



GPS:

- A.** = N 29° 46' 59" / W -84° 54' 39"
- B.** = N 29° 47' 32" / W -84° 56' 03"
- C.** = N 29° 47' 35" / W -84° 56' 19"
- D.** = N 29° 47' 31" / W -84° 57' 52"
- E.** = N 29° 46' 52" / W -84° 57' 47"

TRIP 9– Sand Beach Loop Trail 10–14 miles

This trip covers a variety of habitats from salt marsh to maritime hammock and pristine tidal creeks.

Note: This trip has to be planned in conjunction with the tides; it's best to paddle on incoming high tide. Pay attention to shallow water conditions when crossing Blounts Bay.

Start and End at Sand Beach Observation Tower: From Hwy. 98, drive 8.6 miles north on S.R. 65. Turn left on Sand Beach Road, drive 2.8 miles to the road's end at observation tower and hand-launch at end of pier.

Navigation
From the tower, paddle northwest bearing 296° on a high tide, staying to the east side of the bay. Look for PVC pole/paddle icon marking the entrance to the channel of Saltwater Creek, about 1.6 miles from the tower (GPS = N 29° 47' 32" / W -84° 56' 03"). Paddle upstream and explore the oxbow creek that originates about 0.7 miles from the entrance on your right. Continue upstream, exploring the creek as it branches until it becomes too narrow.

Return on the same route, watching for paddling sign at a small opening to Montgomery Slough on your right (GPS = N 29° 47' 35" / W -84° 56' 19"). Proceed upstream on Montgomery Slough about 2.0 miles until it meets East River. Bear left (south) and go downstream 1 mile to the entrance of Sam's Creek Cutoff on your left (GPS = N 29° 46' 52" / W -84° 57' 47"). Paddle about 3.4 miles to the end, where Sam's Creek empties into the East Bay. Return to the observation tower visible to the north.

LEGEND

- Potential Camping Site
- Boat Ramp
- Hand Launch
- Picnic
- Universally Accessible
- Unimproved Road
- Highway
- Railroad
- Bike Shuttle Route
- Bike Rack
- Stream Mileage Point
- Paddle Sign
- Private Land
- Unknown Extent of Navigable Water
Water depth may vary in these areas. You may not be able to navigate the entire course as shown on the map.
- Caution: Open Water
Be aware of river water levels, tidal changes, strong currents and weather changes.

GPS Disclaimer: This map is an aid to navigation and should not be relied upon as a primary navigational source. Point data is provided for general reference only.