Hammock	12*

Big Water CAMPING to:

	miles
Stephen C. Foster State Park	11
Maul Hammock	9
Floyds Island	8
Mixons Hammock	13*

Bluff Lake CAMPING to:

	miles
Kingfisher Landing	8

DISTANCES

Floyds Island Round Top Canal Run	12*
Canal Run CAMPING to:	
Stephen C. Foster S.P. Suwannee Canal R.A. Round Top Floyds Island Cedar Hammock Monkey Lake Bluff Lake Mixons Hammock	10 3 or 6 5 9 13*
Cedar Hammock CAMPING to:	
Suwannee Canal R.A. Monkey Lake Canal Run Round Top Floyds Island	.7 _9 _11
Floyds Island CAMPING to:	
Suwannee Canal R.A. Stephen C. Foster S.P. Canal Run Round Top Big Water Bluff Lake Cedar Hammock Mixons Hammock	9 5 6 8 9 13*
Maul Hammock CAMPING to:	
Kingfisher Landing Big Water	miles 12* 9

Mixons Hammock CAMPING to:

	miles
Stephen C. Foster S.P.	2
Big Water	13*
Canal Run	_9
Floyds Island	_11

Monkey Lake CAMPING to:

	miles
Suwannee Canal R.A.	8
Cedar Hammock	7
Canal Run	13*
Round Top	15*

Round Top CAMPING to:

	miles
Suwannee Canal R.A.	12*
Cedar Hammock	
Floyds Island	6
Canal Run	3 or 6
Bluff Lake	12*
Stephen C. Foster S.P.	
Monkey Lake	15*

^{*}Only recommended for the strongest paddlers due to distance and/or water currents. Start your paddling day early.

Driving Distances Between Boat Ramps

See Refuge map on pages 12 - 13.

SCRA: Suwannee Canal Recreation Area SFSP: Stephen C. Foster State Park

KF: Kingfisher Landing

SCRA ←→ SFSP: 73 miles; 1 hr., 15 minutes

SCRA ←→ KF: 25 miles; 30 minutes

SFSP ←→ KF: 90 miles; 1 hr., 30 minutes

Overnight Camping Itineraries

The routes below are the most popular and do not represent a comprehensive list of the camping options available. Many trips can be done in reverse or exiting from a different part of the Refuge. Use these itineraries as a starting point, study the map on pages 12-13, and be aware of your group's limitations. Trips longer than two nights are not available during the peak season of March 1 - April 30. Paddling distances are accurate within +/- 0.75 mile.

SCRA: Suwannee Canal Recreation Area SFSP: Stephen C. Foster State Park

KF: Kingfisher Landing

ONE NIGHT TRIPS

Enter	Miles	Camp Miles		<u>Exit</u>
SCRA	10	Canal Run	10	SCRA
SFSP	7	Canal Run	7	SFSP
SCRA	12	Round Top	12	SCRA
SCRA	8	Monkey Lake	. 8	SCRA
SCRA	13	Floyds Island	13	SCRA
SFSP	9	Floyds Island	9	SFSP
SCRA		Cedar Hammock	3	SCRA
SFSP	11	Big Water	11	SFSP
SFSP	2	_Mixons Hammock_	2	SFSP
KF	. 8	Bluff Lake	8	KF
KF	12	Maul Hammock	12	KF

TWO NIGHT TRIPS

Enter	Miles	Camp 1	Miles	Camp 2	<u>Miles</u>	Exit
SCRA	12	Round Top	6 or 3	Canal Run	10	SCRA
SCRA	12	Round Top	6 or 3	Canal Run	7	SFSP
SCRA	12	Round Top	11	Cedar Hmck	3	SCRA
SFSP_	9	Floyds Island	5	Canal Run	_10	SCRA
SCRA	13	Floyds Island	5	Canal Run	_7	SFSP
SCRA	88	Monkey Lake_	7	_Cedar Hmck	.3	SCRA
SFSP_	2	Mixons Hmck_	9	Canal Run	10	SCRA
SFSP	2	Mixons Hmck_	9	Canal Run	7	SFSP
SFSP	9	Floyds Island	6	Round Top	12	SCRA
SCRA	13	Floyds Island	6	Round Top	12	SCRA
SFSP_	2	Mixons Hmck	_11	Floyds Island	9	SFSP
SFSP_	2	Mixons Hmck	_11	Floyds Island	_13	SCRA
KF	12	Maul Hmck	9	Big Water	11	SFSP
KF	8	Bluff Lake	12	Round Top	12	SCRA

CAMPING PERMITS
call 912-496-3331
Tues.-Thurs., 7 a.m.-10 a.m. EST

Overnight Camping Itineraries

SCRA: Suwannee Canal Recreation Area SFSP: Stephen C. Foster State Park

KF: Kingfisher Landing

THREE NIGHT TRIPS**

<u>Enter</u>	M	Camp 1	M	Camp 2	M	Camp 3	M	<u>Exit</u>
SCRA	3	_Cdr Hmck	11	Round Top	_6 or 3	Canal Run	10	SCRA
SCRA	88	Mnky Lake	13	Canal Run	9	Cdr Hmck	3	SCRA
SCRA	8	Mnky Lake	13	Canal Run	6 or 3	Round Top	12	SCRA
SCRA	12	Round Top	11	Cdr Hmck	7	Mnky Lake	88	SCRA
SCRA	12	Round Top	6 or 3	Canal Run	9	Cdr Hmck	3	SCRA
SCRA	10	Canal Run	_6 or 3	Round Top	6	Floyds IsInd	13_	SCRA
SFSP_	7	Canal Run	_6 or 3	Round Top	6	Floyds IsInd	9	SFSP
SFSP_	9	Floyds Islno	1.8	Big Water	13	Mix Hmck	2	SFSP
KF	12	Maul Hmck	9	Big Water	8	Floyds Isnd	13	SCRA
KF	8	Bluff Lake_	12	Round Top_	_11	Cdr Hmck	3	SCRA

^{**3} and 4 night trips not available during peak season of March 1 - April 30.

Four night trips can be expedition level, require a lot of planning, and should only be attempted by the most tenured paddle-campers. Contact the Refuge and/or its website for more information on these longer itineraries:

fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee/visit-us/activities/camping

Day Paddling Itineraries

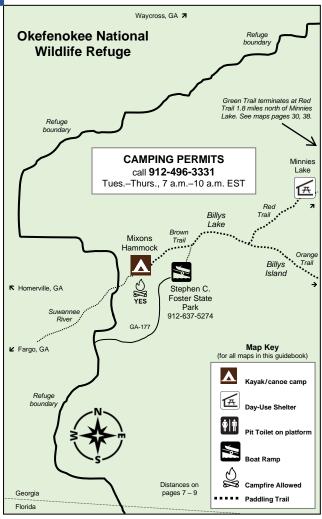
SCRA: Suwannee Canal Recreation Area SFSP: Stephen C. Foster State Park

KF: Kingfisher Landing

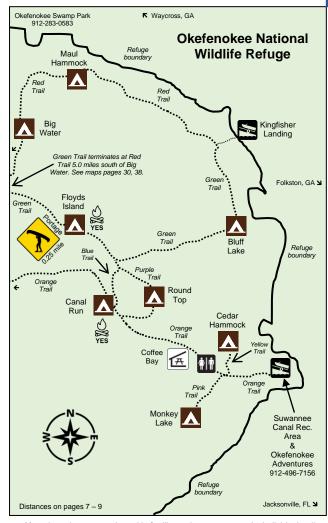
The Refuge is best visited on overnight paddle camping trips, however, you can day paddle 2 - 10 miles from the boat ramps to experience a variety of the swamp. The distances below are roundtrip.

Enter	Miles	<u>Destination</u>
SCRA	2 - 8	Paddle the beautiful Suwannee Canal (pgs. 16, 28).
SCRA	4 - 8	_Paddle to the Yellow or Pink trail, turn on either trail to
		experience a water prairie/grassland (pgs. 32, 40).
SFSP	4	_Billys Island for hiking or a picnic (p. 67).
SFSP	8	_Have lunch at Minnies Lake day-use shelter (p. 65).
SFSP	2 - 6	Enjoy open water and photography on Billys Lake (p. 12).
KF	_1 - 5	Do some remote fishing where you're not likely to
		see anyone else (p. 18).

WEST Side



Map above is not to scale and is for illustrative purposes only. Individual trail maps and descriptions are on pages 21 - 41. Additional camping information can be found at: fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee/visit-us/activities/camping.



Map above is not to scale and is for illustrative purposes only. Individual trail maps and descriptions are on pages 21 - 41. For more information on the Floyds Island portage, see pages 26 - 27 and 52 - 53.

