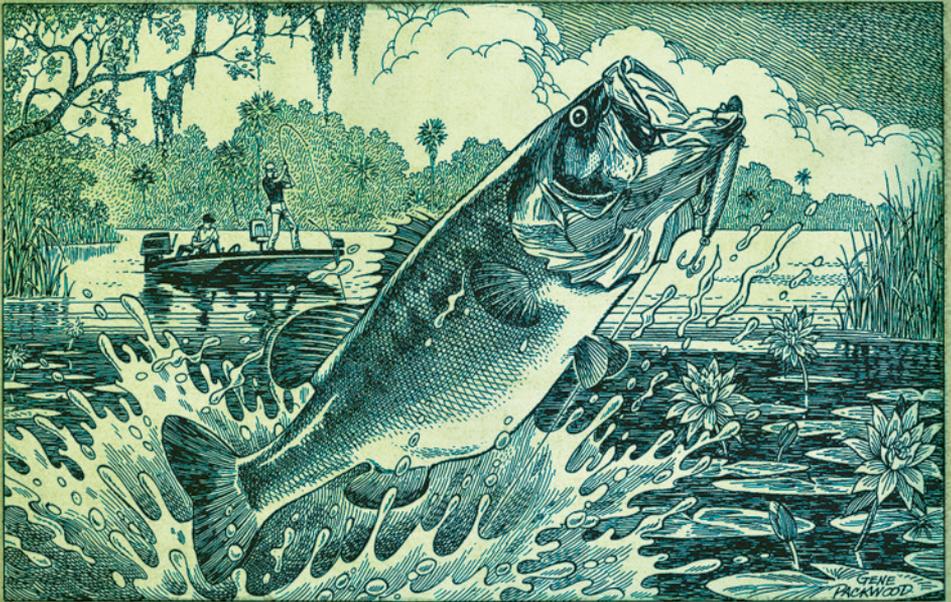


Fishing

Opportunities in the
OCALA NATIONAL FOREST



**FISHING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE OCALA NATIONAL FOREST
1996, 1998, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2018**

INTRODUCTION

The **Ocala National Forest**, one of the oldest national forest east of the Mississippi River and southernmost in the continental United States, was established in 1908. The Scenic 387,000-acre National Forest, located in the central trail ridge region of peninsular Florida, is bordered by two prominent rivers, the Ocklawaha River on the western boundary, and the larger St. John's River on the eastern boundary of the national forest.

Within the boundaries of the **Ocala National Forest** there are about 23 small streams created by a number of springs. The most important springs are Salt, Silver Glen, Juniper, and Alexander. In addition, there are approximately 600 natural lakes in the forest. Most of these are seepage lakes formed by solution depressions. Since these lakes have no significant surface inflow or outfall, water quality is influenced by direct precipitation and soil characteristics of the immediate watershed. The majority of these water bodies are therefore very acidic, poorly buffered, and low in nutrient concentration and productivity.

However, forest lakes have historically been recognized as habitat for prime trophy largemouth bass, with bass larger than 10 pounds having been taken from most, if not all, of these lakes. Other sport fish species, including bluegill, red-ear, warmouth, black crappie, catfish, and sunshine bass, are popular with the local anglers.

Most anglers fish from boats, but there are opportunities for shoreline, bank or wade fishing. Because access is limited and often difficult, fishing piers have been constructed on several popular lakes. There are more than 20 concrete boat launching ramps, public and private, serving the rivers and lakes. Although many of the lakes and small streams can be reached by two-wheel drive vehicles, most are approachable only by four-wheel drive vehicles or walking.

All vehicles must remain on designated roads as they are mapped by the current Forest Service Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM.) A current edition of the MVUM can be found on the Ocala National Forest website or at the front desk of the Ranger Stations.

For more information about other Forest activities contact:

Seminole Ranger Station

40929 State Road 19, Umatilla, FL 32784 | (352) 669-3153

Lake George Ranger Station

17147 East Highway 40 Silver Springs, FL 34488 | (352) 625-2520

The purpose of this publication is to describe sport fishing locations, with recommendations for fishing methods and accessibility. Vicinity maps of the area, bathymetric maps of the lake, and information on water chemistry and biological characteristics are presented to help you select your **“favorite fishing holes.”**



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ACCESS ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary: Paved hard surface state highway.

Secondary: All-weather paved hard surface road includes county roads.

Improved: All-weather gravel or clay road considered suitable for all vehicles.

Unimproved: Gravel, clay, or sand road that is commonly very rough and sandy and may not be suitable for two-wheel drive passenger cars, but is considered suitable for two-wheel drive pickup trucks. Check road conditions prior to use.

Four-Wheel Drive: Dirt or sandy track that may have standing water or extremely sandy conditions and, therefore, recommended only for four-wheel drive vehicles.

OTHER ROAD ABBREVIATIONS:

State Road = S.R. Forest Road = F.R. County Road = C.R.

BOAT LAUNCHING CLASSIFICATION

Class A Ramp: All-weather hard surface pavement extending into the water, and thereby suitable for all vehicles.

Class B Ramp: All-weather sand, clay, or gravel road, which may have some hard surface but not extending into the water. Suited for all vehicles.

Class C Ramp: Approached by improved sand, clay, or gravel road. Not recommended for passenger cars but useable with pickup trucks.

Class D Entry: Approached by unimproved clay or sand road. Recommended only for four-wheel drive vehicles. Entry into the lake may be no more than tracks.

Carry-in: Waterbody access not available by motor vehicles. Many lakes with ramps or Class D entry are accessible only by carry-in during periods of low water.

FISHING METHODS

Power boat: Fishing from craft powered with motors greater than 10 H.P., trailer transported and launched directly from a trailer.

Jon boat: Fishing from a small, flat-bottomed boat rowed or powered by a motor less than 10 H.P. Transported in a pickup bed or on a car top. Can be launched by carrying over some distance of dry land.

Canoe: Fishing from a light craft powered by a very small motor or paddled, that is easily carried over a long distance of dry land.

Pier: Fishing from a constructed structure extending over the waterbody.

Shoreline: Fishing from the bank or wading.

MAPS LEGEND

U.S. Hwy 		Launching Ramp
State Road (SR) 		Carry-in Only
County Road (CR) 		Fee Area
Improved Road 		Parking
Unimproved Road 61-3.9		Swamp or Marsh
Trail -----		Latitude and Longitude are called out on each map in decimal minutes, for example: 29 4.825, -81 34.01

ALEXANDER SPRINGS RUN

SPORT FISHING

Alexander Springs Creek provides habitat for a variety of sport fish species. Largemouth bass, bluegill, redear, and spotted sunfish are abundant and the most sought after. Sunshine bass, introduced by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission in the St. Johns River, frequently enter this stream in the winter months and provide a very exciting fishery. The strong current of the clear, cool spring water in a subtropical setting offers the forest angler a truly unique fishing experience.

ACCESS

Alexander Springs Run is accessible at public landings located at the stream crossing of C.R. 445 and at the terminus of F.R. 18. Launching facilities are Class C for small boats at the C.R. 445 site and Class B ramp at the F.R. 18 site. Anglers commonly fish in the vicinity of the launching facility or put in at the C.R. 445 site and travel 6 miles downstream to the F.R. 18 landing to be picked up with another vehicle. The trip requires approximately six hours, depending on weather and stream conditions, and the characteristics of the craft and power source.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

Outboard motors are prohibited in the Billies Bay Wilderness area that is above the C.R. 445 bridge. Sport fishing is not allowed in the immediate vicinity of Alexander Springs. Limits are well identified.

RUN DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

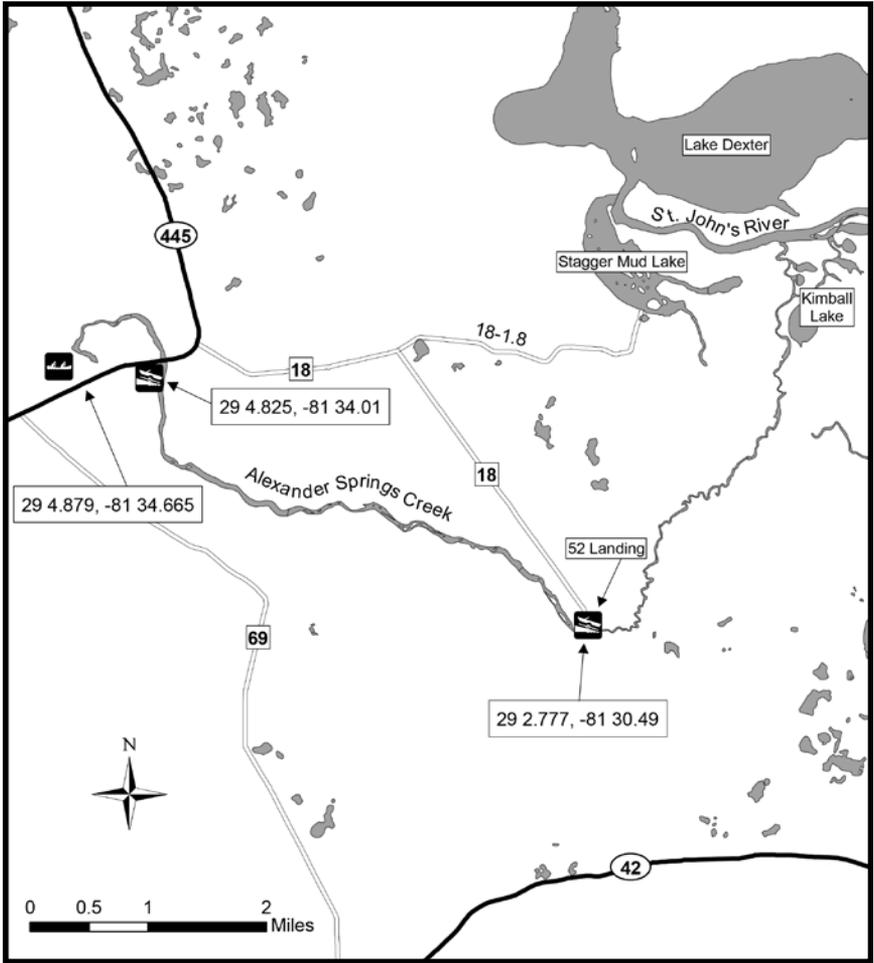
Length (miles): 10
Maximum depth (feet): N/A
Water color: Clear to Stained
Trophic Status: Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion (pH): 7.6
Total Hardness (mg/l): N/A
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): ... 78 mg/l as Ca CO₃
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): N/A

AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage: 95%
Emergent/Floating: 80%
Common Plants:

1. Eel grass
2. Cattail
3. Bulrush
4. Water hyacinth
5. Pickerelweed
6. Strap-leaf sag
7. Sago pondweed
8. Illinois pondweed

VICINITY MAP



BAPTIST LAKE

SPORT FISHING

Jon boats or canoes are the recommended methods of fishing, but shoreline bank and wade fishing are possible with caution. The sand-bottom lake was experimentally stocked with northern largemouth bass and bluegill in 1985. Outstanding catches of bass and sunfish have been reported from the deep hole in the northeast section of the lake near the wet-weather seep.

ACCESS

A carry-in entry is available on the southwest shore of Baptist Lake. Road access to the lake is approximately 3.5 miles of four-wheel drive road. (F.R. 09-0.7 and F.R. 09-0.7A)

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

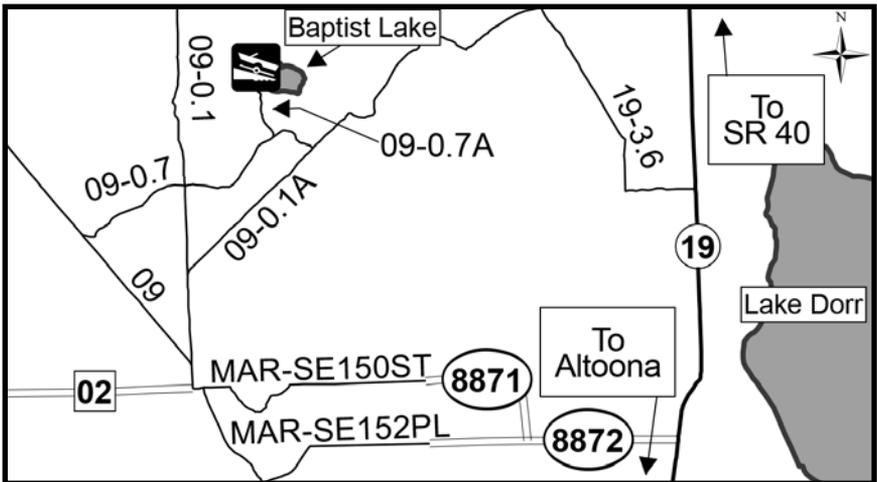
Area (acres): 21
Maximum depth (feet): 28
Water color: Stained
Trophic Status: Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (4.6)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 3.8
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 1.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.02

AQUATIC VEGETATION

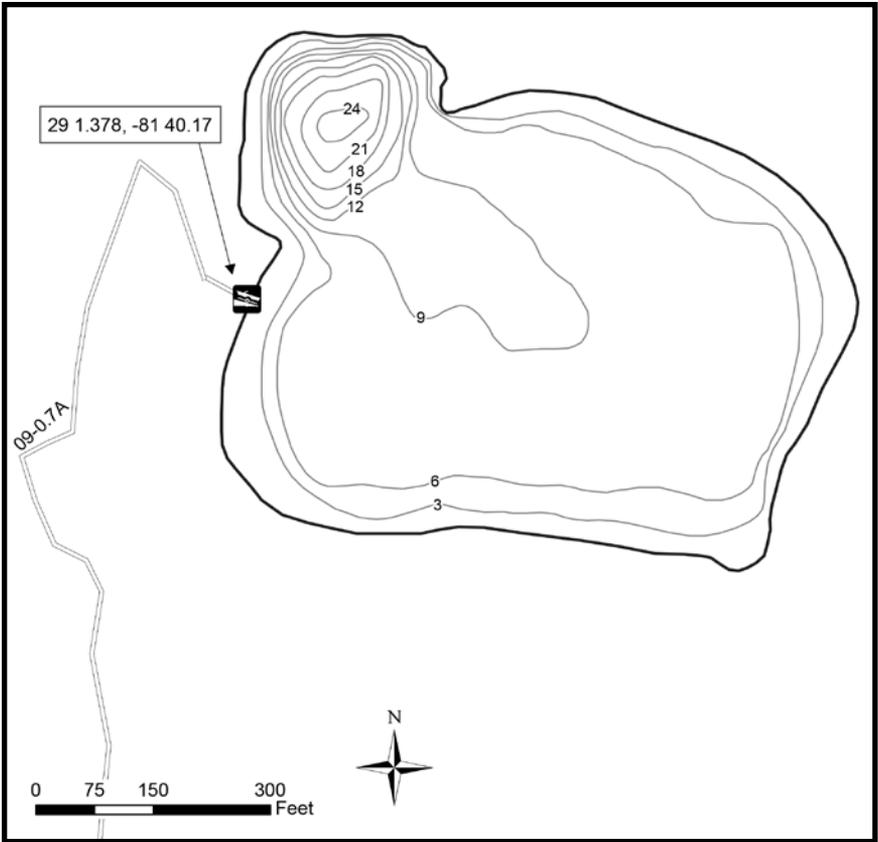
Total Coverage: 7 acres, 33%
Emergent/Floating: 7 acres, 33%
Common Plants:

1. Southern cutgrass
2. Maidencane
3. Hairgrass
4. Spatterdock

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



BOYD LAKE

SPORT FISHING

Shoreline wading, jon boats and canoes are the most popular fishing methods on this clear, shallow lake. Small bait and light line are the most productive tackle for taking largemouth bass and sunfish.

ACCESS

A class D access is located at the terminus of 40-26.5B or Astor Transfer Station Road. As the trail approaches Boyd Lake it can become sandy during long droughts and is recommended only for four-wheel drive vehicles.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

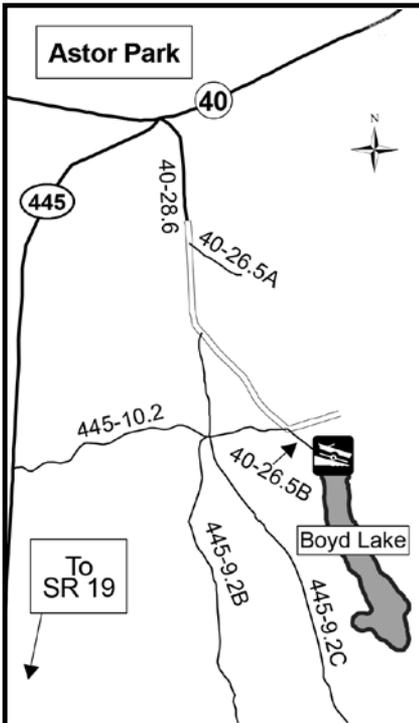
Area (acres):20
Maximum depth (feet): 11
Water color: Stained
Trophic Status: Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Highly Acid (4.1)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 3.8
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 1.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

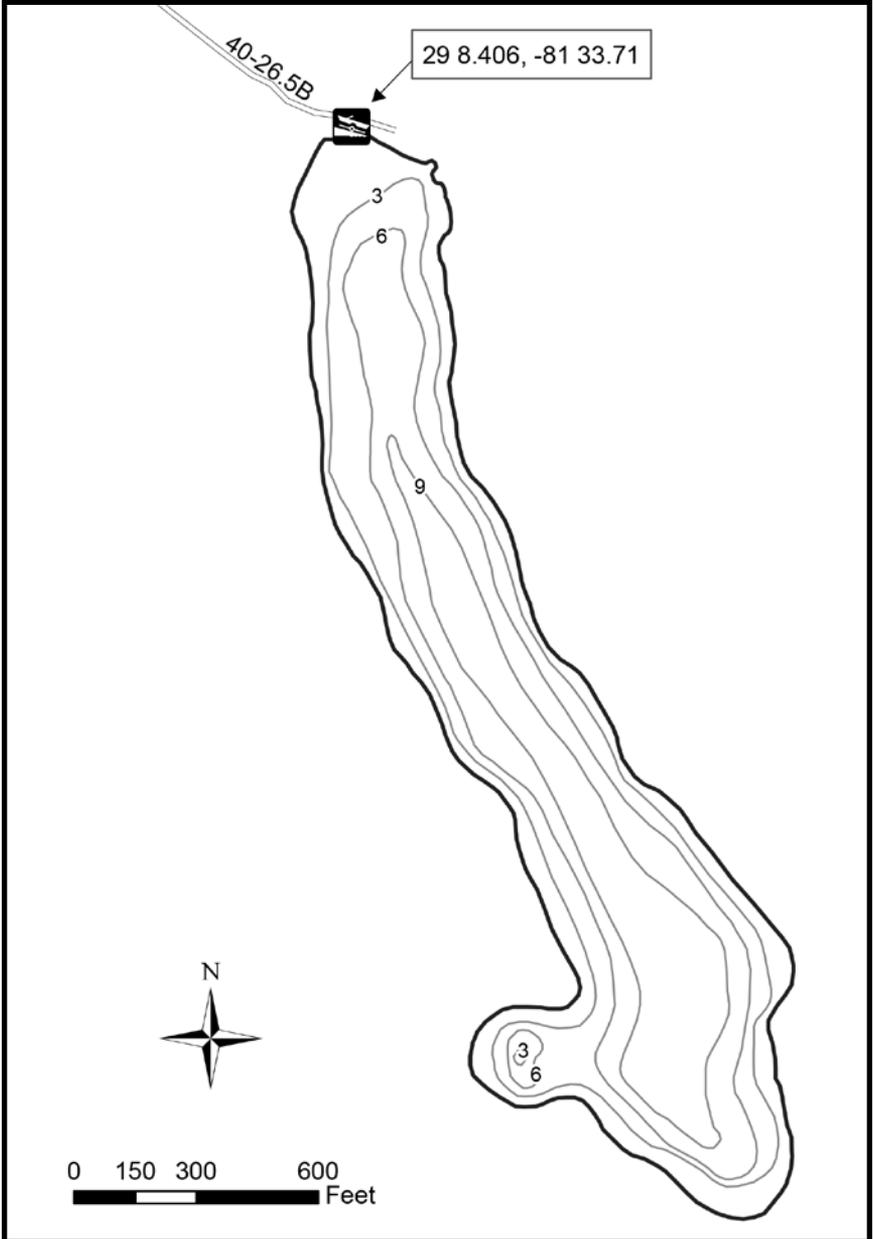
Total Coverage:2 acres, 10%
Emergent/Floating:1 acres, 5%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Rush fuirena
3. Yellow water-lily
4. Southern cut grass

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



BUCK LAKE

SPORT FISHING

Buck Lake is another of the most popular fishing lakes on the Ocala National Forest. Trophy largemouth bass are commonly taken, especially on wild shiners. Black crappie have been stocked in this midsized lake and provide a “good” fishery in the early spring. Brush fish attractors have been installed to help the angler locate “hot spots”.