Like this book? See it in full color. There's a companion website!

www.PaddleOkefenokee.com



Top and middle left: kayaking Pink Trail. Top right: Round Top camping. Bottom: kayaking the Orange Trail/Suwannee Canal.

Okefenokee NWR



Rental canoes at the Suwannee Canal Recreation Area.



Suwannee Canal Recreation Area



A fun place to snap a pic! Beginning of the Suwannee Canal at the SCRA.

East side of the Refuge. General Location See map on page 13.

4159 Suwannee Canal Road, Folkston, GA Address

31537.

30°44'17.5"N. 82°08'27.9"W or **GPS Coordinates** for Boat Ramp

30.738197, -82.141092

Folkston, GA - 10 miles; 15 minutes Close-by Towns Waycross, GA - 45 miles; 50 minutes with Services

Kingsland, GA - 30 miles; 40 minutes Jacksonville, FL - 50 miles; 1 hour

Abbreviated "SCRA." Okefenokee Adventures Notes

> is located here. They are a partner with the Refuge's Visitor Services, provide tours, canoe rentals, and manage the backcountry camping reservations/permits. There's a gift shop, supplies, small restaurant and restrooms.

Must sign in/out at boat ramp.

Okefenokee Adventures 912-496-7156.

Stephen C. Foster State Park





Launching from Stephen C. Foster State Park.

General West side of the Refuge. **Location** See map on page 12.

with Services

Address 17515 GA-177, Fargo, GA 31631.

GPS Coordinates 30°49'36.2"N, 82°21'41.6"W or **for Boat Ramp** 30.826731, -82.361551

Close-by Towns Homerville, GA - 45 miles; 50 minutes

Waycross, GA - 72 miles; 1 hour, 15 minutes Jacksonville, FL - 90 miles; 1 hour, 30 minutes

Fargo, GA - 19 miles; 25 minutes.

Notes Abbreviated "SFSP." Paddling access to the

Refuge at the end of Stephen C. Foster State Park's road. Has a gift shop, limited supplies, canoe rentals and restrooms. Campground and cottage rentals. Must sign in/out at boat ramp.

Stephen C. Foster State Park 912-637-5274.



Kingfisher Landing



Great signage at the entrance to Kingfisher Landing.

General Northeast side of the Refuge.

Location See map on page 13.

Address at end of Kingfisher Landing Road, Folkston,

GA 31537.

 $\textbf{GPS Coordinates} \quad 30^{\circ}57'17.2"N, \, 82^{\circ}08'14.9"W \, \, \text{or} \\$

for Boat Ramp 30.954774, -82.137460

Close-by Towns with Services Folkston, GA - 13 miles; 20 minutes Waycross, GA - 24 miles; 30 minutes Kingsland, GA - 32 miles; 40 minutes

Jacksonville, FL - 55 miles; 1 hour, 10 minutes

Notes Abbreviated "KF." No services or visitor center

located here. There is a pit/vault toilet here. Provides access to Bluff Lake camping (8 mile paddle) and Maul Hammock camping (a long 12 mile paddle). Must sign in/out at boat ramp.

Okefenokee Swamp Park is 25 minutes away

from here: 912-283-0583.

Routes: Boat Ramps to Campsites



Suwannee Canal Recreation Area (SCRA) to:

Cedar Hammock - route map p. 41, campsite information p. 50

- From the boat ramp, paddle 1.9 miles west on the Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal.
- 2. Turn right on the Yellow Trail.
- 3. Paddle 0.9 mile further on the Yellow Trail and arrive at Cedar Hammock.

Monkey Lake - route map p. 33, campsite information p. 58

- From the boat ramp, paddle 1.9 miles west on the Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal to signage / split in trail. Bear left.
- 2. Continue another 1,000 ft. and turn left on Pink Trail.
- 3. Paddle 5.2 miles further on the Pink Trail and arrive at Monkey Lake.

Round Top - route map p. 23, campsite information p. 60

- 1. From the boat ramp, paddle 1.9 miles west on the Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal to signage / split in trail. Bear right.
- 2. Pass by Coffee Bay Day-Use Shelter in 3.8 miles further.
- 3. Continue 3.3 miles. Turn right on the Purple Trail.
- 4. Paddle 2.4 miles further and arrive at Round Top.

Canal Run - route maps pp. 27, 30, campsite information p. 48

- From the boat ramp, paddle 1.9 miles west on the Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal to signage / split in trail. Bear right.
- 2. Pass by Coffee Bay Day-Use Shelter in 3.8 miles further.
- 3. Continue 4.2 miles further and arrive at Canal Run on the left.

Floyds Island - route maps pp. 27, 30, campsite information p. 52

- 1. From the boat ramp, paddle 1.9 miles west on the Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal to signage / split in trail. Bear right.
- 2. Pass by Coffee Bay Day-Use Shelter in 3.8 miles further.
- 3. Continue 4.1 miles. Bear right on the Blue Trail.
- 4. After 0.4 mile (2,000 ft.), bear right to continue the Blue Trail.
- 5. Blue Trail intersects with Purple Trail in 1.4 miles. Continue straight.
- 6. Intersection with Green Trail is 0.8 mile further. Continue straight.
- 7. In 1.0 mile further, arrive at Floyds Island EAST access.

Stephen C. Foster State Park (SFSP) to:

Mixons Hammock - route map p. 25, campsite information p. 56

- 1. From the boat ramp, paddle north up the canal away from the park.
- 2. After 2,000 ft., at the end of the canal, turn left on Brown Trail.
- 3. Paddle 1.5 miles on Brown Trail and arrive at Mixons Hammock on the right.



Routes: Boat Ramps to Campsites

Stephen C. Foster State Park (SFSP) to:

Floyds Island - route map p. 30, campsite information p. 52

- 1. From the boat ramp, paddle north up the canal away from park.
- 2. After 2,000 ft., at the end of the canal, turn right.
- 3. Paddle the wide, river-like waterway east for 1.1 miles.
- Turn left on the Red Trail.
- 5. Pass by Minnies Lake Day-Use Shelter in 2.4 miles further.
- 6. Continue another 1.8 miles. Turn right on the Green Trail.
- 7. In 3.1 miles further, arrive at Floyds Island WEST access.

Big Water - route map p. 38, campsite information p. 44

- 1. From the boat ramp, paddle north up the canal away from park.
- 2. After 2,000 ft., at the end of the canal, turn right.
- 3. Paddle the wide, river-like waterway east for 1.1 miles.
- 4. Turn left on the Red Trail.
- 5. Pass by Minnies Lake Day-Use Shelter in 2.4 miles further.
- 6. Continue another 6.8 miles and arrive at Big Water.

Canal Run - route map p. 30, campsite information p. 48

- 1. From the boat ramp, paddle north up the canal away from park.
- 2. After 2,000 ft., at the end of the canal, turn right.
- Paddle the wide, river-like waterway east, passing by Billys Island in 1.75 miles.
- After passing Billys Island, the trail significantly narrows, with many tight twists and turns.
- Paddle 5.3 miles further and arrive at Canal Run.

Kingfisher Landing (KF) to:

Bluff Lake - route map p. 27, campsite information p. 46

- From the boat ramp, paddle southwest on the Red Trail nearly 1.0 mile to the intersection with Green Trail.
- Turn left on the Green Trail and continue another 7 miles, arriving at Bluff Lake.

Maul Hammock - route map p. 38, campsite information p. 54

- From the boat ramp, paddle southwest on the Red Trail nearly 1.0 mile to the intersection with Green Trail.
- Continue straight, heading northwest on the Red Trail.
- Paddle for another 11 miles and arrive at Maul Hammock.

Okefenokee NWR



The eight wilderness paddling trails are color-coded. Numbered mile markers are on each trail and there are posts painted white on top to serve as trail markers. At trail intersections, there's good signage pointing to other trails, campsites and points of interest. In general, the paddling trails are easy to follow. GPS coordinates are provided for all trail intersections.

Pictured above: Green Trail, east of Floyds Island.



Blue Trail -

Ш	Paddled this Trail	Date:	



Heather Totten on the shaded part of the Blue Trail, north of the Suwannee Canal.

General East-central part of Refuge, skirts the edges of Location

the Chase Prairie. Runs south ←→ north

direction.

Orange Trail with Purple Trail and Green Trail. Connects

2.6 miles. Length

Easy. Difficulty

Prairies, grasslands, trees on west side, great Features

place to see alligators and large wading birds.

No shelters on the Blue Trail, however, nearby Shelters

are Canal Run, Round Top and Floyds Island

campsites.

Negligible. Closer to the Orange Trail, there can Current

be a slight current south.

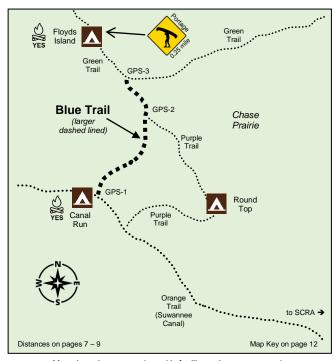
Precautions You're exposed to the elements after

approximately three-quarters of a mile north of

the Suwannee Canal.

Blue Trail Map





Map above is not to scale and is for illustrative purposes only.

- GPS-1: Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal intersection 30°48'51.0"N, 82°15'02.6"W or 30.814165, -82.250723
- GPS-2: Purple Trail intersection 30°50'07.4"N, 82°14'50.8"W or 30.835384, -82.247456
- GPS-3: Green Trail intersection 30°50'43.8"N, 82°15'11.5"W or 30.845498, -82.253180



Brown Trail —

☐ Paddled this Trail	Date:	
	Date.	



On the Brown Trail, heading for a night at Mixons Hammock.

General	West side of Refuge near Stephen C. Foster

Location State Park.

Connects Billys Lake, SFSP, provides access to Mixons

Hammock. Can also reach the Suwannee River

Sill through the River Narrows.

Length 5 miles.

Difficulty Easy to Mixons Hammock, moderate through

the River Narrows.

Features Wider lake type paddling, mixed cypress trees,

bay and gum swamp.

Shelters Mixons Hammock and easy access to Stephen

C. Foster State Park.

Current Gently flows in southwest direction toward the

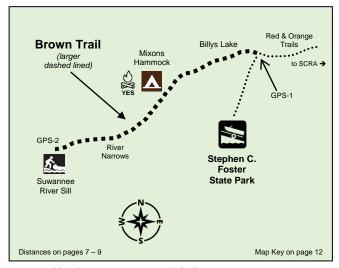
Suwannee River.

Precautions Potential for downed trees and other submerged

obstacles in the River Narrows section.

Brown Trail Map





Map above is not to scale and is for illustrative purposes only.

GPS-1: Intersection with canal heading to Stephen Foster State Park 30°49'54.3"N, 82°21'36.9"W or 30.831743, -82.360253

GPS-2: Suwannee River Sill 30°48'12.8"N, 82°25'03.6"W or 30.803546, -82.417669



Green Trail

dled this Trail Da



Pushing through winter low water levels of the Green Trail, east of Floyds Island.

General Northeast to middle part of Refuge.

Connects Kingfisher Landing to Bluff Lake camping, to

east of Floyds Island, then a 0.25 mile portage across Floyds Island, then west of Floyds Island

to the Red Trail.

Length Nearly 20 miles.

Difficulty Moderate to difficult, due to remoteness, length

and often lower water levels in winter.

Features Prairies, grasslands, few trees east of Floyds

Island, dense tree/swamp-like cover west of

Floyds Island.

Shelters Bluff Lake camping platform, Floyds Island.

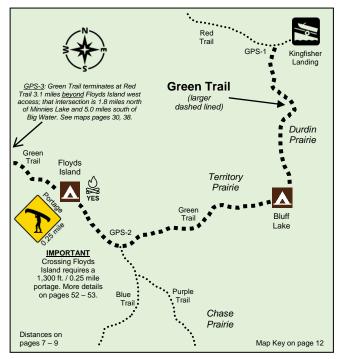
Current Generally flows southwest.

Precautions You're exposed to the elements for most of the

paddle from Bluff Lake to Floyds Island.

Green Trail Map





Map above is not to scale and is for illustrative purposes only. The Floyds Island portage is not difficult. A portage cart is provided.

- GPS-1: Red Trail intersection EAST (near Kingfisher Landing) 30°57'16.0"N, 82°09'06.7"W or 30.954456, -82.151847
- GPS-2: Blue Trail intersection 30°50'43.8"N, 82°15'11.5"W or 30.845498, -82.253180
- GPS-3: Red Trail intersection WEST (not shown on map above) 30°52'31.8"N, 82°18'09.1"W or 30.875492, -82.302518



Orange Trail -

Paddled this Trail	Date:	
raudieu illis Itali	Date.	



Paddling the beautiful Orange Trail, a couple miles beyond the SCRA.

General It's the long trail that cuts across the Refuge in Location east ←→ west direction. Includes the Suwannee

Canal.

Connects Suwannee Canal Recreation Area to nearly

Stephen C. Foster State Park. Connects to the Yellow, Pink, Blue, Purple, and Red trails.

Length 16 miles.

Difficulty Moderate to Canal Run, due to distance.

Moderate to difficult from Canal Run to Billys

Lake.

Features 11 miles of canal, then narrow twists/turns from

Canal Run to Billys Island. Lots of tall, eerie,

picturesque trees with Spanish moss.

Shelters 5.6 miles from Suwannee Canal Rec. Area is

Coffee Bay day-use only shelter. Canal Run camping platform is 10 miles from Suwannee Canal Recreation Area. Can get out at Billys Island to stretch your legs and have lunch.

Orange Trail



Current Gently flows west towards Stephen C. Foster

State Park.

Precautions During times of low water levels, the narrow

twists/turns between Canal Run and Billys

Island can be difficult.

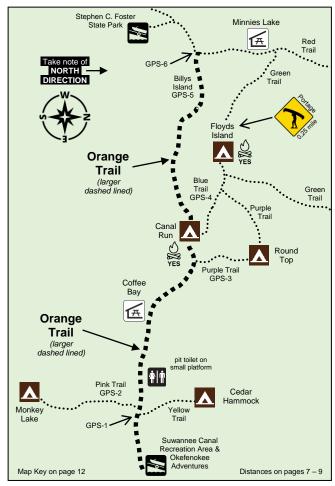


It's all smiles on the easy-going Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal.

- GPS-1: Yellow Trail intersection (turn for Cedar Hammock camp) 30°44'14.8"N, 82°10'14.7"W or 30.737442, -82.170742
- GPS-2: Beginning of Pink Trail (turn for Monkey Lake camp) 30°44'14.0"N, 82°10'29.3"W or 30.737230, -82.174807
- GPS-3: Purple Trail intersection (turn for Round Top camp) 30°48'13.8"N, 82°14'50.2"W or 30.803840, -82.247265
- GPS-4: Blue Trail intersection (turn to head towards Floyds Island camp) 30°48'51.0"N, 82°15'02.6"W or 30.814165, -82.250723
- GPS-5: Billys Island access (on south side of Orange Trail) 30°49'53.3"N, 82°19'57.9"W or 30.831474, -82.332757
- GPS-6: Red Trail intersection 30°50'05.5"N, 82°20'35.4"W or 30.834862, -82.343155



Orange Trail Map -



GPS coordinates for trail intersections on previous page.

This map is rotated 90°, with NORTH pointed towards book spine ->

Orange Trail





Early morning on the Orange Trail, near the intersection with the Purple Trail.



Narrow creek-like waters of Orange Trail between Canal Run and Billys Island.



Pink Trail —

Paddled this Trail Date:



Canoe campers heading towards Monkey Lake on the Pink Trail.

General East part of Refuge in Chesser Prairie, begins Location 2.0 miles from Suwannee Canal Recreation Area.

Connects Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal with Monkey

Lake camping platform.

Length 5 miles.

Difficulty Moderate.

Features Iconic open prairies, grasslands, some trees,

great place to see alligators and large wading

birds.

Shelters At the end of trail is the Monkey Lake camping

platform.

Current Generally flows towards Suwannee Canal.

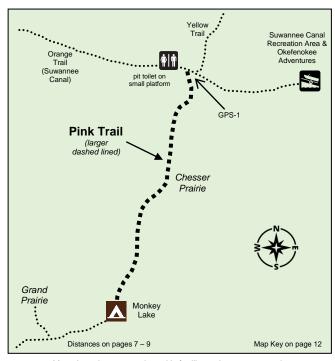
Precautions There is little reprieve from the sun or wind. Due

to the length and repetitiveness of the open prairie, it can often seem much longer than 5

miles.

Pink Trail Map





Map above is not to scale and is for illustrative purposes only.

GPS-1: Beginning of Pink Trail 30°44'14.0"N, 82°10'29.3"W or 30.737230, -82.174807



Purple Trail —

Paddled this Trail	Date:	
	Date.	



The Purple Trail is a great place for bird photography.

General East-central part of Refuge, skirts the edges of

Location the Chase Prairie.

Connects Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal with the Blue

Trail and Green Trail, which heads to Floyds Island in northwest direction, and Bluff Lake in

northeast direction.

Length 5.4 miles.

Difficulty Easy to moderate.

Features Prairies, grasslands, very few trees, great place

to see alligators and large wading birds.

Shelters Round Top camping platform.