ACCESS

Buck Lake is a group campground and is available for reservations through Reserve America. Access is considered suitable for all vehicles. Road access is improved F.R. 22-14.0, with a Class B boat ramp located on the north shoreline of the lake near the camping area.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

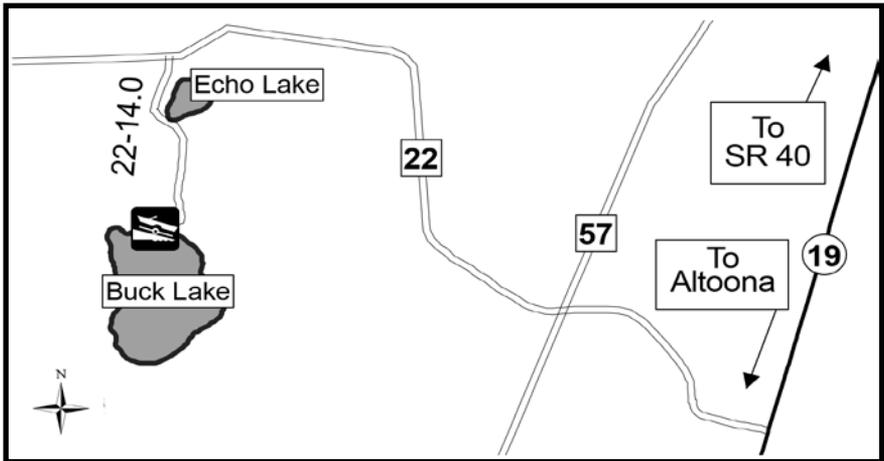
Area (acres):	57
Maximum depth (feet):	20
Water color:	Clear
Trophic Status:	Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH):	Acid (5.2)
Total Hardness (mg/l):	5.5
Total Alkalinity (mg/l):	3.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l):	0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

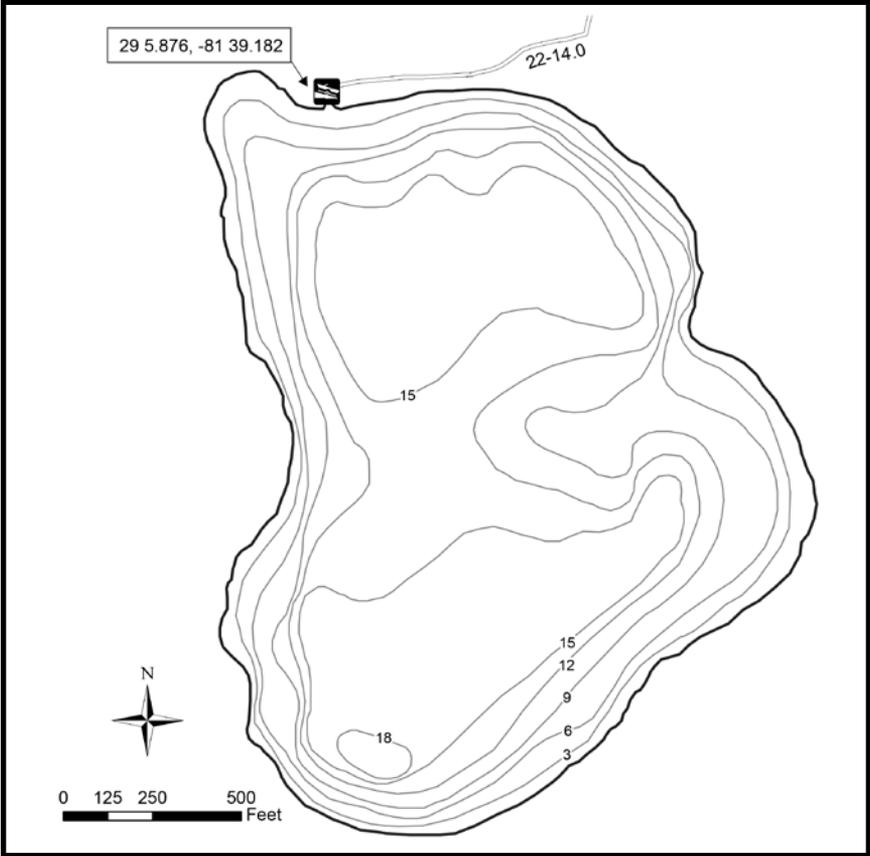
Total Coverage:	26 acres, 46%
Emergent/Floating:	7 acres, 12%
Common Plants:	

1. Maidencane
2. Spatterdock
3. Water moss
4. Hairgrass

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



CHAIN-O-LAKES

SPORT FISHING

Very clear water with limited cover on these sand-bottomed lakes makes this a challenging area to fish. Good catches of largemouth bass and sunfish are common with light tackle and small bait.

ACCESS

The Chain-O-Lakes is only accessible by way of a canal or by foot travel. During times of drought and low water levels, this area is inaccessible to boats. During these conditions shoreline fishing provides a unique angling opportunity.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

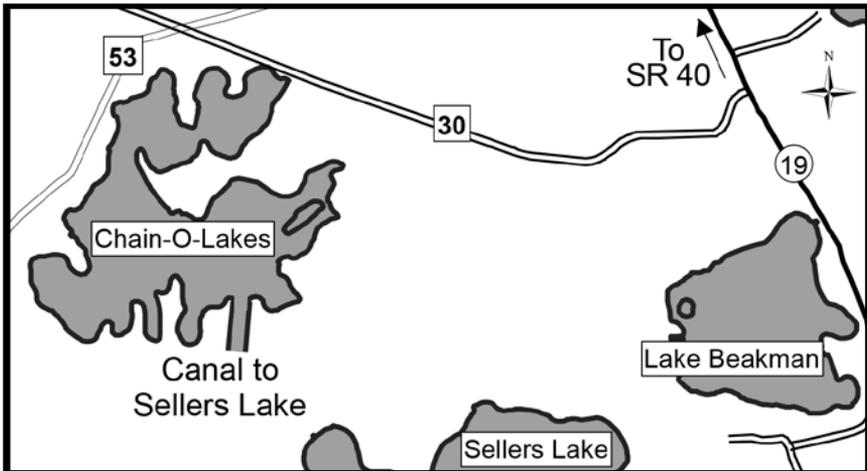
Area (acres): 167
Maximum depth (feet): 13
Water color: Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (4.7)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 4.3
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 2.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.02

AQUATIC VEGETATION

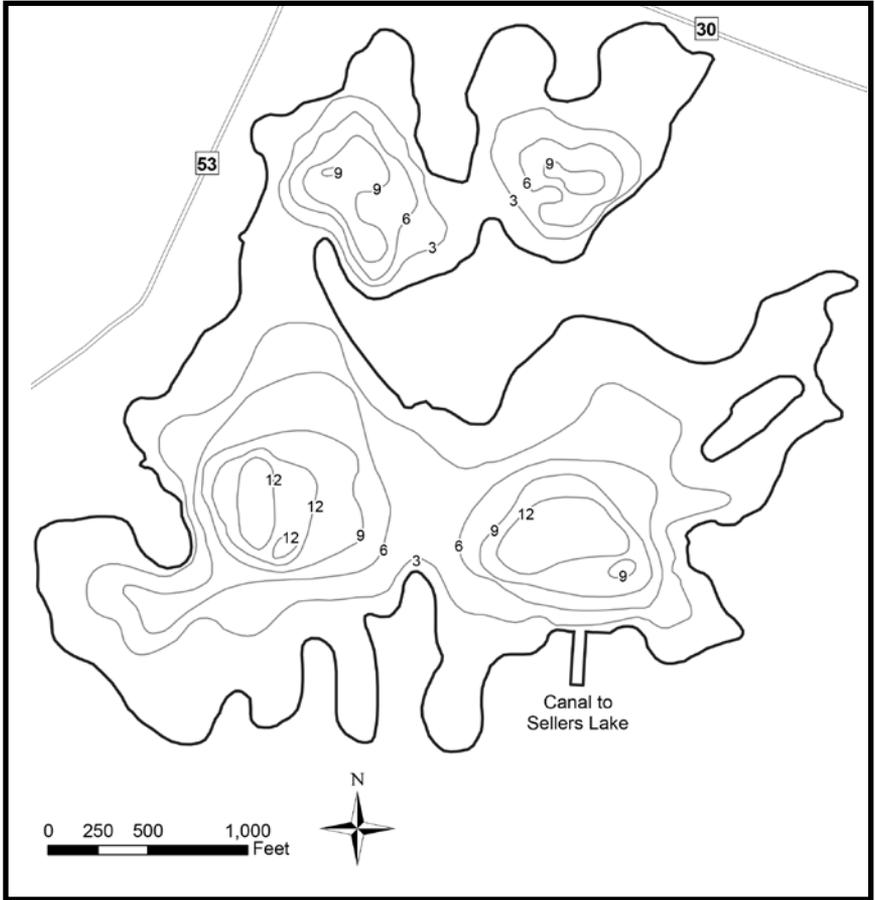
Total Coverage: 146 acres, 87%
Emergent/Floating: 55 acres, 33%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Lake rush
3. Fragrant lily
4. Algal bulrush
5. Water milfoil

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



CLAY LAKE

SPORT FISHING

This small, clear lake is often completely covered by rooted aquatic vegetation but supports one of the highest standing crops of sport fish on the Ocala National Forest. Anglers may find this lake difficult to fish, but a small jon boat will help.

ACCESS

Clay Lake is accessed by an improved road off F.R. 77-1.1A. Although the access road is suitable for all vehicles, trailer launch (Class D ramp) is not recommended without a four-wheel drive vehicle.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

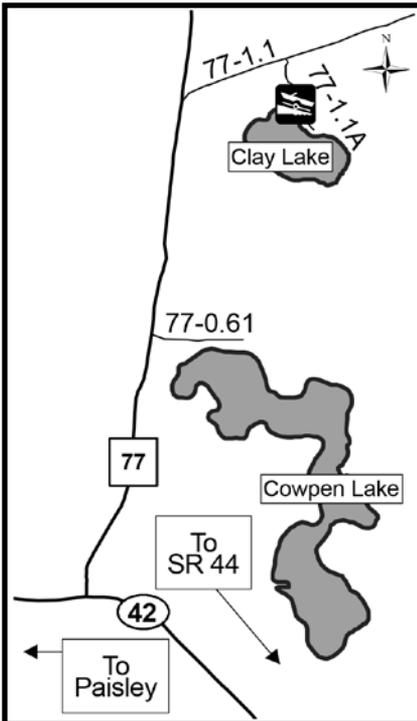
Area (acres): 13
Maximum depth (feet): 10
Water color: Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Highly Acid (4.4)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 4.6
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 1.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

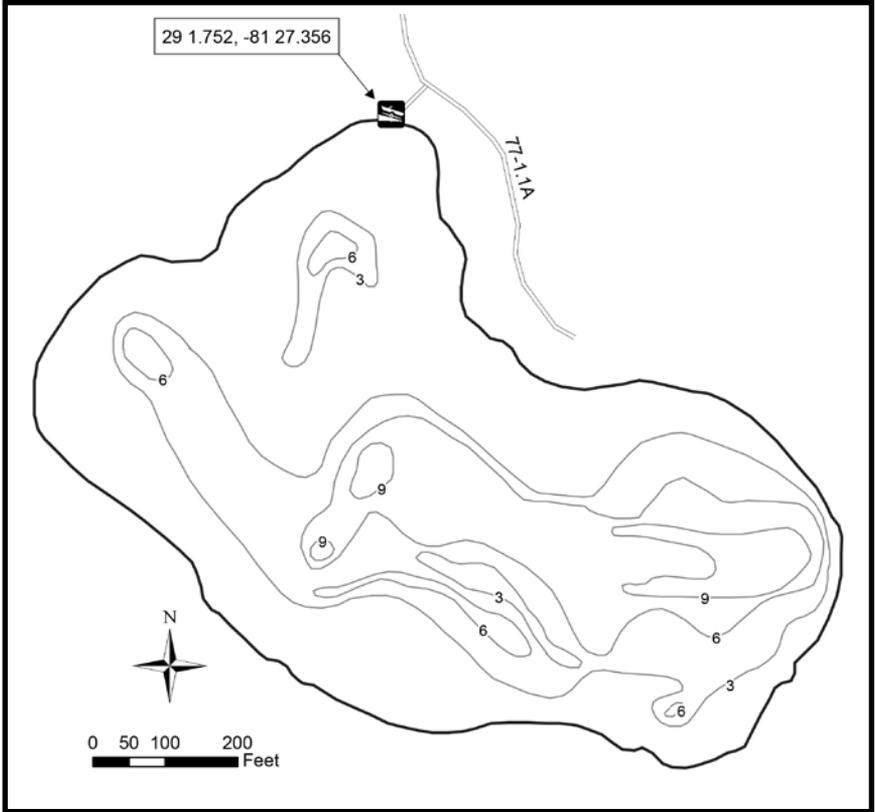
Total Coverage: 13 acres, 100%
Emergent/Floating: 2 acres, 15%
Common Plants:

1. Water milfoil
2. Southern cutgrass
3. Spatterdock
4. Bladderwort

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



COWPEN POND

SPORT FISHING

Cowpen Pond is conveniently located near S.R. 42 in the southeastern corner of the Forest. Good catches of largemouth bass and sunfish are common to this moderately used lake. A small jon boat or canoe is recommended.

ACCESS

Cowpen Pond is accessed by an unimproved sand road off F.R. 77-0.61 that may not be suited for a two-wheel drive vehicle. Trailer launching at the Class D entry is not recommended without a four-wheel drive vehicle.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

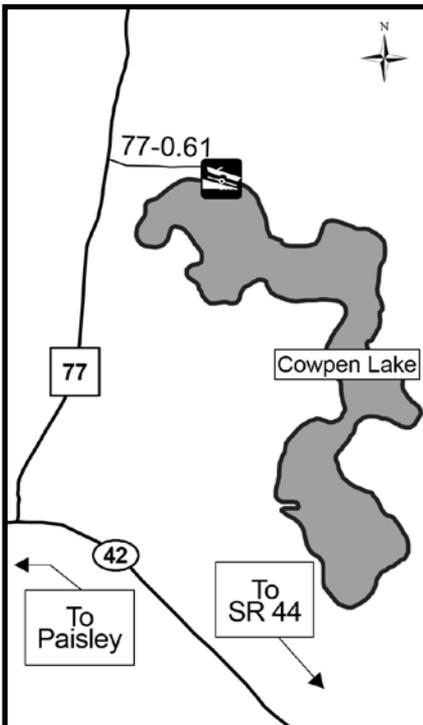
Area (acres):54
Maximum depth (feet): 10
Water color: Stained
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (4.8)
Total Hardness (mg/l):5.1
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 2.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

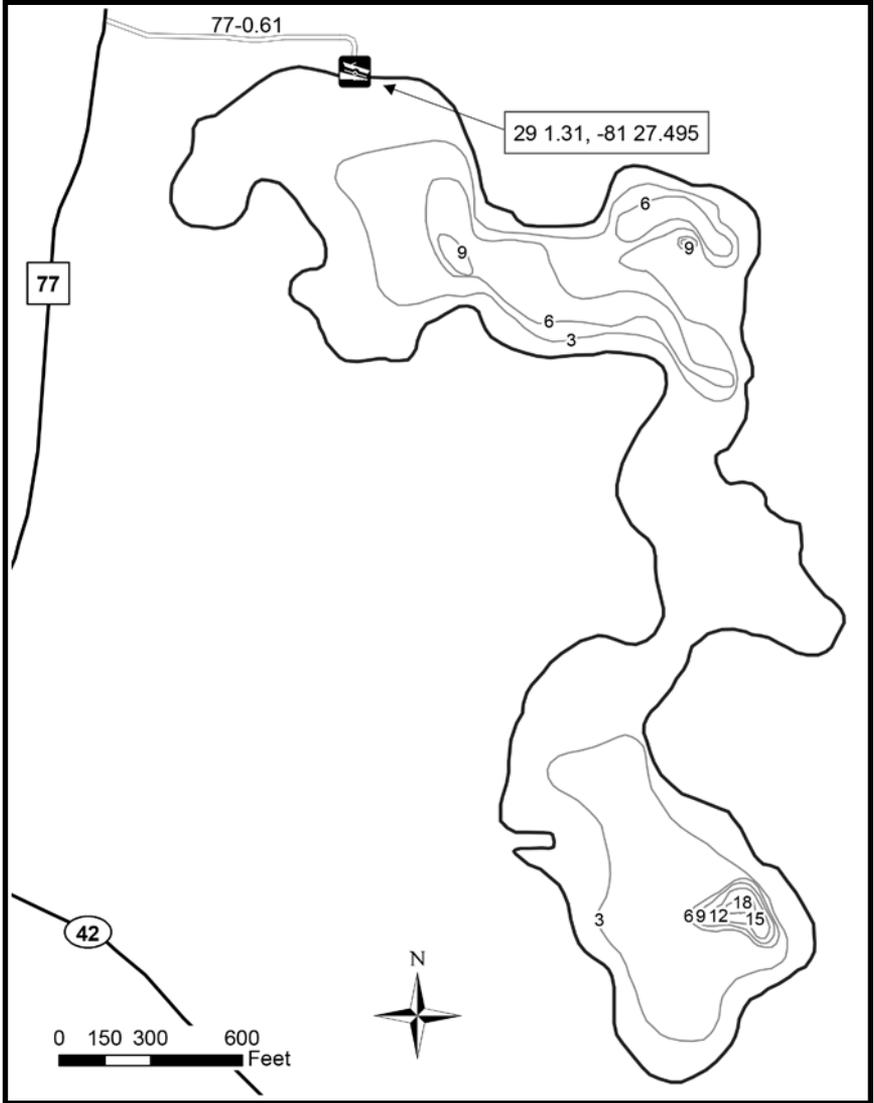
Total Coverage: 54 acres, 100%
Emergent/Floating: 31 acres, 57%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Lake rush
3. Fragrant water-lily
4. Algal bulrush
5. Bladderwort

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



DOE LAKE

SPORT FISHING

Small-powered jon boats or canoes are the most appropriate fishing method. The clear, sand-bottomed lake with dense shoreline cover supports a good population of sport fish. Light line and small bait produce the best catches. A put and take channel catfish fishery has been established in this lake to supplement the large-mouth bass and sunfish fishery.