Current Generally flows northwest, towards Floyds

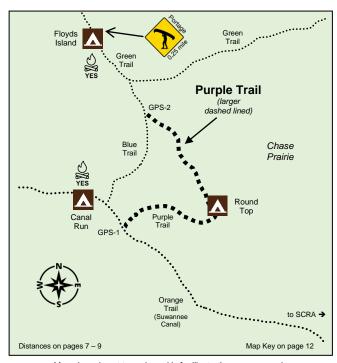
Island direction.

Precautions You're exposed to the elements on this trail.

There is no reprieve from the sun or wind.

Purple Trail Map





Map above is not to scale and is for illustrative purposes only.

GPS-1: Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal intersection 30°48'13.8"N, 82°14'50.2"W or 30.803840, -82.247265

GPS-2: Blue Trail intersection 30°50'07.4"N, 82°14'50.8"W or 30.835384, -82.247456



Red Trail _

Paddled this Trail	Date:		
--------------------	-------	--	--



On the Red Trail between Minnies Lake and Big Water.

General Covers the remote north part of the Refuge,
Location Suwannee River watershed, heads southwest to

west-central part of the Refuge.

Connects Begins at Kingfisher Landing, ends at Billys

Lake and access to Stephen C. Foster State

Park.

Length 32 miles.

Difficulty Very strenuous. Long days of paddling on this

trail.

Features Just about every type of feature in the Refuge;

prairies, grasslands, wide river basin, narrow twisties, gorgeous cypress trees. You'll

experience it all on this trail!

Shelters Maul Hammock, Big Water, Minnies Lake day-

use shelter.

Red Trail



Current Generally flows south, in the direction of the

Suwannee River.

Precautions For experienced paddlers and campers only.

Paddling the entire Red Trail requires a minimum of 2 nights / 3 long days.
Route: Stephen C. Foster State Park, to Big Water, to Maul Hammock, to Kingfisher

Landing.

Go Big! Try the ultimate Okefenokee, expedition-level,

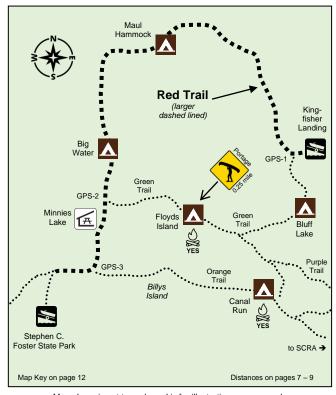
winter 4 night loop beginning and ending at Kingfisher Landing, by adding the Green Trail. Route: Kingfisher, to Maul Hammock, to Big Water, to Floyds Island, portage across Floyds Island, then on to Bluff Lake, back to Kingfisher. (Note: not allowed during peak season of March

1 - April 30.)



Interesting cypress "knee" on the Red Trail, paddling north towards Minnies Lake.

Red Trail Map



Map above is not to scale and is for illustrative purposes only.

- GPS-1: Green Trail intersection EAST (near Kingfisher Landing) 30°57'16.0"N, 82°09'06.7"W or 30.954456, -82.151847
- GPS-2: Green Trail intersection WEST (1.8 miles north of Minnies Lake) 30°52'31.8"N, 82°18'09.1"W or 30.875492, -82.302518
- GPS-3: Orange Trail intersection 30°50'05.5"N. 82°20'35.4"W or 30.834862. -82.343155

Red Trail





One of the "locals" hanging out on the Red Trail, near Big Water. American Alligator.



Wider section of the Red Trail. Big Water camp in lower right of photo.



Yellow Trail

☐ Paddled this Trail	Date:	
	Date.	



Kayak angler Harvey Cox, on the Yellow Trail, a little north of Cedar Hammock.

General East part of Refuge, begins 1.9 miles from Suwannee Canal Recreation Area.

Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal with Cedar

Hammock camping platform.

Length 2 miles.

Difficulty Easy.

Connects

Features Prairies, grasslands, very few trees, you'll

probably see large wading birds, and maybe an

alligator or two.

Shelters 0.9 mile up the trail is the Cedar Hammock

camping platform.

Current Negligible. Closer to the Orange Trail, there can

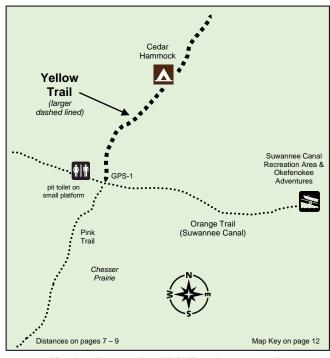
be a slight current south.

Precautions You are exposed to the elements on this trail;

however, Cedar Hammock is not far away.

Yellow Trail Map





Map above is not to scale and is for illustrative purposes only.

GPS-1: Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal intersection 30°44'14.8"N, 82°10'14.7"W or 30.737442, -82.170742

Like this book? See it in full color. There's a companion website!

www.PaddleOkefenokee.com



Top left: Milky Way, photographed from Cedar Hammock. Middle left: Great Blue Heron. Top right: kayaking Pink Trail. Bottom: family canoeists on Orange Trail/Suwannee Canal.

Okefenokee NWR



Kayak and canoe camping on Cedar Hammock.



Big Water Camping

Camped Here Date:



The author's favorite campsite - Big Water platform on the Red Trail.

General Location

North-central part of Refuge. See maps on pages 13, 38. Paddling route on page 20.

Trail

Red Trail.

GPS Coordinates for Campsite

30°56'12.1"N. 82°16'47.1"W or

30.936701, -82.279736

Type of Camping

Wood platform over water. No dry land.

Mileage to Other Points of Interest SFSP - 11 miles

Maul Hammock - 9 miles Floyds Island - 8 miles

Camp-to-camp directions on p. 89

Minnies Lake day-use shelter - 6.8 miles Mixons Hammock - 13 miles Green Trail intersection - 5 miles

Notes

Great views of the waterway. Beautiful paddle with lots of variety when coming from SFSP. Fantastic sunset/sunrise photo opportunities. This campsite takes a lot of effort to get to, is remote, and very much feels that way. Has vault/pit toilet.

- 44 -

Big Water Camping





Reaching Big Water after a long day of paddling from Stephen C. Foster State Park.



Dusk at the Big Water camping platform. Facing south direction.



Bluff Lake Camping

Camped Here



Canoe campers at Bluff Lake in spring, on the Green Trail. Photo source: Google Maps.

Northeast part of Refuge. See maps on General Location pages 13, 27. Paddling route on page 20.

Green Trail. Trail

30°52'41.5"N. 82°09'02.2"W or **GPS Coordinates** 30.878193, -82.150608 for Campsite

Wood platform over water. No dry land. Type of Camping

Mileage to Other Points of Interest

> Camp-to-camp directions on p. 88 If coming from Kingfisher Landing, paddle

Kingfisher Landing - 8 miles Floyds Island - 9 miles Round Top - 12 miles Canal Run - 11 miles

400-ft. across Bluff Lake (the actual lake / body of water), and the Bluff Lake shelter is Notes

0.1 mile further southwest. At night, to the southeast, you'll see some faint Folkston, GA

lights. Has vault/pit toilet.

Bluff Lake Camping





The Bluff Lake camping platform backs up to tall grasslands. Photo source: Google Maps.



Sign on the Green Trail, showing the way to Bluff Lake camping.



Canal Run Camping

Camped Here	Doto:	
	Date.	



Canal Run camping platform in late Fall. This campsite backs up land.

General Middle-central part of Refuge. See maps on pages 13, 30. Paddling routes on pages 19, 20.

Trail Orange Trail.

GPS Coordinates 30°48'55.6"N, 82°15'10.5"W or **for Campsite** 30.815433, -82.252917

Type of Camping Wood platform. Half of the platform is over the

water, backs up to and has access to land.

Mileage to Other SFSP - 7 miles, SCRA - 10 miles
Points of Interest Round Top - 3 or 6 miles

Round Top - 3 or 6 miles Floyds Island - 5 miles Cedar Hammock - 9 miles Mixons Hammock - 9 miles

Monkey Lake - 13 miles, Billys Island - 5.3 miles Bluff Lake - 11 miles, Coffee Bay - 4.2 miles

Notes



Camp-to-camp

directions

on p. 86

Located in a narrower part of the Suwannee Canal. Has a fire ring for campfires. Platform wood at this site can be slick when wet, even after morning dew. Has vault/pit toilet.

Canal Run Camping





There's a fire ring at the Canal Run campsite.



Long exposure night photo at Canal Run. West direction.



Cedar Hammock Camping

Camped Here Date: _____



Cedar Hammock is one of the most accessible camping platforms in the Refuge.

General Location East part of the Refuge. See maps on pages 13, 41. Paddling route on page 19.

Trail

Yellow Trail.

GPS Coordinates for Campsite

30°44'54.1"N, 82°10'23.1"W or 30.748367, -82.173083

Type of Camping

Platform over water. No dry land.