ACCESS

A Class B ramp is located at the terminus of F.R. 14-0-7, an unimproved road off F.R. 14.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

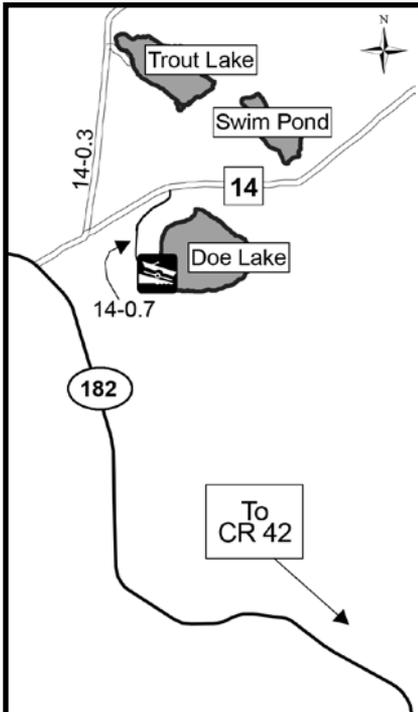
Area (acres):70
Maximum depth (feet):26
Water color:Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (4.6)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 5.5
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 2.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

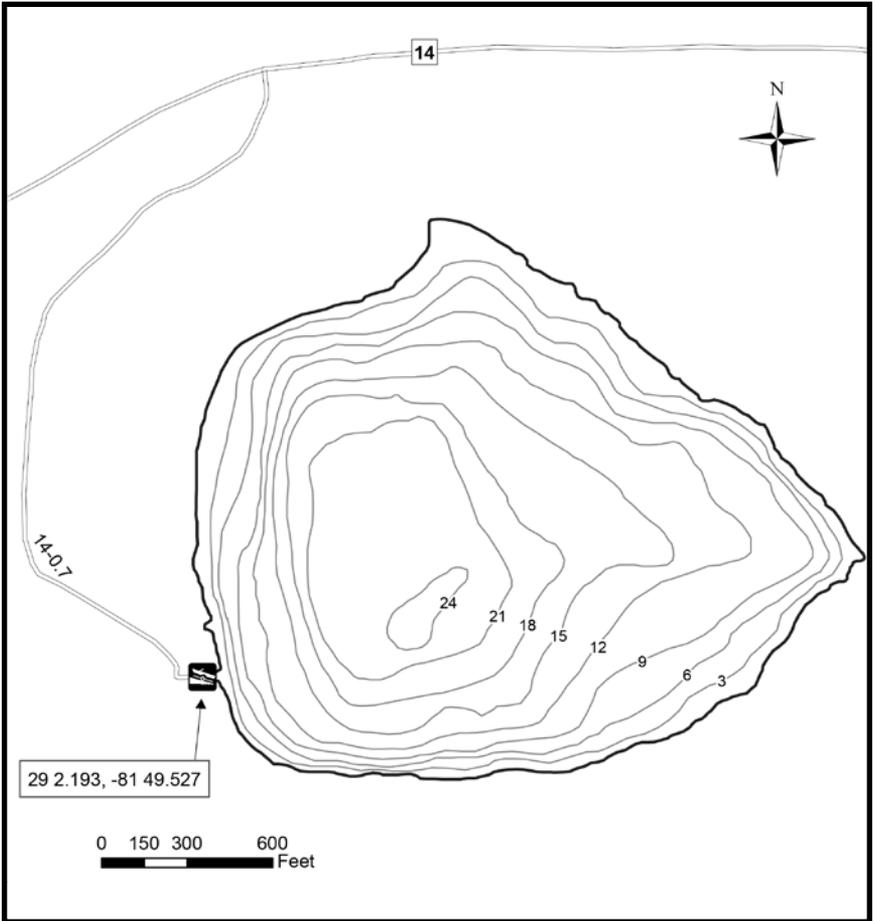
Total Coverage: 22 acres, 32%
Emergent/Floating:16 acres, 23%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Southern cutgrass
3. Lake rush
4. Spatterdock
5. Water pennywort
6. Bladderwort

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



ECHO LAKE

SPORT FISHING

This is a small lake with abundant shoreline vegetation and a very large standing crop of sport fish. Several trophy largemouth bass have been taken from this small lake. Small jon boats and canoes are the most common fishing methods but shoreline fishing is also appropriate.

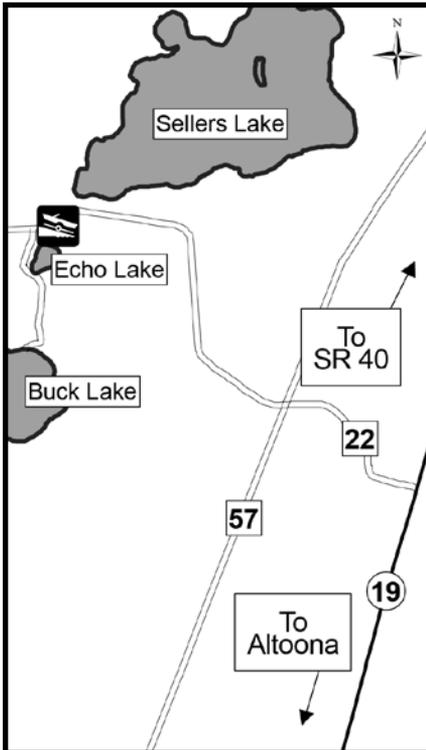
ACCESS

A Class B ramp is located on an improved access road off F.R. 22-14.0. Roads and facilities are suitable for all vehicle types.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

VICINITY MAP



LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

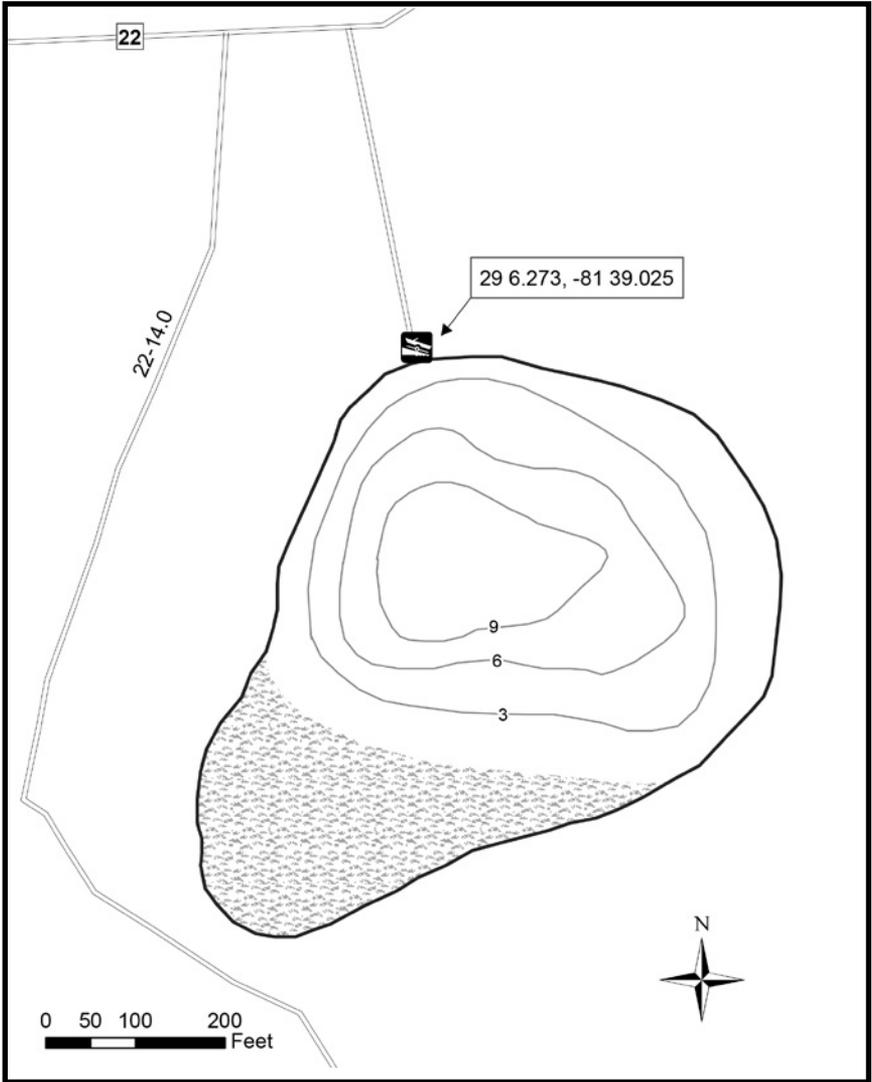
Area (acres): 5
Maximum depth (feet): 10
Water color: Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (4.5)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 4.1
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 2.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage: 3.75 acres, 75%
Emergent/Floating: 1.4 acres, 28%
Common Plants:

1. Southern cutgrass
2. Lake rush
3. Spatterdock
4. Hairgrass
5. Algal bulrush

BATHYMETRIC MAP



FARLES LAKE

SPORT FISHING

This is a very attractive chain of waterbodies that provide a variety of sport fishing opportunities. Small powered jon boats or canoes are the most common fishing method. Wade or shoreline fishing is popular at times.

ACCESS

Farles Lake is a National Forest fee area. Costs for specific activities are posted at the day use area entrance. Farles Lake is accessed by a Class B ramp off improved F.R. 22. Launching facilities are adequate for most two-wheel drive vehicles.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

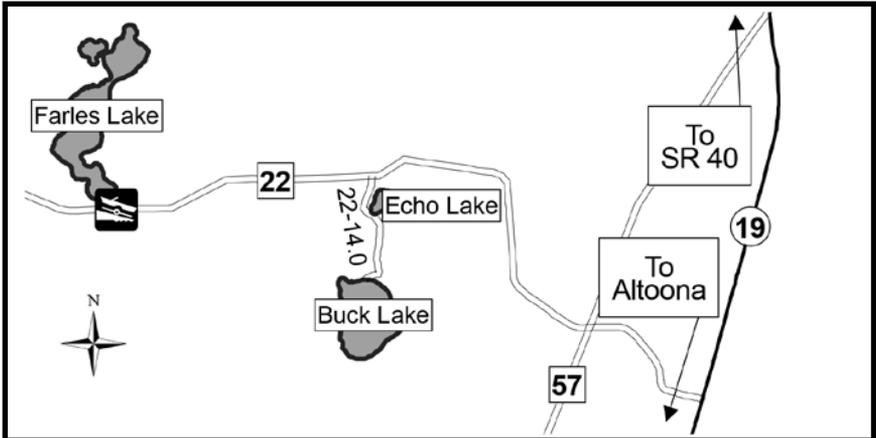
Area (acres):88
Maximum depth (feet):20
Water color:Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH):Slightly Acid (4.8)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 4.7
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 2.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

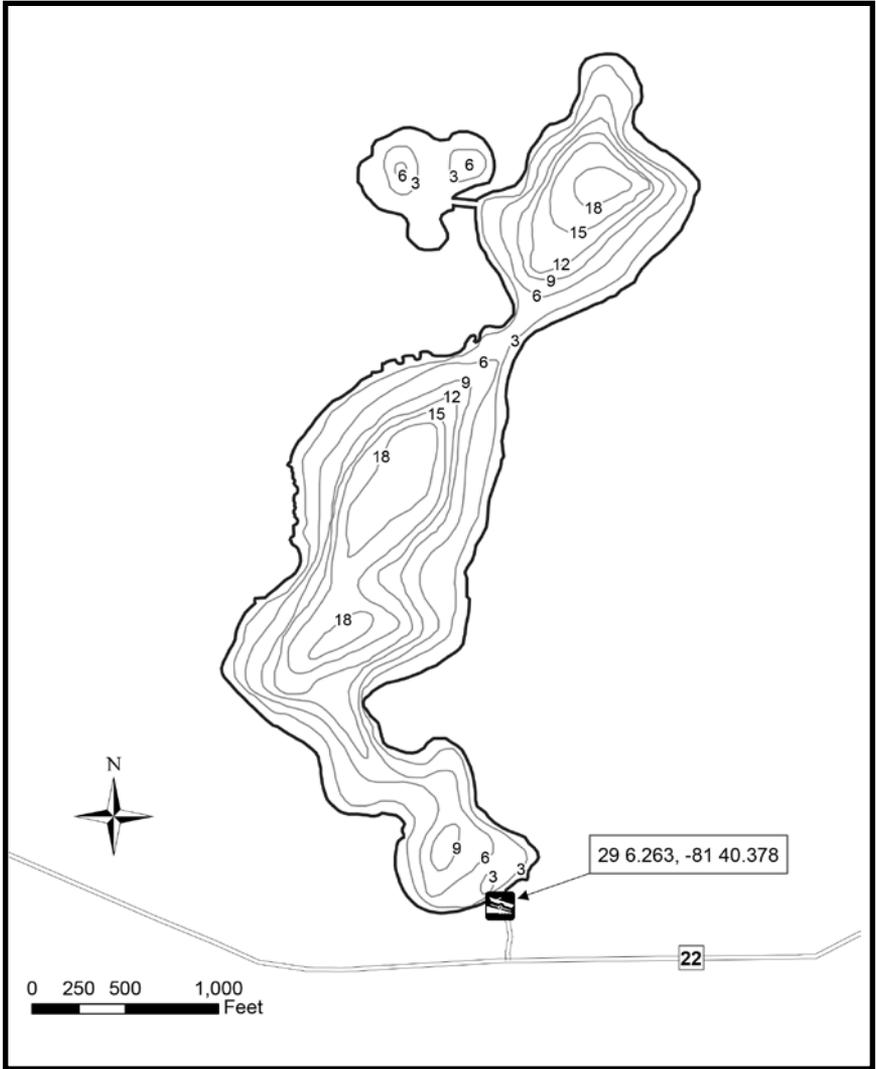
Total Coverage: 73 acres, 83%
Emergent/Floating: 25 acres, 28%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Spatterdock
3. Bladderwort

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



FORE LAKE

SPORT FISHING

Fore Lake is a relatively deep waterbody with little cover other than shoreline vegetation. Therefore, most fishing is conducted near shore from jon boats or canoes. A fishing pier is located near the campground to provide for bank anglers.

ACCESS

Fore Lake is a National Forest fee area. Costs for specific activities are posted at the campground entrance. There is easy access with any vehicle by primary roads. Boat launching is carry-in only. Craft must be carried approximately 80 feet.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

No gasoline engines are allowed on this lake.

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

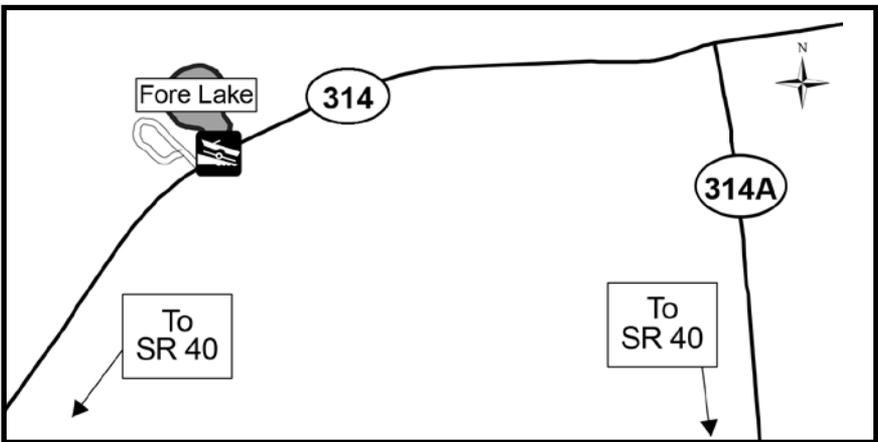
Area (acres): 24.3
Maximum depth (feet): 23
Water color: Stained
Trophic Status: Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Neutral (6.6)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 5.6
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 5.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

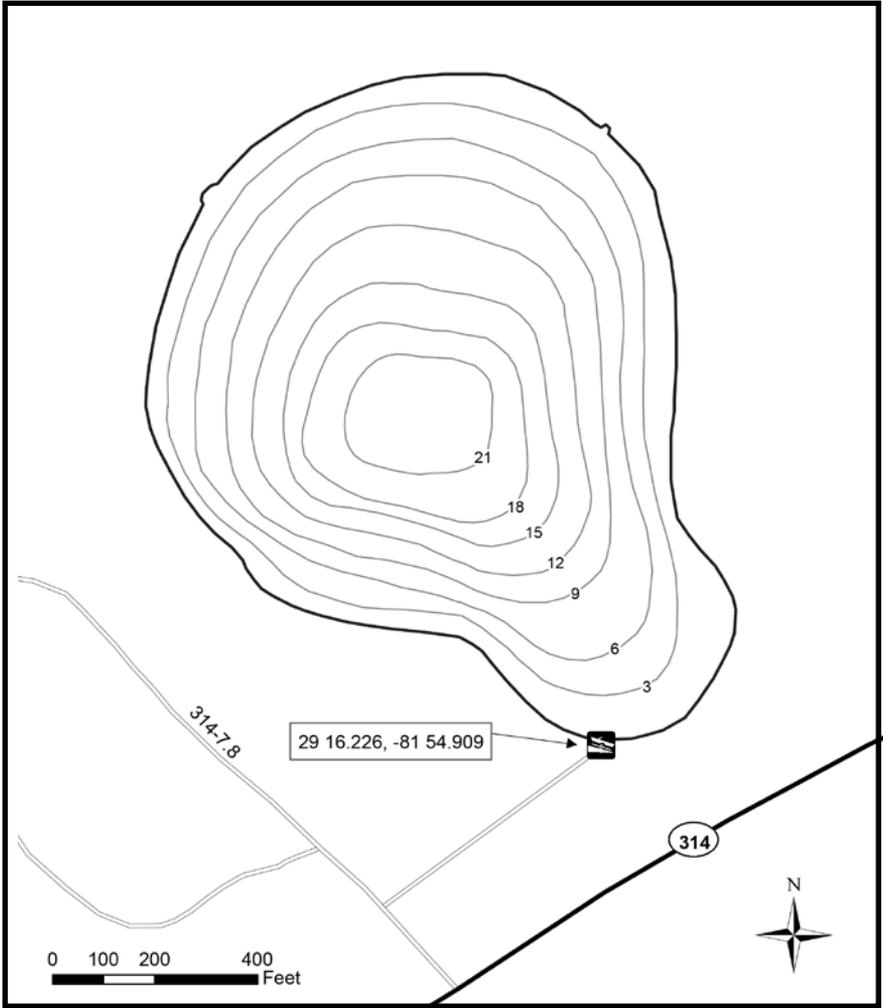
Total Coverage: 1.5 acres, 6%
Emergent/Floating: 1.5 acres, 6%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Lake rush
3. Southern cutgrass
4. Fragrant water-lily
5. Spatterdock
6. Hairgrass

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



GOBBLER LAKE

SPORT FISHING

Gobbler Lake is one of the Forest's most acid-stained lakes and has one of the most limited largemouth bass populations. At times, fishing for other sunfish species can be good. Fishing from small jon boats or canoes is recommended.

ACCESS

Small stained lake on F.R. 40-23.9, a four-wheel drive trail just off S.R. 40. Boat launching facility is a Class D entry with limited parking.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

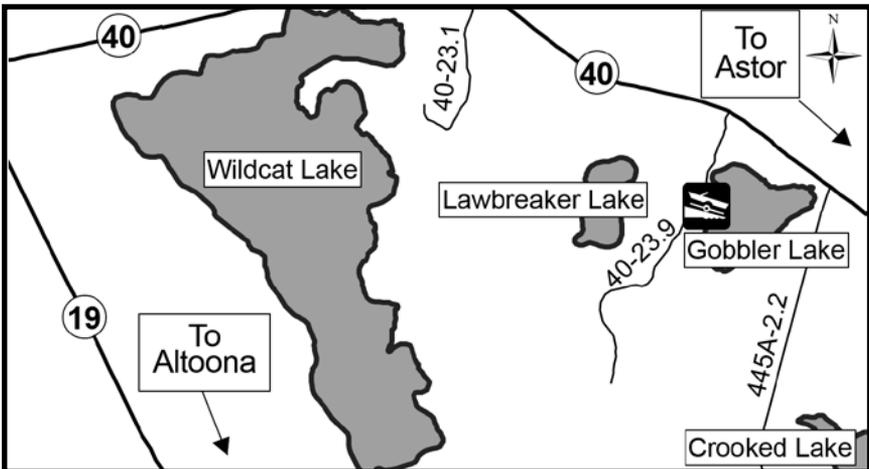
Area (acres):28
Maximum depth (feet): 16
Water color: Stained
Trophic Status: Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Highly Acid (4.1)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 4.9
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 0.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

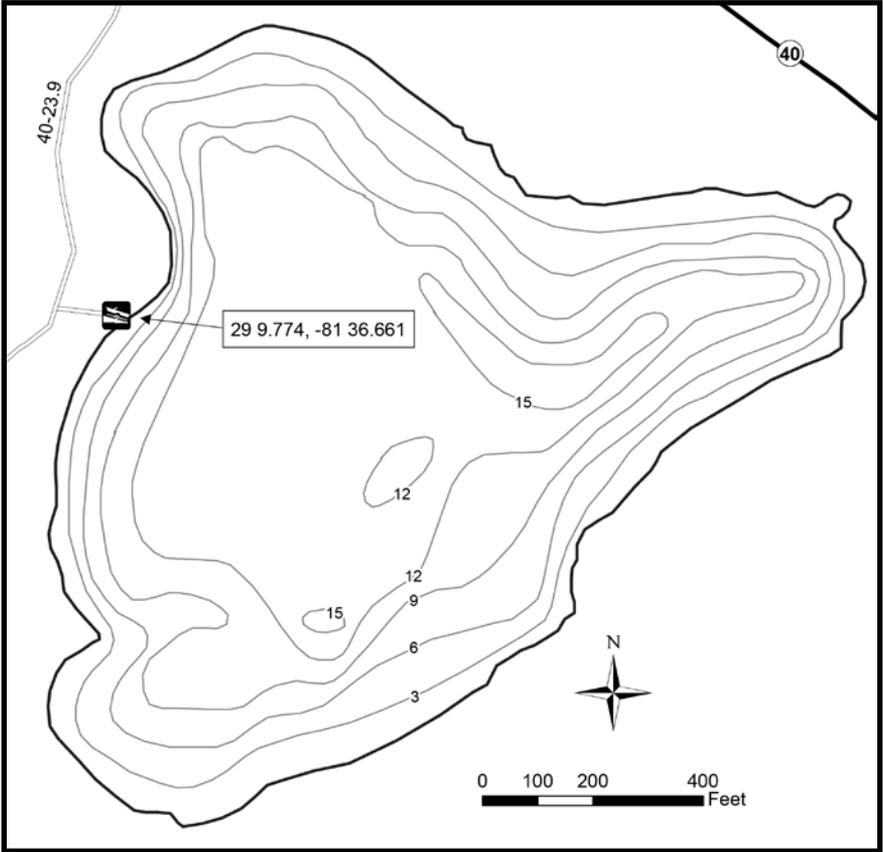
Total Coverage: 8 acres, 29%
Emergent/Floating: 8 acres, 29%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



GRASSHOPPER LAKE

SPORT FISHING

Grasshopper Lake is one of the most popular sport fishing lakes on the Ocala National Forest. Grasshopper is a deep, clear lake with dense shoreline vegetation. The lake and facilities are well suited for all fishing methods. A public fishing pier is located at the boat launch site, while shoreline wade fishing is more popular in the shallow water of the northern pools. Small power boats, jon boats and canoes are all appropriate.

ACCESS

A Class A boat ramp and a public fishing pier are located off F.R. 19-12.1, 0.3 mile east of S.R. 19. Access is suitable for all vehicles.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

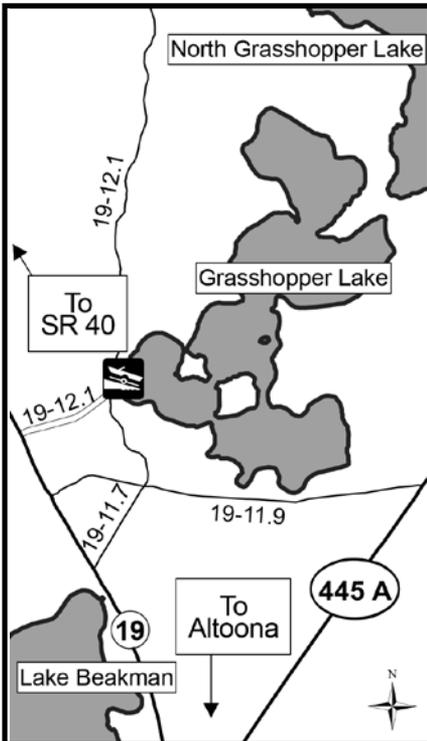
Area (acres): 147
Maximum depth (feet): 20
Water color: Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (4.7)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 3.8
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 1.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.02

AQUATIC VEGETATION

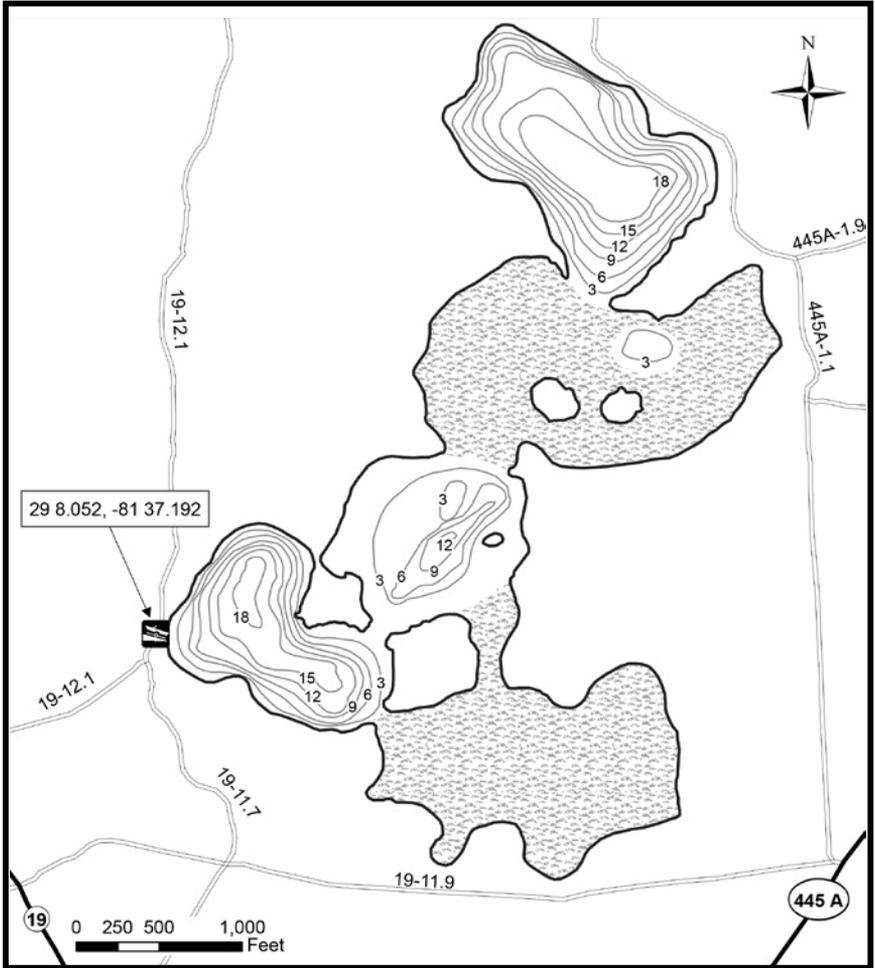
Total Coverage: 145 acres, 99%
Emergent/Floating: 74 acres, 50%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Lake rush
3. Southern cutgrass
4. Fragrant water-lily
5. Bladderwort

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



HALFMOON LAKE

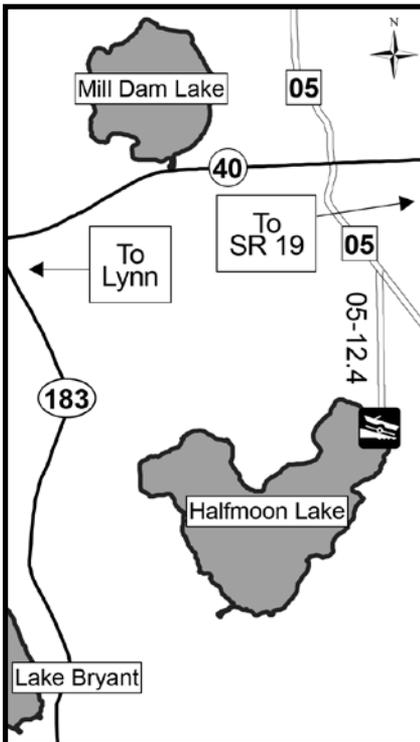
SPORT FISHING

Halfmoon is another popular fishing lake with excellent fishing for largemouth bass, black crappie, sunfish and pickerel. Halfmoon Lake accommodates all fishing methods, however, shoreline fishing is difficult. Canoes and small jon boats are not recommended during windy weather.

ACCESS

A Class A boat ramp is located on improved F.R. 05-12.4, 1 mile south of S.R. 40. During periods of low water four-wheel drive vehicles may be needed to launch boats from trailers.

VICINITY MAP



SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Area (acres):	320
Maximum depth (feet):	23
Water color:	Stained
Trophic Status:	Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH):	Slightly Acid (6.4)
Total Hardness (mg/l):	12.4
Total Alkalinity (mg/l):	7.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l):	0.01

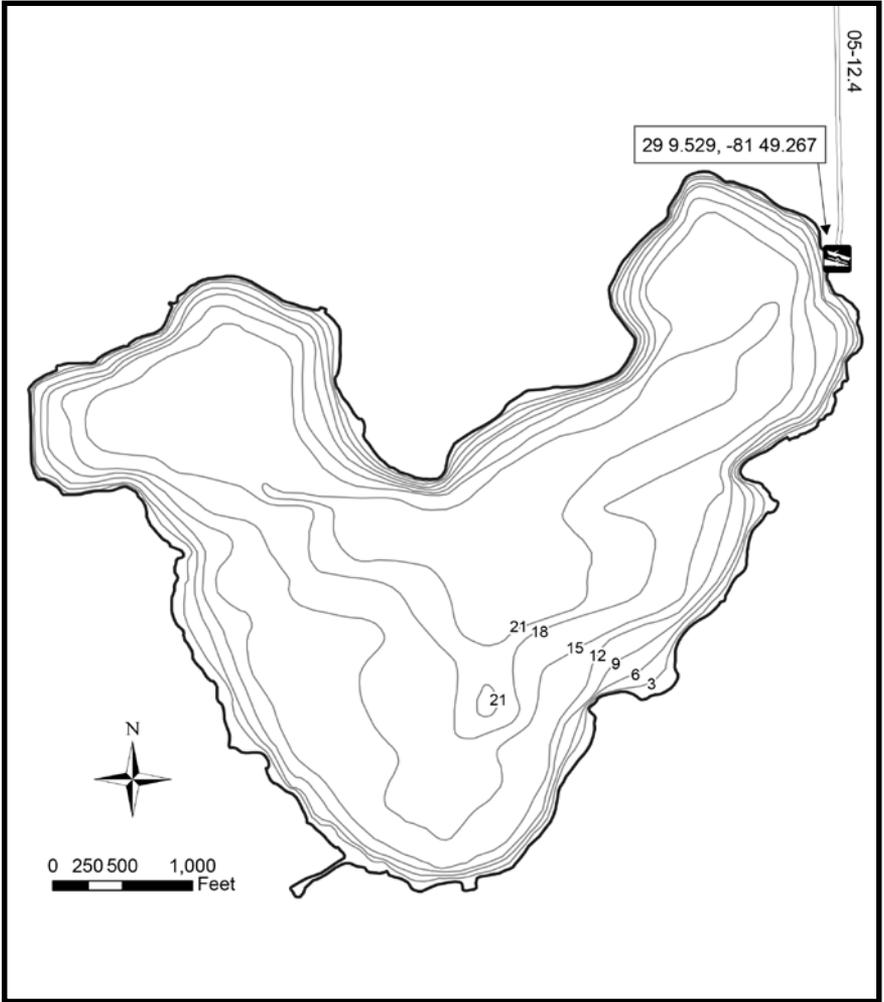
AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage:	255 acres, 80%
Emergent/Floating:	160 acres, 50%

Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Saw grass
3. Fragrant water-lily
4. Spikerush
5. Pickerelweed

BATHYMETRIC MAP



HOPKINS PRAIRIE LAKE

SPORT FISHING

Hopkins Prairie has several clear, shallow, interconnected pools with an abundance of floating aquatic vegetation. These very popular fishing lakes have produced many trophy largemouth bass. Fishing from small power boats, jon boats and canoes are popular fishing methods. Shoreline fishing is often very productive, especially in isolated areas.

ACCESS

A Class A ramp is located off F.R. 50 in a developed area on the south shore of the lake that can be used without a fee. A carry-in launch site is available in the National Forest campground located on the north shore of the lake.

The campground, located at the terminus of F.R. 50-10.4, is a National Forest fee area. Costs for specific activities are posted at the campground entrance. During times of drought and low water levels, boat access is limited. During these conditions shoreline fishing provides an excellent angling opportunity.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

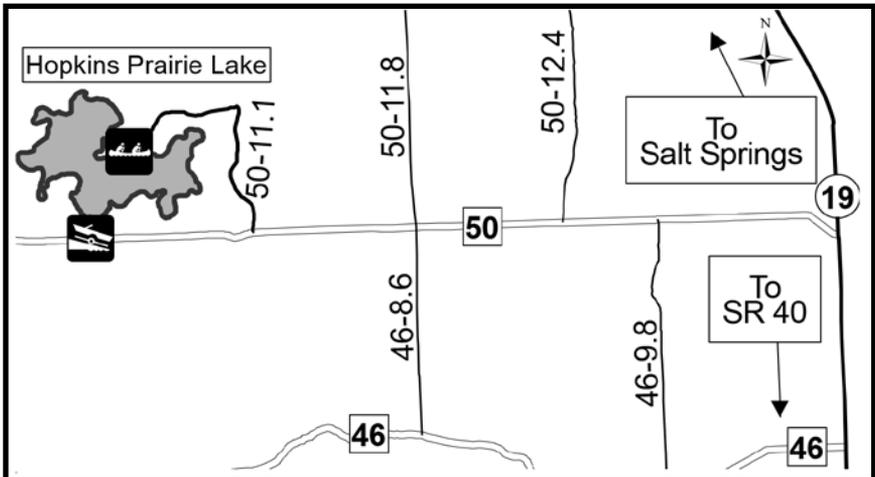
Area (acres): 116
Maximum depth (feet): 7
Water color: Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (4.6)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 7.3
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 2.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

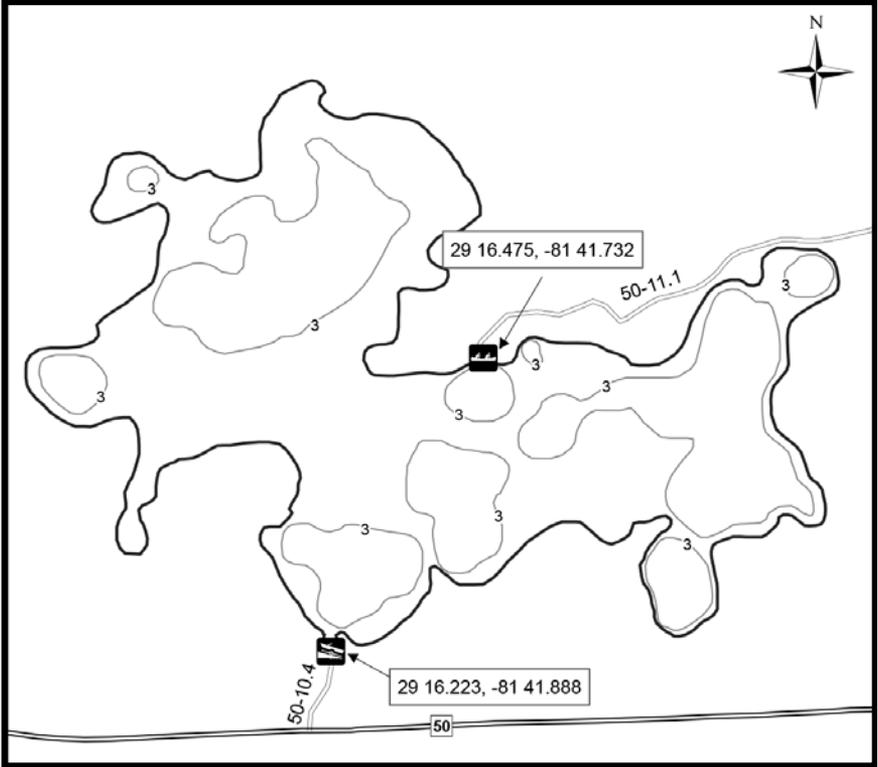
Total Coverage: 115 acres, 99%
Emergent/Floating: 84 acres, 72%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Lake rush
3. Spatterdock
4. Algal bulrush
5. Bladderwort
6. Water milfoil
7. Hairgrass

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



JUNIPER PRAIRIE WILDERNESS LAKES

SPORT FISHING

Shoreline fishing for largemouth bass and sunfish in these isolated lakes is truly a unique experience for the hearty angler. During times of drought and low water levels, many of the prairies within the wilderness are dramatically reduced in size or completely dry. Consider long-term weather patterns when planning a trip to this area.

ACCESS

Access to these prairie lakes is restricted to foot travel only. The Florida National Scenic Trail is the only maintained trail in the Juniper Prairie Wilderness Area. Anglers are encouraged to use GPS, topographical maps or aerial photographs to maintain bearing in this area. Roadside parking is available at F.R. 33 and F.R. 46.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

These lakes are located in a designated wilderness area; the use of motorized equipment is prohibited. Fishing is not allowed in the immediate area of the Juniper Wayside canoe launch/take-out.

Wilderness areas are designated for naturalness, wildness, and solitude. Please practice "Leave No Trace" while there.