Mileage to Other Points of Interest

Monkey Lake - 7 miles Canal Run - 9 miles Round Top - 11 miles Floyds Island - 13 miles

Camp-to-camp directions on p. 84

Coffee Bay day-use shelter - 4.7 miles

Suwannee Canal Recreation Area - 3 miles

Notes

Great views of the surrounding prairie. Platform is constructed from plastic modular floating dock. At night, to the northeast, you'll see some faint Folkston, GA lights. Has vault/pit toilet.

Best, first platform for newcomers!

Cedar Hammock Camping





Party of five kayakers and all their camping provisions have plenty of room.



The backside of Cedar Hammock, as seen from where the vault/pit toilet is located.



Floyds Island Camping

☐ Camped Here	Date:
---------------	-------



Old hunting cabin on Floyds Island. There are many options for camping here.

General Location North of the middle of the Refuge. On an island. See maps on pages 13, 27. Paddling routes on pp. 19, 20.

Trail

Green Trail.

GPS EAST Access 3
GPS WEST Access 3

30°51'22.4"N, 82°15'52.3"W or 30.856217, -82.264533 30°51'22.6"N, 82°16'04.4"W or 30.856267, -82.267883

Lots of Camping Options! You can camp in the Floyds Island hunting cabin, on the front porch, or pitch your tent or hammock in front of the cabin. There's no electricity or potable water.

Mileage to Other Points of Interest

Stephen C. Foster State Park - 9 miles Suwannee Canal Recreation Area - 13 miles Canal Run - 5 miles

Camp-to-camp directions on p. 87 Round Top - 6 miles Big Water - 8 miles

Bluff Lake - 9 miles, Cedar Hammock - 13 miles Mixons Hammock - 11 miles, Coffee Bay - 7.6 miles

Notes



Camp in the cabin - a unique & enjoyable experience. Crossing the island requires 1,300 ft. / 0.25 mile portage; a portage cart is provided. The portage is not difficult. Has a fire ring for campfires. Note: Vault/pit toilet is on east side near water access.

Floyds Island Camping





Using the provided portage cart. It's a 1,300 ft. / 0.25 mile portage across the island.



Raised vault/pit toilet is on the east side of the island near water access.



Maul Hammock Camping

Camped Here Date: _____



Maul Hammock is the most remote campsite in Okefenokee. Photo source: Google Maps.

General North, remote part of the Refuge. See maps on **Location** pages 13, 38. Paddling route on page 20.

Trail Red Trail.

GPS Coordinates 31°00'58.4"N, 82°15'23.8"W or **for Campsite** 31.016233, -82.256600

Type of Camping Wood platform over water. No dry land.

Mileage to Other
Points of Interest
Kingfisher Landing - 12 miles
Big Water - 9 miles

Camp-to-camp For strong paddlers only. The paddle from

directions
on p. 88

Kingfisher to Maul Hammock can be a
challenge. It's nearly all open prairie and
grasslands. This can make the 12 mile haul

seem much longer than it already is. There are no rest stops or places to get out and stretch your legs. At night, to the north, you'll see some faint Waycross, GA lights. The campsite has a

vault/pit toilet.

Notes

Maul Hammock Camping





It's a long paddle to Maul Hammock. 12 miles from Kingfisher; 9 miles from Big Water.



Sunrise at Maul Hammock in winter.



Mixons Hammock Camping

☐ Camped Here			
Compad Hara	Doto:		
	Date.		



Access to Mixons Hammock. This is a large camping area. Photo source: Google Maps.

General Location Furthest west campsite in the Refuge. Only 2 miles from Stephen C. Foster SP. See maps on pages 12, 25. Paddling route on page 19.

Trail Brown Trail.

GPS Coordinates for Campsite

30°49'26.7"N, 82°22'53.3"W or 30.824083, -82.381467

Type of Camping

On island / land. Old railroad bed area.

Mileage to Other Points of Interest Stephen C. Foster State Park - 2 miles

Camp-to-camp directions on p. 89 Big Water - 13 miles Canal Run - 9 miles Floyds Island - 11 miles Billys Island access - 3.2 miles

Notes



There is a lot of room to spread out at Mixons Hammock. Plenty of options for hammock campers. Insects can be a nuisance here in all but the coldest months; bring lots of repellent. Has a fire ring for campfires. Has vault/pit toilet.

Mixons Hammock Camping





Vault/pit toilet at Mixons Hammock.



Signage near SFSP, pointing the way to Mixons Hammock.



Monkey Lake Camping

Camped Here Date:



Camping platform at Monkey Lake. The platform is set back 120 ft. from the water.

General Furthest south campsite; east side of Refuge. Location Maps on pages 13, 33. Paddle route on p. 19.

Trail Pink Trail.

GPS Coordinates $30^{\circ}40'28.9"N, 82^{\circ}12'21.6"W$ or

for Campsite 30.674692, -82.206006

Type of Camping Wood platform on land. The land around the platform is mostly "boggy." There's nowhere to

explore or walk around beyond the platform.

Mileage to Other Suwannee Canal Recreation Area - 8 miles

Points of Interest

Camp-to-camp directions

Camp-to-camp directions

on p. 84 Coffee Bay day-use shelter - 9.2 miles

Vault/pit toilet is located at water's edge, then

Notes

it's a 120-ft. boardwalk to the camping area; sits
back in the woods. From experience, the animal
noises at night here can be loud, extraordinary!

Monkey Lake Camping





Vault/pit toilet at Monkey Lake. The camping platform is 120 ft. away from this area.



Kayaks lined up at Monkey Lake.



Round Top Camping

Camped Here



Round Top platform offers impressive 360 degree views of the surrounding prairie.

General East side of the Refuge. See maps on Location pages 13, 35. Paddle route on page 19.

Purple Trail. Trail

GPS Coordinates 30°48'13.0"N, 82°13'12.0"W or 30.803607, -82.219992 for Campsite

Wood platform over water. No dry land. Type of Camping

Suwannee Canal Recreation Area - 12 miles Mileage to Other Cedar Hammock - 11 miles

Points of Interest

Flovds Island - 6 miles Camp-to-camp Canal Run -3 or 6 miles directions on p. 85

Bluff Lake - 12 miles, Billys Island - 8.6 miles

Monkey Lake - 15 miles

Stephen C. Foster State Park - 11 miles Coffee Bay day-use shelter - 5.7 miles

Known among paddlers and photographers as Notes

the absolute best 360-degree views in the Refuge; night sky photography can be amazing

here. Has vault/pit toilet.

- 60 -

Round Top Camping





The Round Top camping platform sits in the beautiful Chase Prairie.



The Milky Way over Round Top platform. Big skies and big views at this campsite.

Like this book? See it in full color. There's a companion website!

www.PaddleOkefenokee.com



Top left: Super cool "Gateway To The Okefenokee" water tower with alligator in Folkston, GA. Middle left: Egret & Ibis taking flight on Green Trail. Top right: kayaking the Suwannee Canal in winter, heading to Canal Run. Bottom: kayaking the Purple Trail.

Okefenokee NWR



Kayaker arriving at Minnies Lake day-use shelter.



Coffee Bay Day-Use Shelter •

Visited Here Date:



Coffee Bay day-use shelter on the Suwannee Canal / Orange Trail.

East side of Refuge. General

Location See maps on pages 13, 30.

Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal, between Trail

Yellow Trail and Canal Run.

30°45'41.9"N. 82°13'37.3"W or **GPS Coordinates** for Shelter

30.761629, -82.227029

Wood platform. Half of the platform is over the water, backs up to and has access to land.

Suwannee Canal Recreation Area - 5.6 miles Mileage to Other

Points of Interest

Structure Type

Cedar Hammock - 4.7 miles

Canal Run - 4.2 miles Monkey Lake - 9.2 miles

Round Top - 5.7 miles, Floyds Island - 7.6 miles pit toilet on Suwannee Canal - 3.7 miles (p. 66)

Large covered break/picnic area with table. Has Notes

vault/pit toilet on far left side. Camping is not

allowed at day-use shelters.

Minnies Lake Day-Use Shelter





Minnies Lake day-use shelter on the Red Trail.

General West-central part of Refuge. Location See maps on pages 12, 38.

Red Trail Trail

GPS Coordinates 30°51'40.5"N. 82°19'24.3"W or for Shelter

30.861235, -82.323412

Structure Type Wood platform over water. No dry land.

Stephen C. Foster State Park - 4 miles Mileage to Other Big Water - 6.8 miles north on Red Trail Points of Interest

Flovds Island - 5.5 miles

Green Trail intersection - 1.8 miles northeast Red / Orange Trail intersection - 2.4 miles south

Billys Island access - 4 miles

Large covered break/picnic area with table and Notes

movable benches. Has vault/pit toilet. Camping

is not allowed at day-use shelters.