LAKE DESCRIPTION

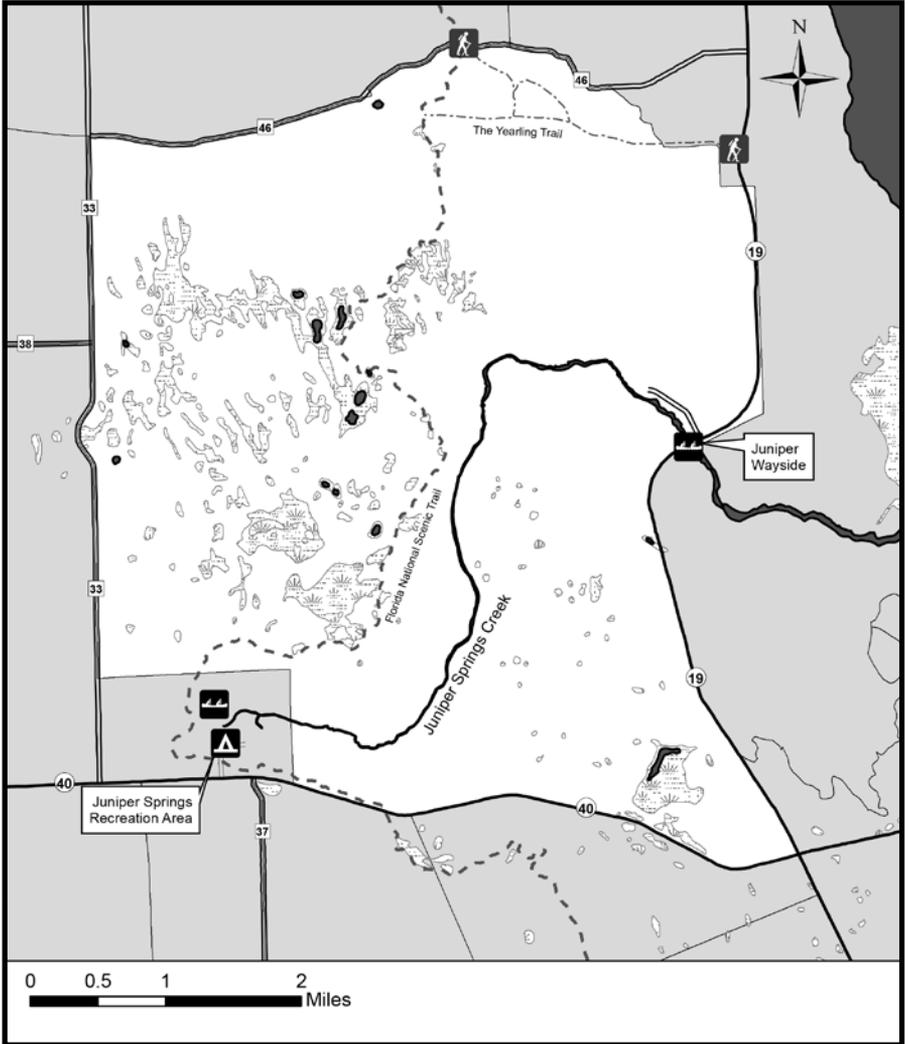
PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Area (acres):	.N/A
Maximum depth (feet):	.N/A
Water color:	.N/A
Trophic Status:	.N/A
Hydrogen-ion(pH):	.N/A
Total Hardness (mg/l):	.N/A
Total Alkalinity (mg/l):	.N/A
Total Phosphorous (mg/l):	.N/A

AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage:	Data Not Available
Emergent/Floating:	.N/A
Common Plants:	Data Not Available

VICINITY MAP



LAKE BEAKMAN

SPORT FISHING

This is a very popular fishing lake that consistently produces good catches of largemouth bass and panfish. Small bait and light line are most effective tackle. All fishing methods are commonly practiced on this easily accessed Lake.

ACCESS

A Class A ramp located alongside S.R. 19 provides access for all vehicle types.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

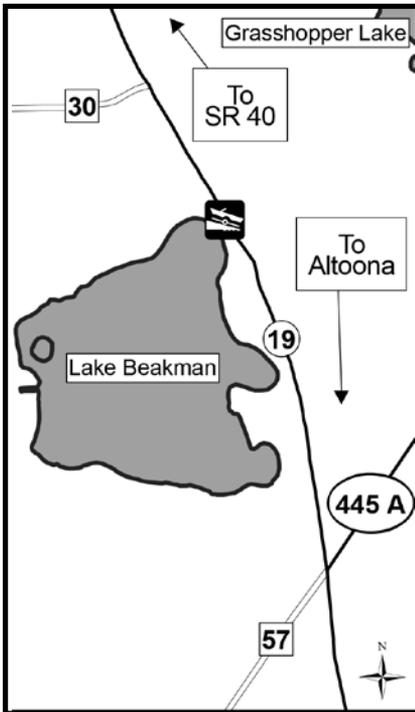
Area (acres): 91
Maximum depth (feet): 23
Water color: Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (4.5)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 5.9
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 1.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

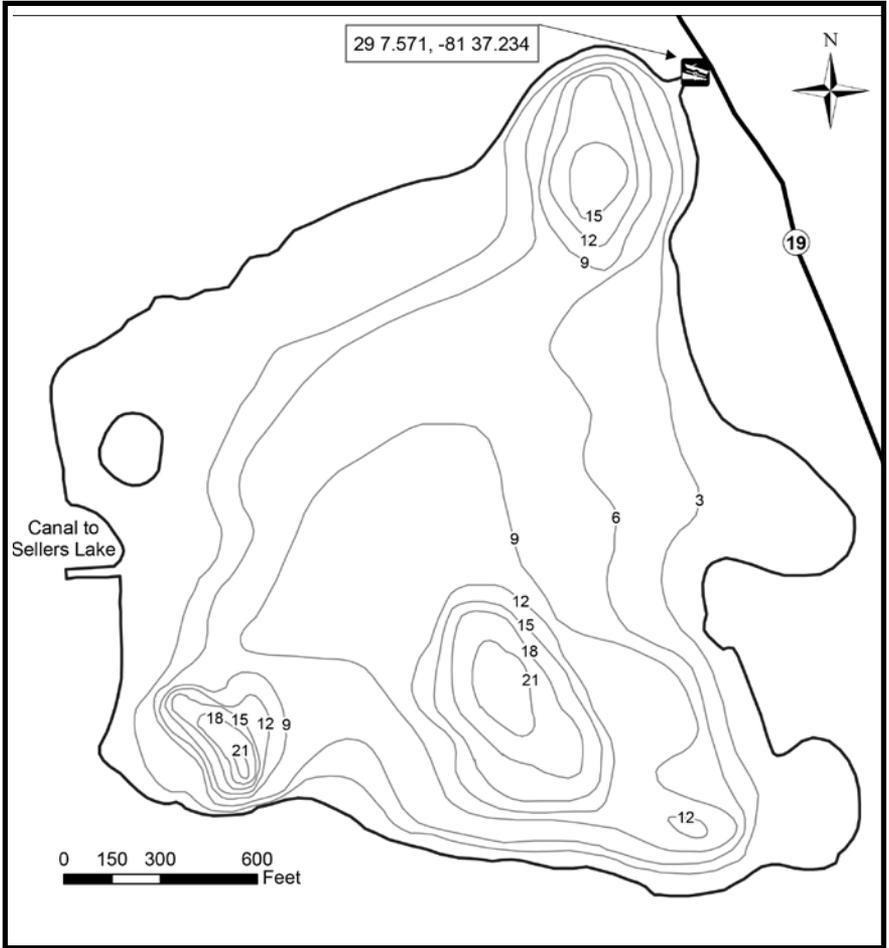
Total Coverage: 44 acres, 48%
Emergent/Floating: 24 acres, 23%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Lake rush
3. Fragrant water-lily
4. Bladderwort
5. Algal bulrush
6. Hairgrass
7. Banana-lily

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



LAKE BRYANT

SPORT FISHING

Lake Bryant, a relatively large waterbody in the central portion of the Ocala National Forest, is one of the most popular sport fishing lakes on the Forest. The lake is well suited for all methods of sport fishing. Excellent catches of largemouth bass, black crappie and bluegill are common.

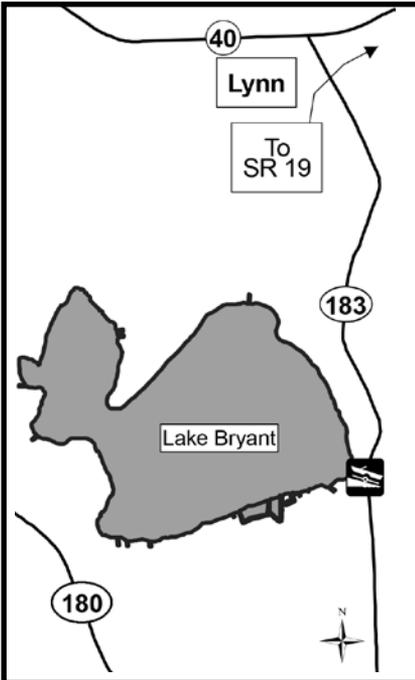
ACCESS

A Class A ramp located on Levy Hammock Road (C.R. 183), 2.4 miles south of S.R. 40, provides access for all vehicle types.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

VICINITY MAP



LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

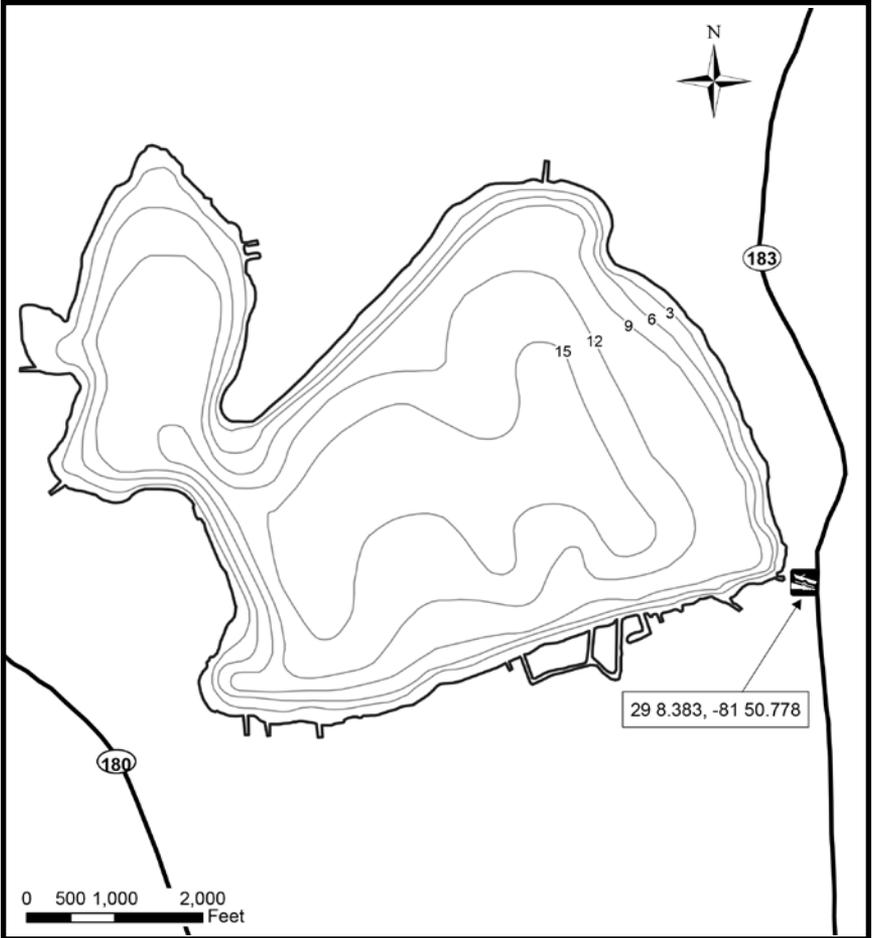
Area (acres):765
Maximum depth (feet): 15
Water color: Stained
Trophic Status: Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Neutral (6.5)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 24.0
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 10.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.10

AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage:77 acres, 10%
Emergent/Floating:61 acres, 8%
Common Plants:

1. Knotgrass
2. Spatterdock
3. Maidencane
4. Saw grass

BATHYMETRIC MAP



LAKE CATHERINE

SPORT FISHING

Lake Catherine is a clear lake with limited cover, other than the emergent vegetation, so light tackle is most effective. Recommended fishing methods are small power craft and jon boats.

ACCESS

Lake Catherine is accessed by F.R. 14-0.3B1. The Class C boat ramp is located on the north shoreline.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

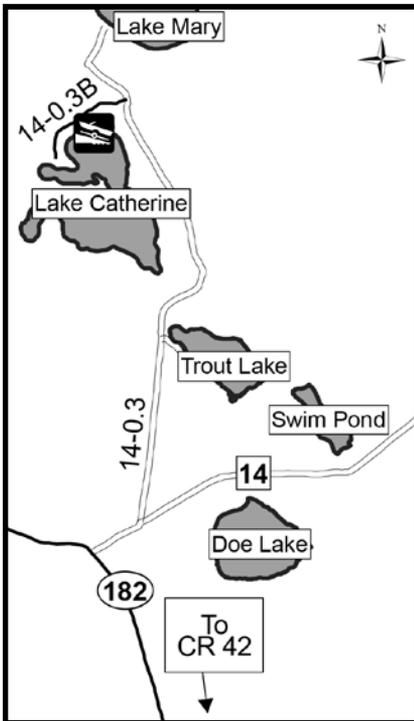
Area (acres): 112
Maximum depth (feet): 16
Water color: Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (4.7)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 4.7
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 2.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

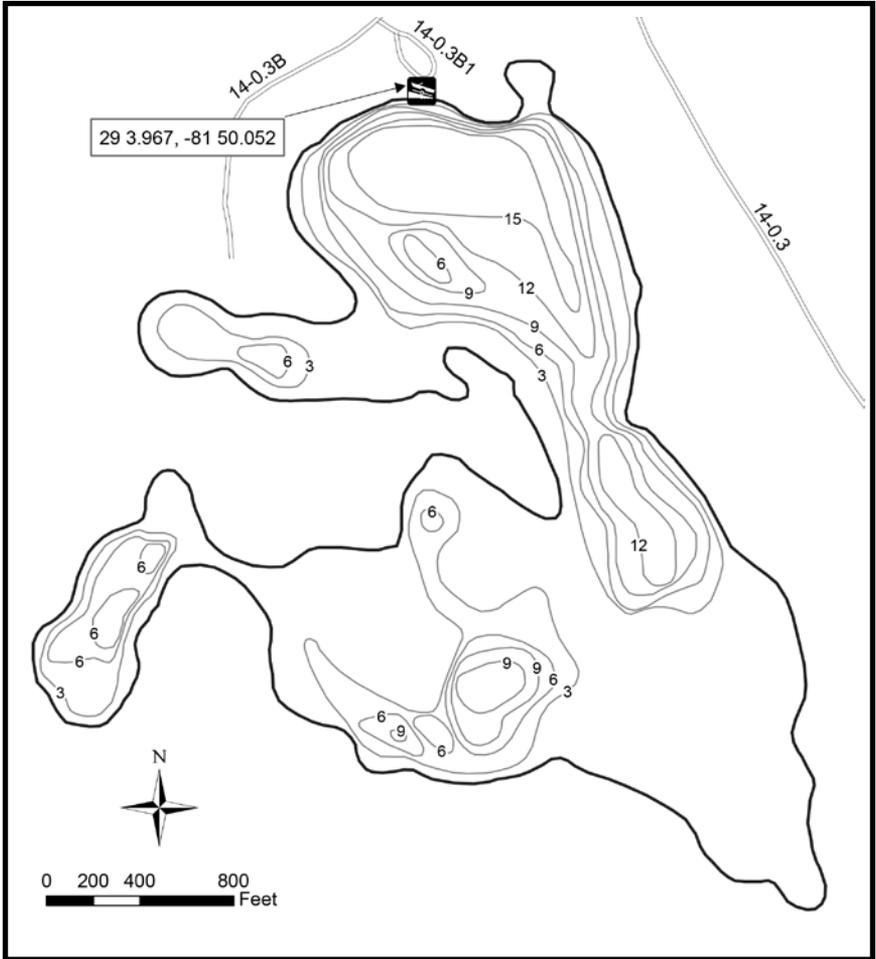
Total Coverage: 112 acres, 100%
Emergent/Floating: 45 acres, 40%
Common Plants:

1. Lake rush
2. Maidencane
3. Bladderwort
4. Water-shield
5. Banana-lily
6. Water milfoil

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



LAKE CHARLES

SPORT FISHING

Lake Charles is a large, highly stained lake with no development. The lake is completely surrounded by cypress that forms a very attractive setting for the anglers. A robust fish population in this lake that receives little use has helped create many memorable fishing trips for the adventurous angler.

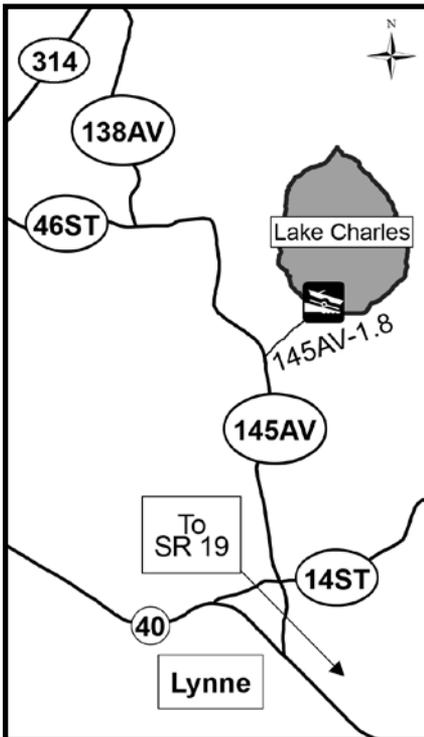
ACCESS

Lake Charles is accessed by 145 AV-1.8 off 145th Avenue north of S.R. 40. The launching area consists of a Class D entry with limited parking.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

VICINITY MAP



LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

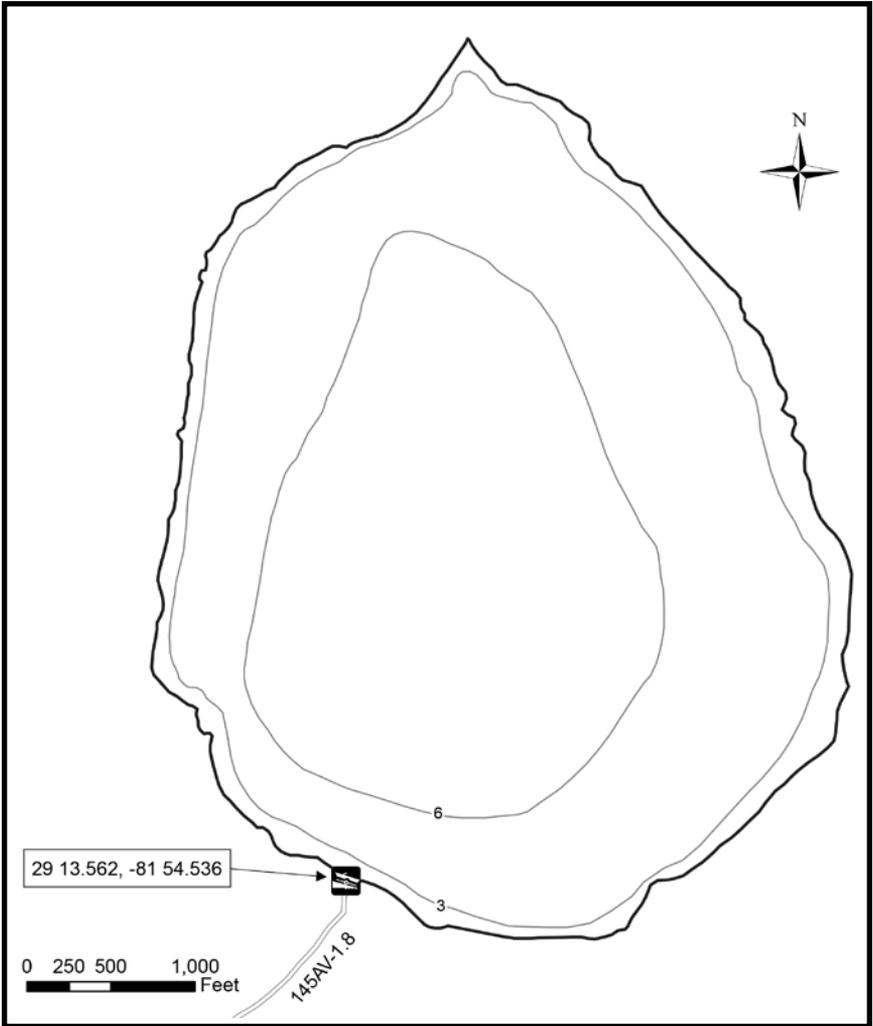
Area (acres):339
Maximum depth (feet): 7
Water color: Highly Stained
Trophic Status: Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Slightly Acid (6.0)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 24.3
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 9.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.05

AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage: 3 acres, 1%
Emergent/Floating: 3 acres, 1%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Spatterdock
3. Saw grass

BATHYMETRIC MAP



LAKE DELANCY

SPORT FISHING

Delancy is considered by many to be the Forest's most productive lake. Those who fish it regularly, are often rewarded with good catches of largemouth bass or sunfish.

ACCESS

A Class D boat ramp is located at the terminus of F.R. 11-18.4B1, a four-wheel drive road 2.5 miles west of the S.R. 19.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

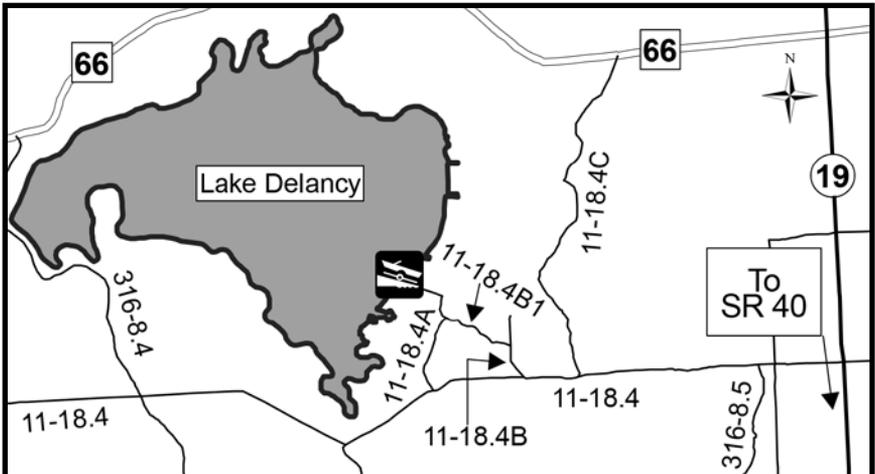
Area (acres): 168
Maximum depth (feet): 10
Water color: Very Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (5.1)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 5.7
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 2.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.02

AQUATIC VEGETATION

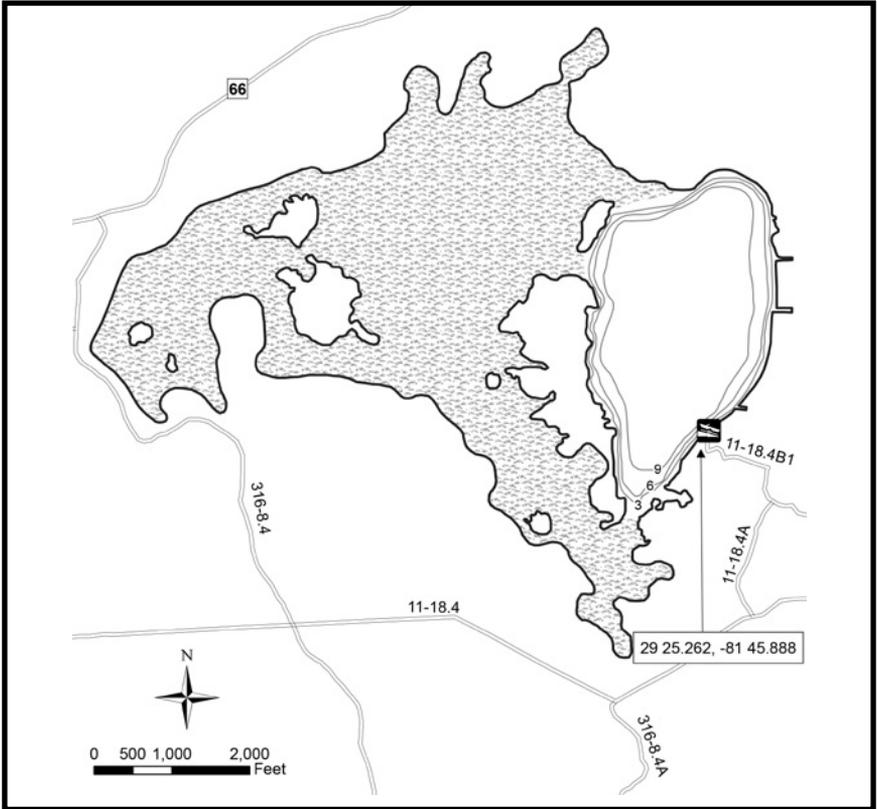
Total Coverage: 40 acres, 24%
Emergent/Floating: 27 acres, 16%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Lake rush
3. Fragrant water-lily
4. Hairgrass
5. Water milfoil
6. Saw grass

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



LAKE DORR

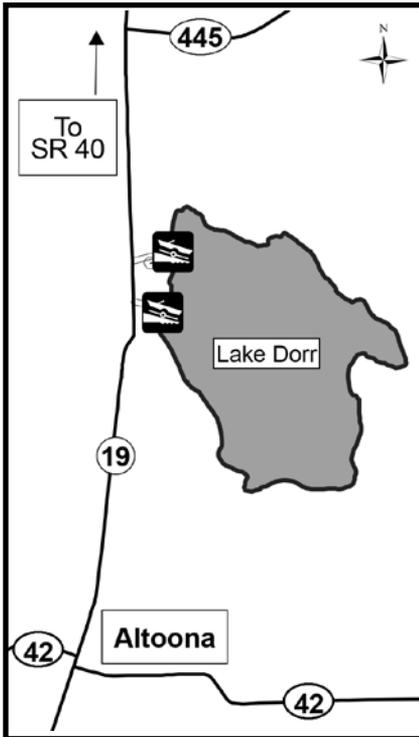
SPORT FISHING

Lake Dorr is a large, easily accessible lake with an adjacent camping facility that makes this area very attractive to the local and visiting angler. All methods of sport fishing are appropriate for this stained lake. Good catches of largemouth bass, sunfish and black crappie are common. "Speck" or crappie fishing is especially good in the fall and early spring when drifting live bait along the western shoreline.

ACCESS

There are two Class A ramps that provide suitable launching for all classes of fishing boats. Both are conveniently located on improved roads adjacent to S.R. 19.

VICINITY MAP



SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

The northern ramp is located on a National Forest fee area. Costs for specific activities are posted at the campground's entrance.

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Area (acres):	1,765
Maximum depth (feet):	.20
Water color:	Stained
Trophic Status:	Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH):	Acid (5.0)
Total Hardness (mg/l):	9.6
Total Alkalinity (mg/l):	2.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l):	0.02

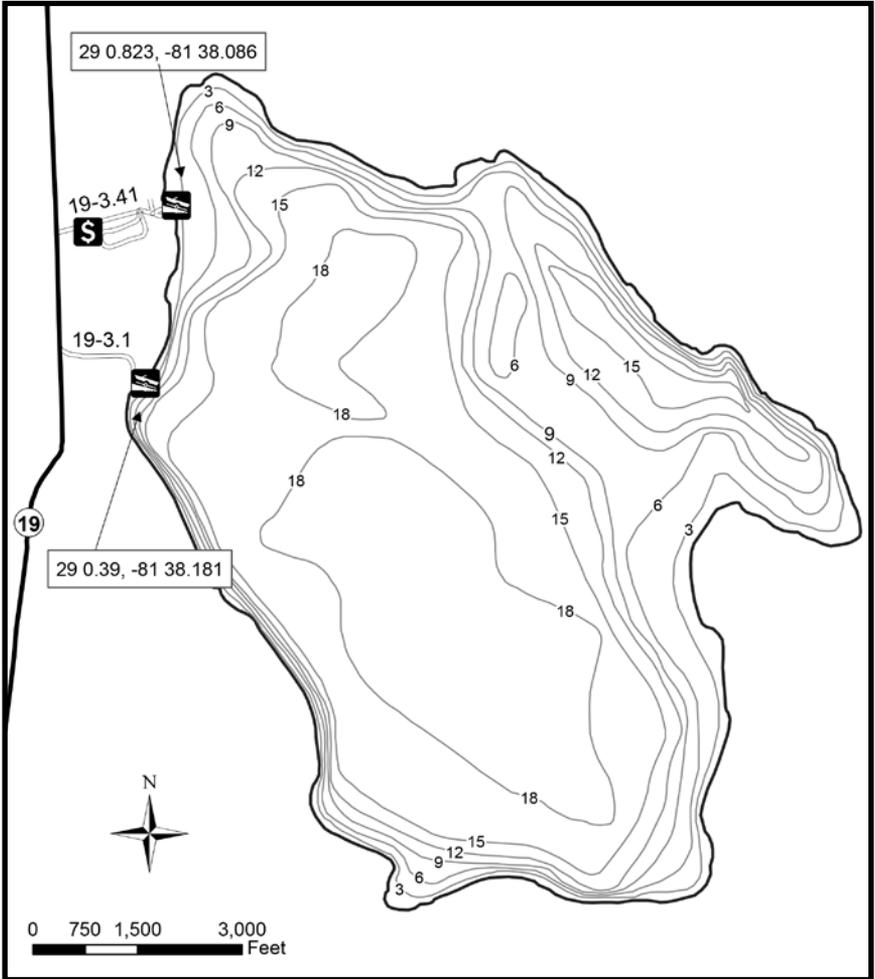
AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage:	88 acres, 5%
Emergent/Floating:	88 acres, 5%

Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Bulrush
3. Spatterdock
4. Hairgrass

BATHYMETRIC MAP



LAKE EATON

SPORT FISHING

Lake Eaton – a shallow, stained lake – has an abundance of rooted aquatic vegetation that helps support a very good population of sport fish. Although fishing from a small-powered jon boat is the most popular fishing method, a Forest Service fishing pier that extends approximately 100 feet into the Lake also provides an attractive facility for the shoreline angler.

ACCESS

A Class B boat ramp is located near the camping area of Lake Eaton. Road access is an all-weather clay road off C.R. 314A north of S.R. 40. Roads and facilities are suitable for all vehicle types. A parking fee is charged.

VICINITY MAP



SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

Lake Eaton is a National Forest fee area. Costs for specific activities are posted at the campground's entrance.

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Area (acres):	.....292
Maximum depth (feet):	..... 10
Water color:	.....Highly Stained
Trophic Status:	.....Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH):	.....Slightly Acid (6.3)
Total Hardness (mg/l):	..... 39.4
Total Alkalinity (mg/l):	..... 12.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l):	..... 0.05

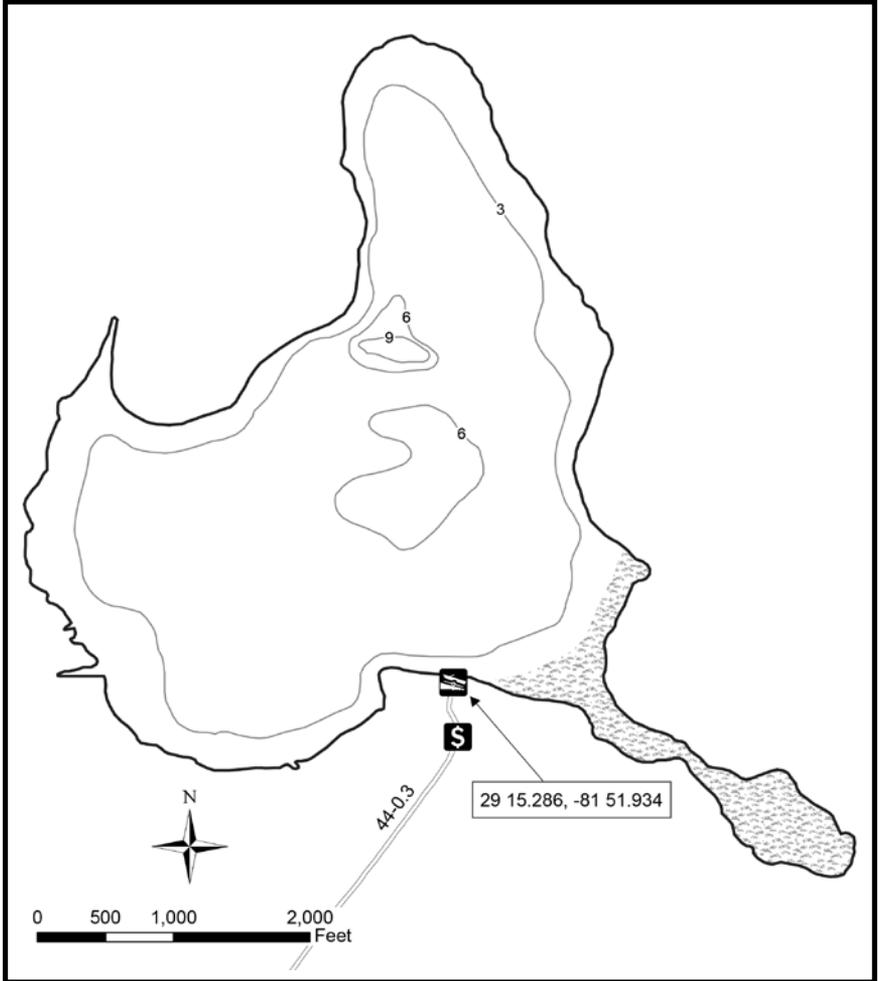
AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage:	..... 289 acres, 99%
Emergent/Floating:	..... 50 acres, 17%

Common Plants:

1. Cattail
2. Water-lettuce
3. Spatterdock

BATHYMETRIC MAP



LAKE JUMPER

SPORT FISHING

Lake Jumper is a shallow, stained lake with limited shoreline fishing access but is often very productive for the angler using a small boat. Largemouth bass, black crappie and sunfish are the most sought after species.

ACCESS

A Class D boat ramp is located on the east shoreline. The ramp is accessible from F.R. 05-18.9C that can be reached from F.R. 44 or from F.R. 05-16.7 from F.R. 05.

Jon boats hauled in the bed of pickup trucks are recommended. Check out the access before attempting to tow a trailer to this site. Even the smallest boat trailer is difficult to tow over these tightly curved undeveloped roads.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Area (acres):	.....282
Maximum depth (feet):	..... 7
Water color:	..... Stained
Trophic Status:	..... Eutrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH):	..... Neutral (6.7)
Total Hardness (mg/l):	..... 28.7
Total Alkalinity (mg/l):	..... 16.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l):	..... 0.14

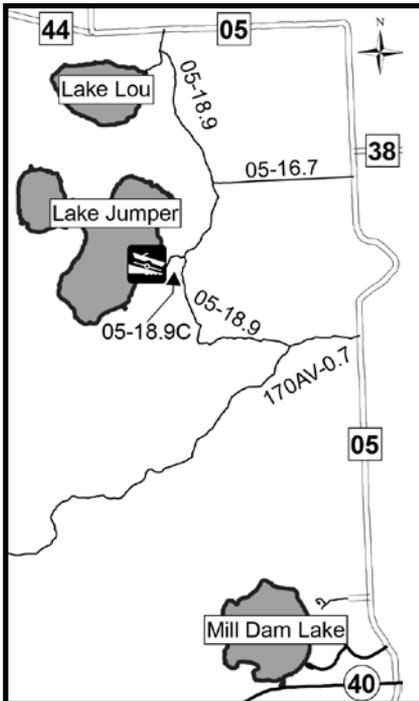
AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage:	.....17 acres, 6%
Emergent/Floating:	.....17 acres, 6%

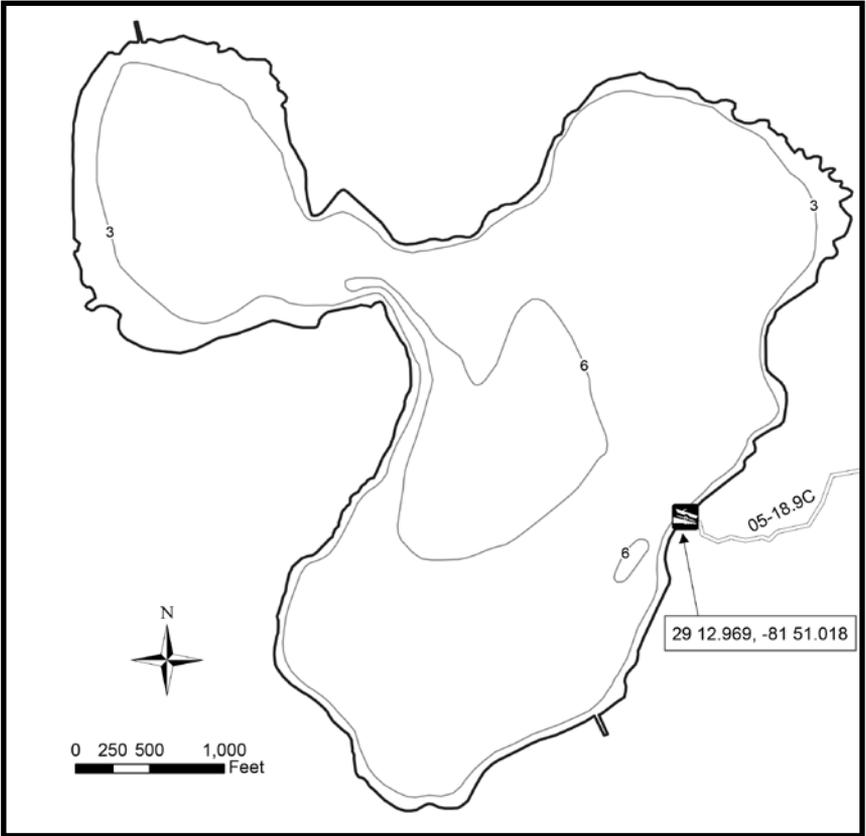
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Saw grass
3. Pickerelweed
4. Spatterdock
5. Water fern

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



LAKE KERR

SPORT FISHING

Lake Kerr, the largest contained lake in the Ocala National Forest, is one of the most populated sport fishing waterbodies. The boat angler is often rewarded with excellent catches of largemouth bass, black crappie and sunfish, especially when using light line and small tackle. Public shoreline fishing is limited, since much of the property surrounding the Lake is under private ownership.