* | †

Pit Toilet - Suwannee Canal



Pit toilet on small platform on the Suwannee Canal / Orange Trail.

General East side of Refuge. See maps on pages 13

Location and 30 for larger surrounding area.

Trail Orange Trail / Suwannee Canal.

GPS Coordinates 30°44'17.3"N, 82°10'24.2"W or **for Pit Toilet** 30.738144, -82.173377

Structure Type Wood platform over water. No dry land.

Mileage to Other Suwannee Canal Recreation Area - 2 miles

Points of Interest Cedar Hammock - 1.0 mile

Canal Run - 7.8 miles Monkey Lake - 5.5 miles Coffee Bay - 3.7 miles Round Top - 9.5 miles

Notes Not a day-use shelter! Just a tiny platform with a

vault/pit toilet. Located on the Orange Trail, 900 feet past the Yellow Trail intersection, heading towards Canal Run. Exercise caution getting out on this platform; can be tricky and slick when

wet

Billys Island



Date:	Visited Here L

Arriving at Billys Island. Note the dock/steps, upper left of photo.

General West part of Refuge.

Location See maps on pages 12, 30, 38.

Trail Orange Trail.

GPS Coordinates 30°49'53.3"N, 82°19'57.9"W or

for Island Access 30.831474, -82.332757

It's an Island Plenty of room to move around on dry land/island.

Mileage to Other Points of Interest Stephen C. Foster State Park - 2 miles Minnies Lake day-use shelter - 4 miles

Minnies Lake day-use shelter - 4 mile Mixons Hammock - 3.2 miles

Canal Run - 5.3 miles

Orange / Red Trail intersection - 0.6 miles west

Notes Lots of room to stretch your legs here. Billys Island

has walking trails, interpretative signage, and remnants from Okefenokee's logging history in the early 20th century. You can land your kayak/canoe on the island, or there's a dock/boardwalk for high water times. This is a favorite day-paddling destination and great place to have lunch.

Like this book? See it in full color. There's a companion website!

www.PaddleOkefenokee.com



Top left: You'll see lots of turtles in the Okefenokee. Middle left: trail signage at Blue and Purple trails intersection. Top right: gorgeous, eerie-looking Green Trail, west of Floyds Island. Bottom: paddler favorite Round Top camping platform in late Fall.

Okefenokee NWR



Egret in the Chase Prairie near Round Top.



Okefenokee Photos



Entrance signage at Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge; East / SCRA side.



Typical mileage marker on the paddling trails. On the Pink Trail in the Chesser Prairie.

Okefenokee Photos





You'll be paddling an exciting National Water Trail.



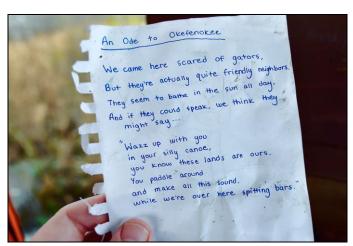
Great Blue Heron on Billys Lake.



Okefenokee Photos



You must sign in and out at boat ramps. Pictured: Stephen C. Foster State Park.



You'll often find humorous notes left behind by campers. Journal box at Round Top.





Bring rope and tie off your canoe or kayak to the camping platform. Cedar Hammock.



Okefenokee is great fishing; you must have a current Georgia fishing license.





American Alligator. You're likely to see lots of these "locals" in the Okefenokee.



There's always good signage on the paddling trails. It's easy to navigate Okefenokee.





Barred Owl on the Pink Trail in the Chesser Prairie.



Sandhill Cranes photographed from Round Top. These birds are big and loud!





Every campsite and day-use shelter has a vault/pit toilet. Pictured: Monkey Lake camp.



In warmer months, you'll see thousands of water lilies on the trails with prairies.





Juvenile Red-Shouldered Hawk on the Red Trail near Big Water.



Which way to go? More great signage on the trail.





Getting out of your boat, and up on the platforms, can often be tricky! Monkey Lake.



Inside Floyds Cabin - you can sleep here! There's no electricity or potable water.





Yellow-Crowned Night Heron at Monkey Lake.



American Ibis on Yellow Trail near Cedar Hammock.





You'll see beautiful Hooded Pitcher Plants on just about every grassland/prairie trail.



There are many varieties of water lilies in the Okefenokee.





Common Gallinule (Moorhen, swamp chicken) on the Purple Trail in the Chase Prairie.



You might encounter motorized boat tours near SCRA and SFSP.

Like this book? See it in full color. There's a companion website!

www.PaddleOkefenokee.com



Top left: Pied-billed grebe on Yellow Trail. Middle left: there are lots of cypress knees in the Okefenokee. Top right: kayaker extraordinaire Ed Deal, of Blueway Adventures, on the Red Trail. Bottom: canoe camper on the Orange Trail.

Okefenokee NWR



Kayaker arriving at Cedar Hammock camping platform.



Appendix: Camp-to-Camp Directions -

Corresponding GPS info. on

pp. 90 – 91

Cedar Hammock CAMP to:

Campsite information p. 50

GPS: 30°44'54.1"N, 82°10'23.1"W or 30.748367, -82.173083

Monkey Lake - 7 miles, campsite information p. 58

- 1. South on Yellow Trail for 0.9 mile to Orange Trail. Turn right.1
- 2. After 250-ft. on Orange Trail, bear left at split/signage.2
- 3. Paddle another 1,000-ft, turn left on Pink Trail.3
- 4. Paddle 5.2 miles on Pink Trail, arrive at Monkey Lake camp.4

Canal Run - 9 miles, campsite information p. 48

- 1. South on Yellow Trail for 0.9 mile to Orange Trail. Turn right.1
- After 250-ft. on Orange Trail, bear right at split/signage.²
- 3. Pass by Coffee Bay day-use shelter 3.8 miles further.5
- 4. Paddle 4.2 miles further, arrive at Canal Run camp on the left.6

Round Top - 11 miles, campsite information p. 60

- 1. South on Yellow Trail for 0.9 mile to Orange Trail. Turn right.1
- After 250-ft. on Orange Trail, bear right at split/signage.²
- 3. Pass by Coffee Bay day-use shelter 3.8 miles further.5
- 4. Continue 3.3 miles. Turn right on Purple Trail.7
- 5. Paddle 2.4 miles on Purple Trail, arrive at Round Top camp.8

Floyds Island - 13 miles, campsite information p. 52

- South on Yellow Trail for 0.9 mile to Orange Trail. Turn right.¹
- After 250-ft. on Orange Trail, bear right at split/signage.²
- 3. Pass by Coffee Bay day-use shelter 3.8 miles further.5
- 4. Continue 4.1 miles. Bear right on Blue Trail.9
- 5. After 0.4 mile, bear right to continue Blue Trail. 10
- 6. Blue Trail intersects Purple Trail in 1.4 miles. Continue straight. 11
- 7. Blue Trail ends at Green Trail 0.8 mile further. Continue straight. 12
- 8. Paddle 1.0 mile on Green Trail, arrive at Floyds Island EAST access. 13

Monkey Lake CAMP to:

Campsite information p. 58

GPS: 30°40'28.9"N, 82°12'21.6"W or 30.674692, -82.206006

Cedar Hammock - 7 miles, campsite information p. 50

- 1. Paddle north on Pink Trail for 5.2 miles. Turn right.3
- 2. Continue nearly 0.25 mile to start of Yellow Trail. Turn left.1
- 3. Paddle 0.9 mile on Yellow Trail, arrive at Cedar Hammock camp. 14

Canal Run - 13 miles, campsite information p. 48

- 1. Paddle north on Pink Trail for 5.2 miles. Turn right.3 **
 - **Alternatively, you can turn left and arrive at Orange Trail in 1.3 miles. This route only saves 0.1 mile and is not considered as scenic.

Appendix: Camp-to-Camp Directions



- Paddle 1,000-ft. to Orange Trail split/signage. Continue around the split (in direction of "CHASE PRAIRIE" and Orange Trail).²
- 3. Pass by Coffee Bay day-use shelter 3.8 miles further.5
- 4. Paddle 4.2 miles further, arrive at Canal Run camp on left.6

Round Top - 15 miles, campsite information p. 60

- 1. Paddle north on Pink Trail for 5.2 miles. Turn right.3 **
- 2. Paddle 1,000-ft. to Orange Trail split/signage. Continue around the split (in direction of "CHASE PRAIRIE" and Orange Trail).²
- 3. Pass by Coffee Bay day-use shelter 3.8 miles further.5
- Continue 3.3 miles. Turn right on Purple Trail.
- Paddle 2.4 miles on Purple Trail, arrive at Round Top camp.8

Round Top CAMP to:

Campsite information p. 60

GPS: 30°48'13.0"N, 82°13'12.0"W or 30.803607, -82.219992

Canal Run - campsite information p. 48

via Suwannee Canal - 3 miles

- 1. Right/south on Purple Trail until it ends in 2.4 miles.
- 2. At end of Purple Trail/intersection with Orange Trail, turn right.7
- 3. Paddle 0.9 miles on Orange Trail, arrive at Canal Run camp on left.6

via Purple Trail - 6 miles

- 1. Left/north on Purple Trail for 3.0 miles.
- 2. Make sharp left on Blue Trail, now heading south. 11
- 3. In 1.4 miles, turn left into canal-looking area to continue Blue Trail. 10
- Continue 0.4 mile down canal, turn right at Orange Trail.9
- Paddle 800-ft., arrive at Canal Run camp on left.⁶

Floyds Island - 6 miles, campsite information p. 52

- Left/north on Purple Trail for 3.0 miles. At intersection with Blue Trail, continue straight.¹¹
- In 0.8 mile further, intersection with Green Trail. Continue straight.¹²
- 3. Paddle 1.0 mile on Green Trail, arrive at Floyds Island EAST access. 13

Bluff Lake - 12 miles, campsite information p. 46

- Left/north on Purple Trail for 3.0 miles. At intersection with Blue Trail, continue straight.¹¹
- 2. In 0.8 mile further, intersection with Green Trail. Turn right. 12
- 3. Paddle 7.7 miles on Green Trail, arrive at Bluff Lake camp. 15

Monkey Lake - 15 miles, campsite information p. 58

- 1. Right/south on Purple Trail until it ends in 2.4 miles.
- 2. At end of Purple Trail/intersection with Orange Trail, turn left.⁷



Appendix: Camp-to-Camp Directions —

- Paddle 3.3 miles, pass by Coffee Bay day-use shelter.
- In 3.8 miles further, arrive at Orange Trail split/signage. Continue around the split (in direction of "CHESSER PRAIRIE" and Pink Trail).²
- 5. Paddle 1,000-ft, turn left on Pink Trail.3
- Paddle 5.2 miles on Pink Trail, arrive at Monkey Lake camp.⁴

Cedar Hammock - 11 miles, campsite information p. 50

- 1. Right/south on Purple Trail until it ends in 2.4 miles.
- 2. At end of Purple Trail/intersection with Orange Trail, turn left.7
- 3. Paddle 3.3 miles, pass by Coffee Bay day-use shelter.5
- 4. A little past 3.8 miles further, come to Yellow Trail on left. Turn here.1
- 5. Paddle 0.9 mile on Yellow Trail, arrive at Cedar Hammock camp. 14

Canal Run CAMP to:

Campsite information p. 48

GPS: 30°48'55.6"N, 82°15'10.5"W or 30.815433, -82.252917

Round Top - campsite information p. 60

via Suwannee Canal - 3 miles

- 1. Right/east on Orange Trail 0.9 mile to Purple Trail. Turn left.7
- 2. Paddle 2.4 miles on Purple Trail, arrive at Round Top camp.8

via Purple Trail - 6 miles

- Right/east on Orange Trail for 800-ft. Left on Blue Trail.9
- 2. After 0.4 mile, bear right to continue Blue Trail. 10
- Blue Trail intersects Purple Trail in 1.4 miles. Turn sharp right.¹¹
- Paddle 3.0 mile on Purple Trail, arrive at Round Top camp.⁸

Flovds Island - 5 miles, campsite information p. 52

- Right/east on Orange Trail for 800-ft. Left on Blue Trail.⁹
- After 0.4 mile, bear right to continue Blue Trail.
- 3. Blue Trail intersects Purple Trail in 1.4 miles. Continue straight. 11
- 4. Blue Trail ends at Green Trail 0.8 mile further. Continue straight. 12
- Paddle 1.0 mile on Green Trail, arrive at Floyds Island EAST access.¹³

Bluff Lake - 11 miles, campsite information p. 46

- Right/east on Orange Trail for 800-ft. Left on Blue Trail.9
- 2. After 0.4 mile, bear right to continue Blue Trail. 10
- 3. Blue Trail intersects Purple Trail in 1.4 miles. Continue straight. 11
- 4. Blue Trail ends at Green Trail 0.8 mile further. Turn right. 12
- 5. Paddle 7.7 miles on Green Trail, arrive at Bluff Lake camp. 15

Mixons Hammock - 9 miles, campsite information p. 56

- 1. Left/west on Orange Trail for 5.3 miles. Pass by Billys Island. 16
- Pass by canal to SFSP 1.7 miles further. Continue straight on Brown Trail.¹⁷
- 3. Paddle 1.5 miles further, arrive at Mixons Hammock on right. 18

Appendix: Camp-to-Camp Directions



Monkey Lake - 13 miles, campsite information p. 58

- 1. Right/east on Orange Trail. Pass by Coffee Bay shelter in 4.2 miles.5
- In 3.8 miles further, arrive at Orange Trail split/signage. Continue around the split (in direction of "CHESSER PRAIRIE" and Pink Trail).²
- Paddle 1,000-ft, turn left on Pink Trail.³
- Paddle 5.2 miles on Pink Trail, arrive at Monkey Lake camp.⁴

Cedar Hammock - 9 miles, campsite information p. 50

- 1. Right/east on Orange Trail. Pass by Coffee Bay shelter in 4.2 miles.5
- 2. A little past 3.8 miles further, come to Yellow Trail on left. Turn here.1
- 3. Paddle 0.9 mile on Yellow Trail, arrive at Cedar Hammock camp. 14

Floyds Island CAMP to:

Campsite information p. 52

GPS - EAST Access: 30°51'22.4"N, 82°15'52.3"W or 30.856217, -82.264533 GPS - WEST Access: 30°51'22.6"N, 82°16'04.4"W or 30.856267, -82.267883

Canal Run - 5 miles, campsite information p. 48

- From EAST access, begin Green Trail. At 1.0 mile, bear right/straight on Blue Trail.¹²
- Blue Trail intersects with Purple Trail 0.8 mile further. Bear right/straight to stay on Blue Trail.¹¹
- 3. In 1.4 miles, turn left into canal-looking area to continue Blue Trail. 10
- Continue 0.4 mile down canal, turn right at Orange Trail.⁹
- Paddle 800-ft., arrive at Canal Run on left.⁶

Round Top - 6 miles, campsite information p. 60

- From EAST access, begin Green Trail. At 1.0 mile, bear right/straight on Blue Trail.¹²
- Blue Trail intersects with Purple Trail 0.8 mile further. Bear left to begin Purple Trail.¹¹
- 3. Paddle 3.0 miles on Purple Trail, arrive at Round Top camp.8

Bluff Lake - 9 miles, campsite information p. 46

- From EAST access, begin Green Trail. At 1.0 mile, turn left to continue Green Trail.¹²
- 2. Paddle another 7.7 miles on Green Trail, arrive at Bluff Lake camp. 15

Cedar Hammock - 13 miles, campsite information p. 50

- From EAST access, begin Green Trail. At 1.0 mile, bear right/straight on Blue Trail.¹²
- In 2.2 miles, turn left into canal-looking area to continue Blue Trail.
- Continue 0.4 mile down canal, turn left at Orange Trail.9
- 4. Pass by Coffee Bay day-use shelter in 4.1 miles.5
- 5. A little past 3.8 miles further, come to Yellow Trail on left. Turn here.1
- 6. Paddle 0.9 mile on Yellow Trail, arrive at Cedar Hammock camp. 14



Appendix: Camp-to-Camp Directions ——

Big Water - 8 miles, campsite information p. 44

- From WEST access, begin Green Trail. At 3.1 miles, turn right on Red Trail.¹⁹
- Paddle 5.0 miles on Red Trail, arrive at Big Water camp. 20

Mixons Hammock - 11 miles, campsite information p. 56

- From WEST access, begin Green Trail. At 3.1 miles, turn left on Red Trail.¹⁹
- 2. Pass by Minnies Lake day-use shelter in 1.8 miles.²¹
- Paddle 2.4 miles further on Red Trail to Orange Trail/Billys Lake intersection. Turn right.²²
- In 1.1 miles, pass by canal to SFSP. Continue straight on Brown Trail.¹⁷
- 5. Paddle 1.5 miles further, arrive at Mixons Hammock on right. 18

Bluff Lake CAMP to:

Campsite information p. 46

GPS: 30°52'41.5"N, 82°09'02.2"W or 30.878193, -82.150608

Floyds Island - 9 miles, campsite information p. 52

- Right/southwest on Green Trail. At 7.7 miles, turn right to continue Green Trail.¹²
- Continue 1.0 mile further on Green Trail, arrive at Floyds Island FAST access ¹³