ACCESS

A Class A ramp with paved parking facilities is located on an improved road 0.5 miles east of F.R. 11. Access road and facilities are suitable for all vehicle types.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

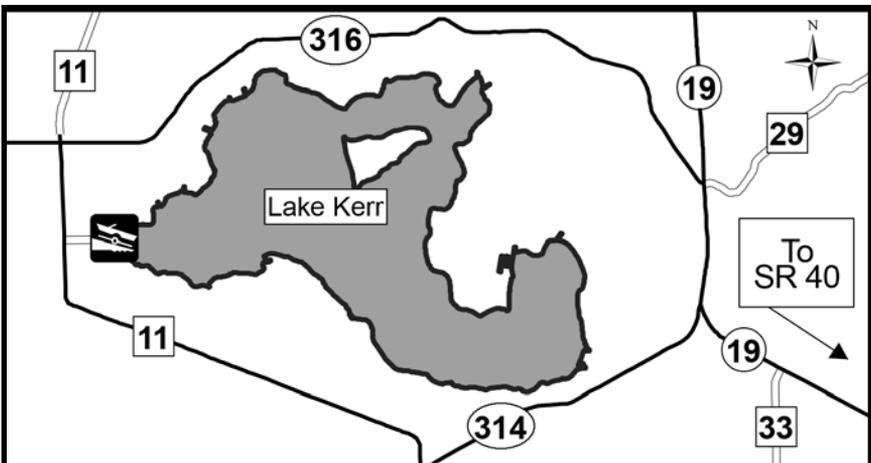
Area (acres):..... 2,830
Maximum depth (feet):..... 17
Water color:Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (5.0)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 3.5
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 0.20
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

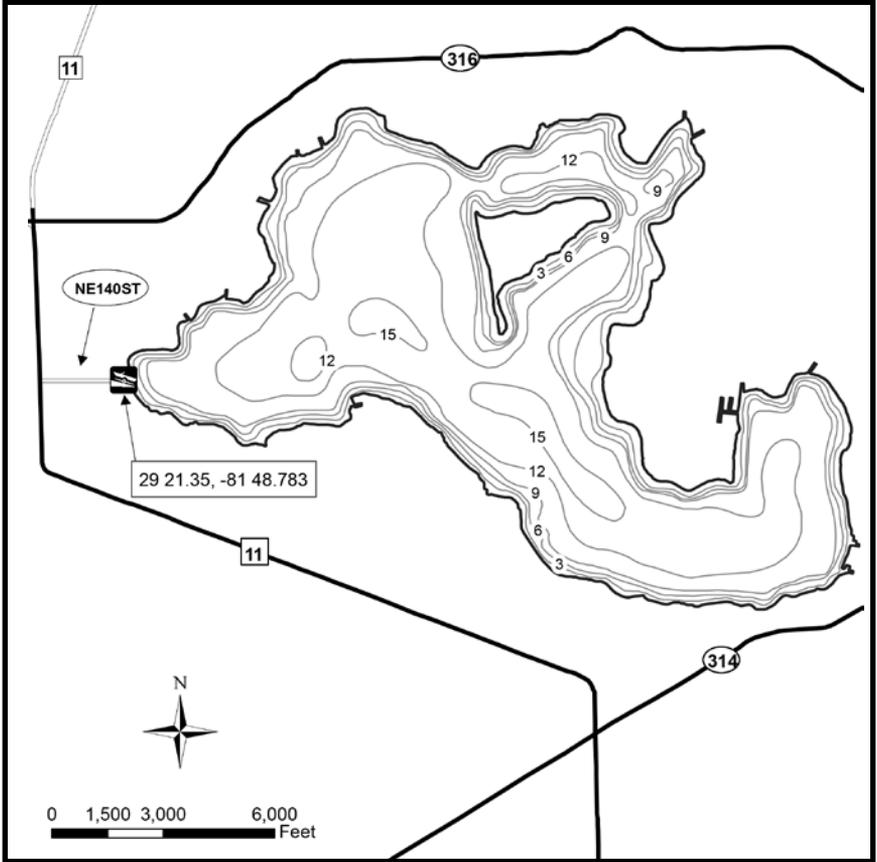
Total Coverage:425 acres, 15%
Emergent/Floating: 226 acres, 8%
Common Plants:

1. Waterhyssop
2. Spikerush
3. Bog moss
4. Eel grass
5. Bulrush
6. Maidencane
7. Torpedoglass
8. Spatterdock

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



LAKE LOU

SPORT FISHING

Lake Lou is a very productive lake that produces some very fine catches of largemouth bass, black crappie and sunfish. Anglers most commonly fish from small powered boats, jon boats or canoes. Shoreline fishing is very difficult.

ACCESS

A Class C ramp is located on improved F.R. 05-18.9A, 0.3 miles south of F.R. 05. During periods of low water the site may become a Class D entry or require that craft be carried a short distance to the lake.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

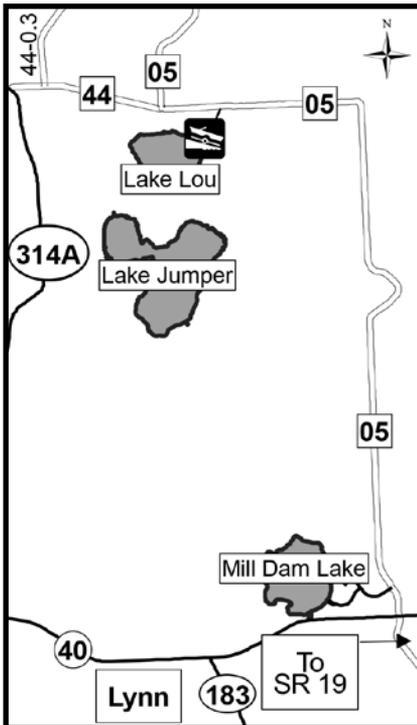
Area (acres): 110
Maximum depth (feet): 20
Water color: Stained
Trophic Status: Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Slightly Acid (5.9)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 13.9
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 5.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.02

AQUATIC VEGETATION

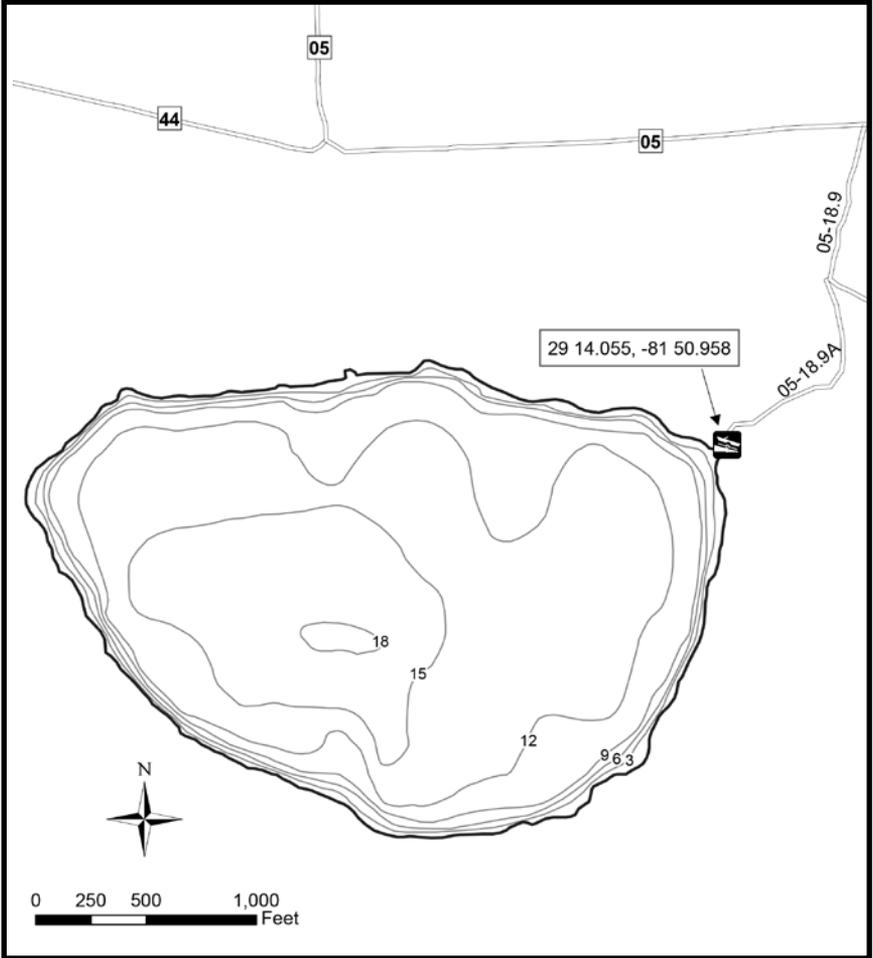
Total Coverage: 15 acres, 14%
Emergent/Floating: 15 acres, 14%
Common Plants:

1. Pickerelweed
2. Saw grass
3. Arrowhead
4. Spatterdock

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



LAKE MARY

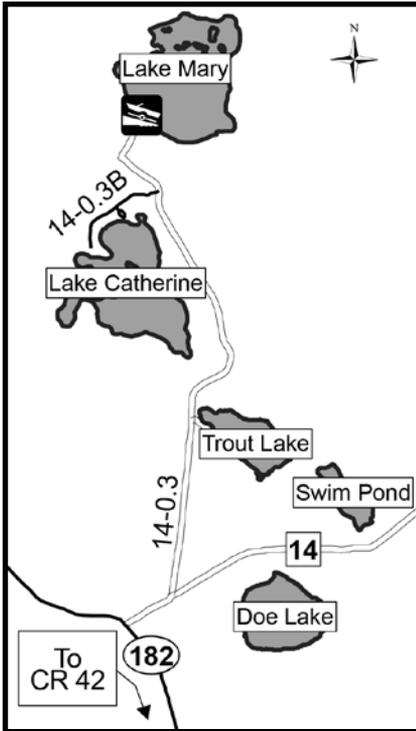
SPORT FISHING

Lake Mary is an attractive, clear, deep lake with limited fish production. Although an occasional trophy bass is taken, the angler using small bait and light line is usually the most successful. Small boat and shoreline wading are recommended fishing methods.

ACCESS

The Class C ramp is located on unimproved F.R. 14-0.3, which extends 2.1 miles north of F.R. 14. During periods of low water launching a boat from a trailer may be difficult. Conditions should be appraised before attempting to launch a boat at this site.

VICINITY MAP



SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Area (acres):	155
Maximum depth (feet):	23
Water color:	Clear
Trophic Status:	Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH):	Highly Acid (4.4)
Total Hardness (mg/l):	6.4
Total Alkalinity (mg/l):	1.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l):	0.01

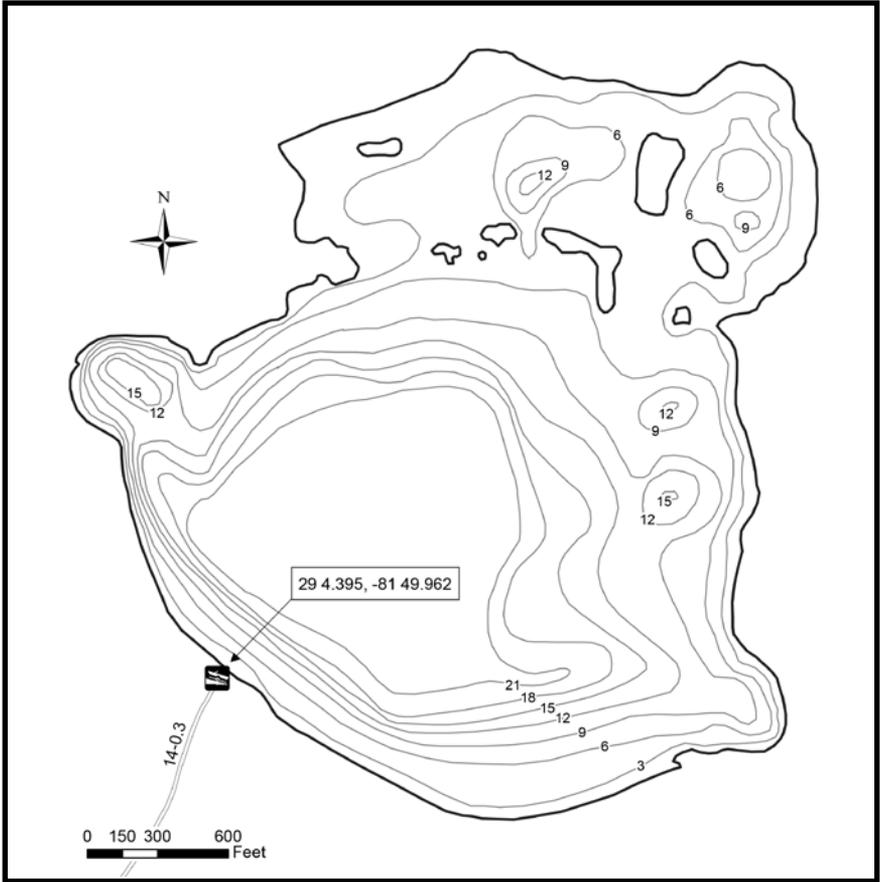
AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage:	77 acres, 50%
Emergent/Floating:	19 acres, 12%

Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Lake rush
3. Fragrant water-lily
4. Bladderwort
5. Algal bulrush
6. Spikerush

BATHYMETRIC MAP



LAWBREAKER LAKE

SPORT FISHING

This small, very clear, very deep lake has no designated launching facility, and it is difficult to fish from the shoreline. It is an extremely infertile lake that will not support largemouth bass reproduction. Sunfish, especially bluegill, are the most popular sport fish.

ACCESS

Small jon boats and canoes can be carried to the lake at a site off F.R. 40-23.9B. Access roads to Lawbreaker Lake are extremely sandy, and therefore, recommended only for four-wheel drive vehicles.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

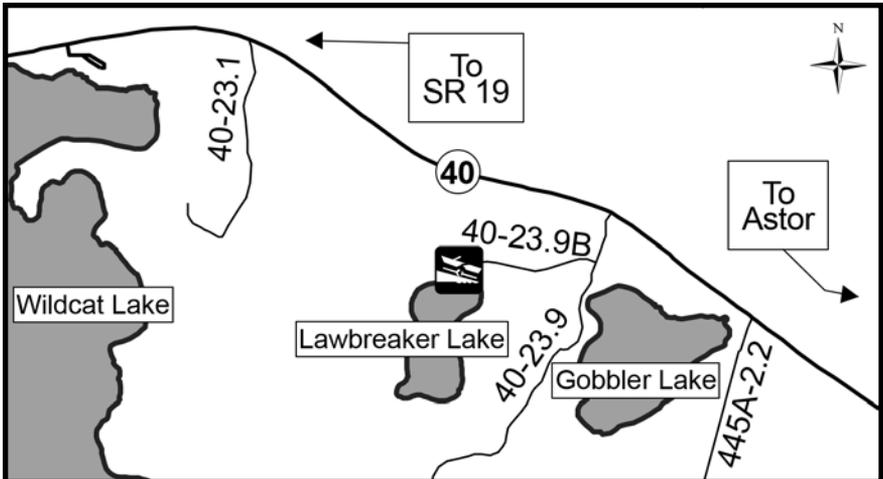
Area (acres): 12
Maximum depth (feet): 23
Water color: Very Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Highly Acid (4.3)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 6.3
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 0.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

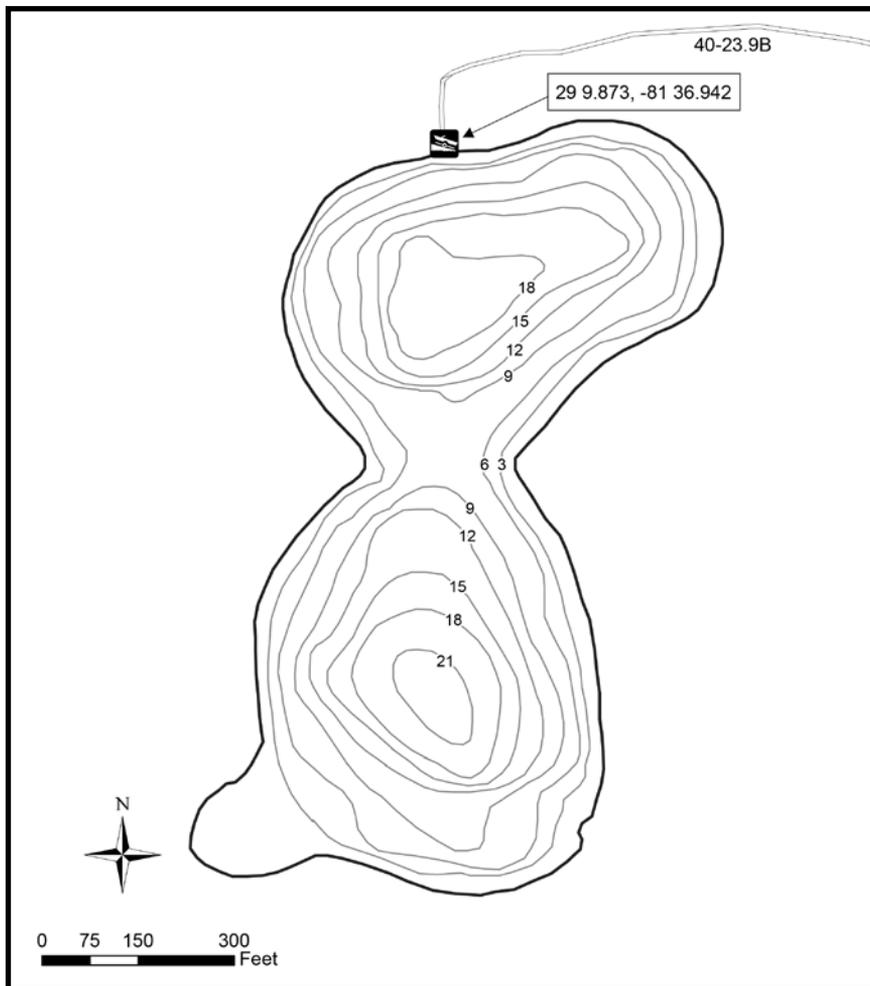
Total Coverage: 0.4 acres, 3%
Emergent/Floating: 0.1 acres, 1%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Lake rush

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



MILL DAM LAKE

SPORT FISHING

Mill Dam Lake is one of the most popular fishing lakes in the central portion of the Forest. It is a productive lake that supports a very good sport fish population. Power boats, jon boats, canoes and shoreline wading are all appropriate fishing methods for this attractive lake.

ACCESS

A Class A ramp is located on improved F.R. 05-13.4A, 0.6 mile off of F.R. 05. Designated trailer parking space is provided. At normal water levels this area is suitable for all vehicle types, but in low water periods trailer launching may require a four-wheel drive vehicle. A parking fee is required.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

Mill Dam Lake is a National Forest fee area. Costs for specific activities are posted at the entrance.

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

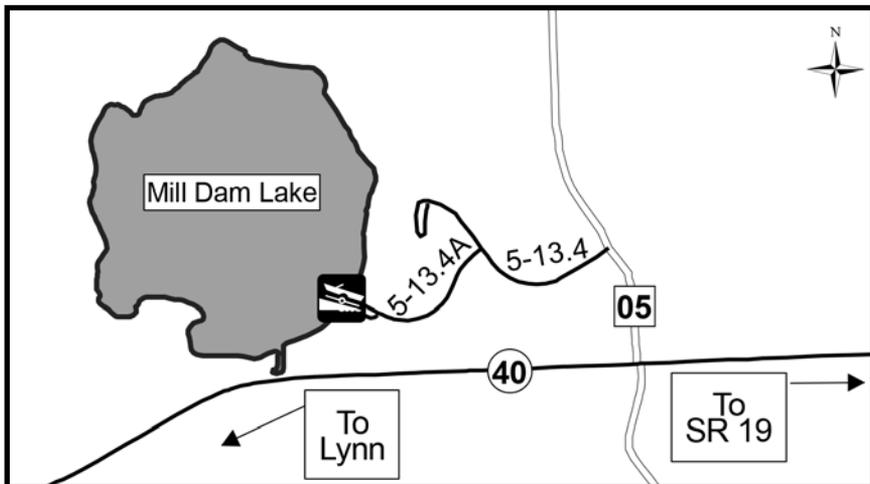
Area (acres): 168
Maximum depth (feet): 23
Water color: Stained
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Neutral (6.5)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 10.5
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 6.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

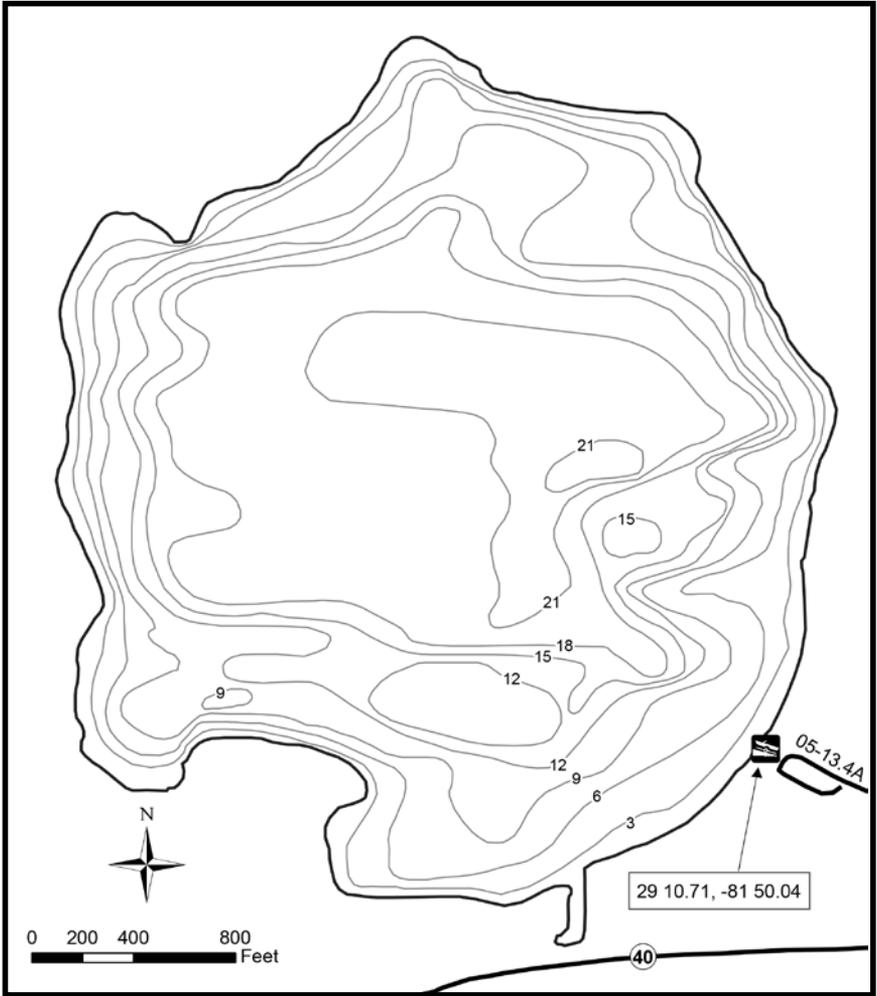
Total Coverage: 76 acres, 45%
Emergent/Floating: 27 acres, 16%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Fragrant water-lily
3. Lake rush
4. Spatterdock
5. Bladderwort

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



NORTH GRASSHOPPER LAKE

SPORT FISHING

A favorite fishing spot for many who prefer an isolated lake. The clear pockets have good populations of most sport fish species, but the size of fish is generally small. Light tackle and small baits produce the larger catches, but trophy fish are occasionally taken with heavier gear.