Round Top - 12 miles, campsite information p. 60

- 1. Right/southwest on Green Trail. At 7.7 miles, turn left on Blue Trail. 12
- 2. Blue Trail intersects with Purple Trail 0.8 mile further. Bear left to begin Purple Trail.¹¹
- 3. Paddle 3.0 miles on Purple Trail, arrive at Round Top camp.8

Canal Run - 11 miles, campsite information p. 48

- Right/southwest on Green Trail. At 7.7 miles, turn left on Blue Trail.¹²
- Blue Trail intersects with Purple Trail 0.8 mile further. Bear right/ straight to stay on Blue Trail.¹¹
- 3. In 1.4 miles, turn left into canal-looking area to continue Blue Trail. 10
- Continue 0.4 mile down canal, turn right at Orange Trail.9
- Paddle 800-ft., arrive at Canal Run on left.⁶

Maul Hammock CAMP to:

Campsite information p. 54

GPS: 31°00'58.4"N, 82°15'23.8"W or 31.016233, -82.256600

Big Water - 9 miles, campsite information p. 44

From camping platform, at Red Trail split at the edge of the lake ²³, bear left (NNE) and paddle Red Trail for 9 miles, arrive at Big Water camp. ²⁰

Appendix: Camp-to-Camp Directions



Big Water CAMP to:

Campsite information p. 44

GPS: 30°56'12.1"N, 82°16'47.1"W or 30.936701, -82.279736

Maul Hammock - 9 miles, campsite information p. 54

Left/north on Red Trail for 9 miles and arrive at Maul Hammock camp.²⁴

Floyds Island - 8 miles, campsite information p. 52

- 1. Right/south on Red Trail for 5.0 miles. Turn left on Green Trail. 19
- 2. Paddle 3.1 miles on Green Trail, end at Floyds Island WEST access. 25

Mixons Hammock - 13 miles, campsite information p. 56

- 1. Right/south on Red Trail.
- 2. Pass by Minnies Lake day-use shelter in 6.8 miles. 21
- Paddle 2.4 miles further on Red Trail to Orange Trail/Billys Lake intersection. Turn right.²²
- In 1.1 miles, pass by canal to SFSP. Continue straight on Brown Trail.¹⁷
- 5. Paddle 1.5 miles further, arrive at Mixons Hammock on right. 18

Mixons Hammock CAMP to:

Campsite information p. 56

GPS: 30°49'26.7"N, 82°22'53.3"W or 30.824083, -82.381467

Canal Run - 9 miles, campsite information p. 48

- Left/east on Brown Trail for 1.5 miles, pass by canal to SFSP.¹⁷
- 2. Pass by Billys Island 1.7 miles further (on Orange Trail at this point). 16
- 3. Continue Orange Trail for 5.3 miles further, arrive at Canal Run camp.6

Floyds Island - 11 miles, campsite information p. 52

- 1. Left/east on Brown Trail for 1.5 miles, pass by canal to SFSP. 17
- Paddle another 1.1 miles, turn left on Red Trail.²²
- 3. Pass by Minnies Lake day-use shelter in 2.4 miles further.²¹
- 4. Continue another 1.8 miles on Red Trail, turn right on Green Trail. 19
- 5. Paddle 3.1 miles on Green Trail, end at Floyds Island WEST access. 25

Big Water - 13 miles, campsite information p. 44

- 1. Left/east on Brown Trail for 1.5 miles, pass by canal to SFSP.¹⁷
- Paddle another 1.1 miles, turn left on Red Trail.²²
- 3. Pass by Minnies Lake day-use shelter in 2.4 miles further.21
- 4. Continue another 6.8 miles, arrive at Big Water camp.20



Appendix: Camp-to-Camp Directions —

GPS Coordinates for Camp-to-Camp Directions (pp. 84 - 89)

- Orange Trail / Yellow Trail intersection 30°44'14.8"N. 82°10'14.7"W or 30.737444. -82.170750
- Orange Trail split / signage 30°44'14.8"N, 82°10'17.9"W or 30.737449, -82.171633
- Beginning of Pink Trail 30°44'14.0"N, 82°10'29.3"W or 30.737230, -82.174807
- Monkey Lake camp 30°40'28.9"N, 82°12'21.6"W or 30.674692, -82.206006
- Coffee Bay day-use shelter 30°45'41.9"N, 82°13'37.3"W or 30.761629, -82.227029
- ⁶ Canal Run camp 30°48'55.6"N, 82°15'10.5"W or 30.815433, -82.252917
- Orange Trail / Purple Trail intersection 30°48'13.8"N, 82°14'50.2"W or 30.803833, -82.247278
- Round Top camp 30°48'13.0"N, 82°13'12.0"W or 30.803607, -82.219992
- Orange Trail / Blue Trail intersection 30°48'51.0"N, 82°15'02.6"W or 30.814165, -82.250723
- Turn in Blue Trail 30°49'10.6"N, 82°15'02.8"W or 30.819621, -82.250790
- Blue Trail / Purple Trail intersection 30°50'07.4"N, 82°14'50.8"W or 30.835384, -82.247456
- Blue Trail / Green Trail intersection 30°50'43.8"N, 82°15'11.5"W or 30.845498, -82.253180
- Floyds Island EAST access 30°51'22.4"N, 82°15'52.3"W or 30.856217, -82.264533
- 14 Cedar Hammock camp 30°44'54.1"N, 82°10'23.1"W or 30.748367, -82.173083
- Bluff Lake camp 30°52'41.5"N, 82°09'02.2"W or 30.878193, -82.150608
- Billys Island day-use area (hiking, picnic) 30°49'53.3"N, 82°19'57.9"W or 30.831474, -82.332757
- ¹⁷ Intersection with canal to Stephen C. Foster State Park 30°49'54.3"N, 82°21'36.9"W or 30.831743, -82.360253
- Mixons Hammock camp 30°49'26.7"N, 82°22'53.3"W or 30.824083, -82.381467
- ¹⁹ Red Trail / Green Trail intersection WEST 30°52'31.8"N, 82°18'09.1"W or 30.875492, -82.302518

Appendix: Camp-to-Camp Directions



- ²⁰ Big Water camp 30°56'12.1"N, 82°16'47.1"W or 30.936701, -82.279736
- Minnies Lake day-use shelter 30°51'40.5"N, 82°19'24.3"W or 30.861235, -82.323412
- Red Trail / Orange Trail / Billys Lake intersection 30°50'05.5"N, 82°20'35.4"W or 30.834862, -82.343155
- Maul Hammock lake Red Trail SPLIT 31°01'01.4"N, 82°15'24.1"W or 31.017064, -82.256687
- Maul Hammock camp 31°00'58.4"N, 82°15'23.8"W or 31.016233, -82.256600
- Floyds Island WEST access 30°51'22.6"N, 82°16'04.4"W or 30.856267, -82.267883



Cedar Hammock camp, on the Yellow Trail.



Kayak/Canoe Camping Checklist —

	Personal flotation device (PFD) "life jacket" Paddle
	Spare paddle
	Dry bags (if it's not in a dry bag, it will get wet!)
	Signaling device (whistle, mirror, flare)
	Bailer or bilge pump
	3 1 1
	Sponge Man of Define (also assume 12, 13)
	Map of Refuge (also see pgs. 12, 13)
	Compass GPS
	Matches/lighter/fire starter Knife or multi-tool
	First aid kit IMPORTANT
	Tilst did Kit
	Okofonskog wester is
	Sunglasses Sunscreen Okelenokee water is NOT recommended!
	Wide brim hat
	Sunglasses with lanyard
	Lip balm
	Water - minimum 1 gallon/person/day
	Backup/emergency water treatment method Cook stove and fuel
	Eating utensils
	Food, snacks
	Insect repellent and/or mosquito netting
	Rope for pulling canoe/kayak
	Rain gear
	Season-specific layering clothing Tent, tarp, hammock, or bivy sack
	Sleeping bag/quilt
	Sleeping pad Pillow
	Duct tape
	Trash bags
	Toilet paper Toiletries
	Camera
ш	This super cool Okefenokee Guidebook!



or Fire Tinder

(But only at Canal Run, Mixons Hammock and Floyds Island !!)



NOTES -

or Fire Tinder (But only at Canal Run, Mixons Hammock and Floyds Island!!)	





or Fire Tinder

(But only at Canal Run, Mixons Hammock and Floyds Island !!)



About the Author —

Scott Lynch has been exploring the trails and waterways in the Southeast for over 30 years. He has written more than a dozen outdoor guidebooks. He has a diverse background in corporate training, technical writing, was an outfitter, has guided many adventures, is a professional photographer, and he now works in tourism and economic development. He and his wife live in Charleston, SC.



Author on the Orange Trail, Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge.

www.PaddleOkefenokee.com

Contact the author at slynch@blazethattrail.com.