ACCESS

North Grasshopper Lake is accessed by traveling 0.7 mile south of S.R. 40 on unimproved F.R. 445A-2.2. The lake can be accessed only by carry-in for a short distance. Entry should not be attempted without a four-wheel drive vehicle.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

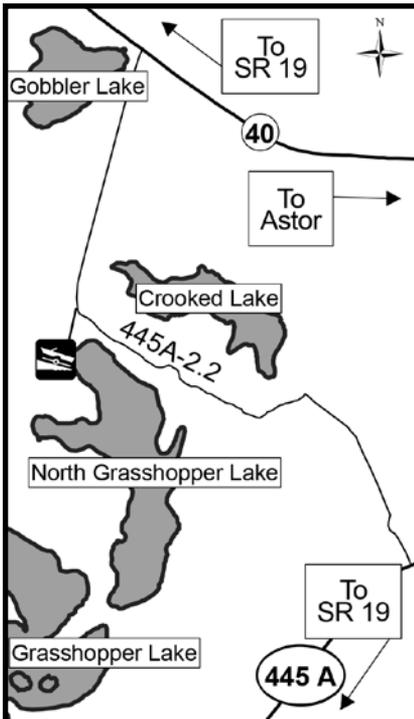
Area (acres): 65
Maximum depth (feet): 20
Water color: Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (4.6)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 4.1
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 1.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

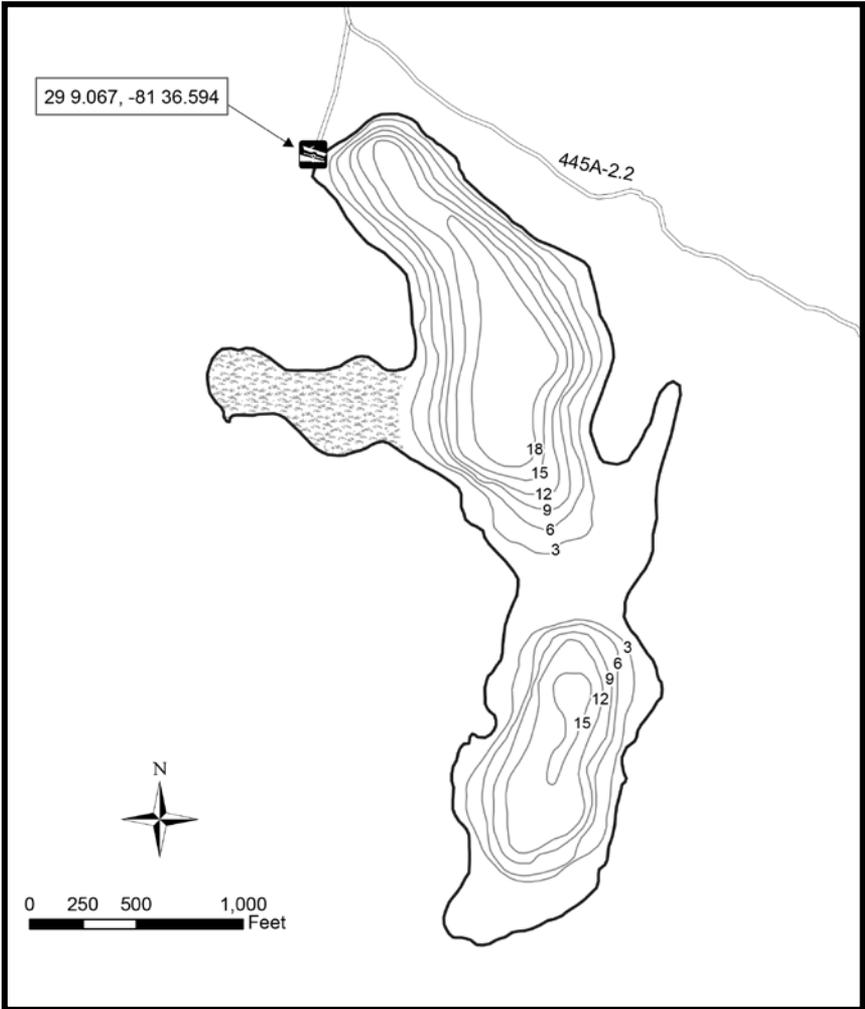
Total Coverage: 43 acres, 66%
Emergent/Floating: 17 acres, 26%
Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Lake rush
3. Southern cutgrass
4. Fragrant water-lily
5. Banana-lily
6. Bladderwort
7. Algal bulrush

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



OCKLAWAHA RIVER

JOHNSON FIELD SECTION

SPORT FISHING

The meandering network of streams in the lower reach of the Ocklawaha River are some of the most remote and pristine waters of the Ocala National Forest. This setting, with a variety of sport fish, offers the adventurous angler a truly unique fishing opportunity.

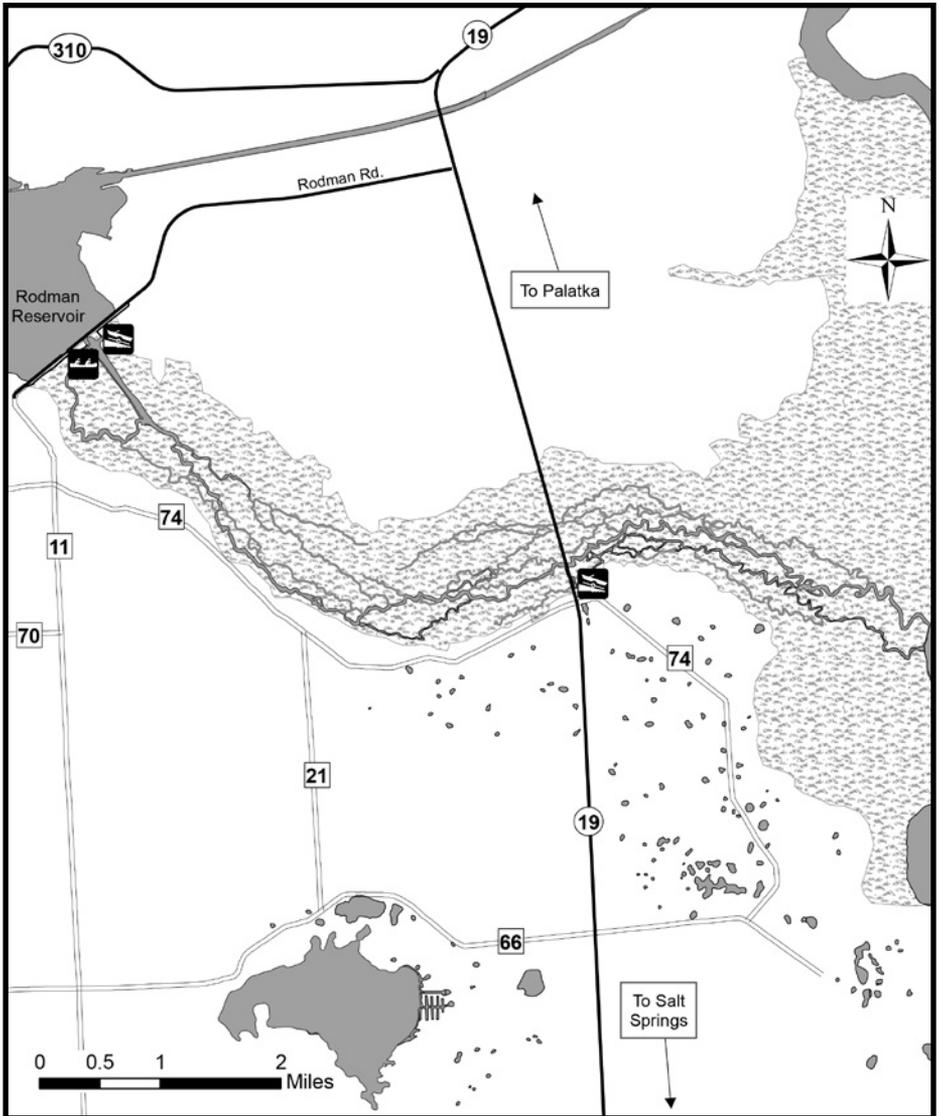
ACCESS

A Class A ramp on S.R. 19 provides easy access for the boat angler wanting to fish the lower reach of the Ocklawaha River. Two public access areas on the south side of Rodman Dam also provide a Class A ramp (east of the dam), a canoe launch (west of the dam) as well as fishing piers for the shoreline angler. All boat ramps and approaches are suitable for all vehicle types.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

VICINITY MAP



OCKLAWAHA RIVER

RODMAN RESERVOIR SECTION

SPORT FISHING

Rodman Reservoir, the only reservoir on the Ocala National Forest, was impounded in the late 1960's. Production of sport fish developed to an exceptionally high level, following impoundment but has leveled off in the decades since. The reservoir, with an abundance of stumps and aquatic vegetation as cover, still produces some of the very best sport fishing in the State of Florida. The reservoir is suitable for all sport fishing methods, but caution should be used when operating outboard motors due to numerous underwater stumps.

ACCESS

Rodman Reservoir establishes the northwest boundary of the Ocala National Forest. Two access areas from the National Forest side of the reservoir are described. Other lands and marinas are located on the north and west shores of the reservoir near Orange Springs, Florida.

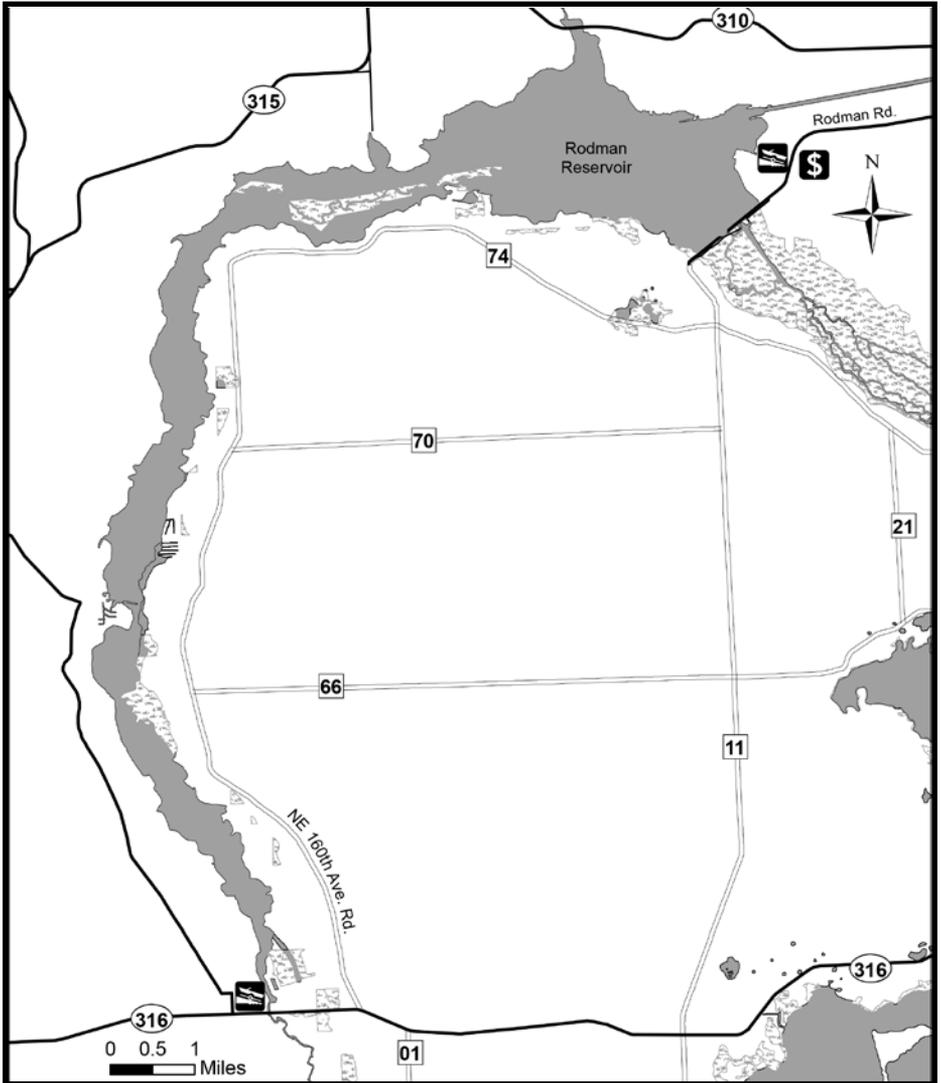
Rodman Campground: A Class A fee boat ramp, located in Rodman Campground State Park, is approached by travelling 2.5 miles west of S.R. 19 on Rodman Rd. The launching facility is suitable for all vehicle types and sport fishing boats.

Eureka Dam: A Class A boat ramp located 0.4 mile north of C.R. 316, west of the Eureka Dam site, provides access to the headwaters of Rodman Reservoir.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

VICINITY MAP



OCKLAWAHA RIVER

CEDAR CREEK SECTION

SPORT FISHING

Although much of this section is difficult to access, most anglers who fish these pristine streams consider the rewards well worth the effort.

ACCESS

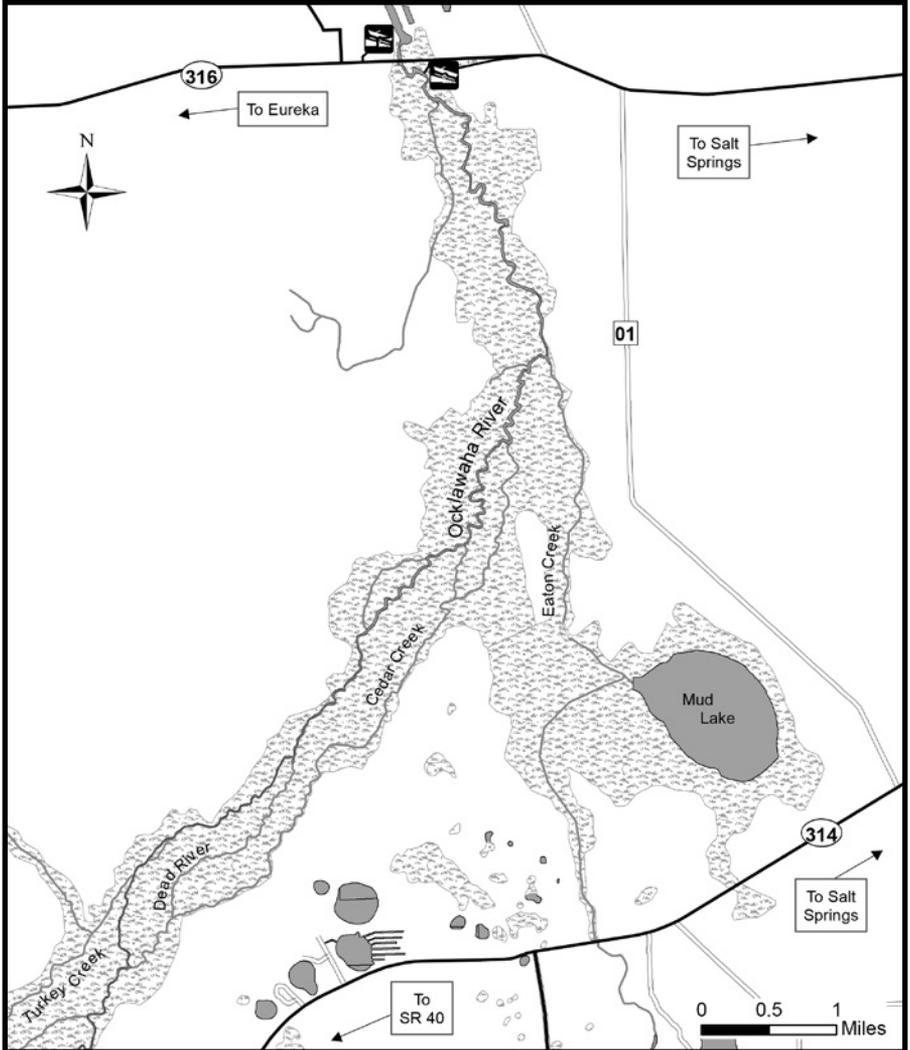
Access to a ten-mile section of the Ocklawaha River and to two tributaries, Cedar Creek and Eaton Creek, is included in this description. Class A boat ramps, located on both sides of the Ocklawaha River near the C.R. 316 bridge, provide convenient access to the lower reach of this section of the river.

The upper reach is more difficult to access. A long boat ride up-stream from the C.R. 316 ramps or down-stream from the S.R. 40 ramp is required. Eaton Creek is accessed by a 200-foot portage from the north side of the C.R. 314 bridge over Eaton Creek. Bank anglers can find suitable shoreline sites near each of these boat access areas.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

VICINITY MAP



OCKLAWAHA RIVER

SHARP'S FERRY SECTION

SPORT FISHING

Powered bass boats are the most popular fishing method although paddle-craft are commonly used in the vicinity of the access area. The Ocklawaha, which is in the original channel through most of this section, provides a tropical setting with an abundance of natural habitat and a productive sport fish population. These attributes generally combine to produce a memorable fishing trip.

ACCESS

Convenient access to this ten-mile section of river is located off S.R. 40 on the lower reach of the Silver River. A class A fee ramp with an approach suitable for all vehicle types is located at Ray Wayside Park, a Marion County park. Bank anglers can also find access on the east end of the S.R. 40 bridge and at the Sharps Ferry bridge of S.R. 314.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

Fishing is prohibited in the Silver River.

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

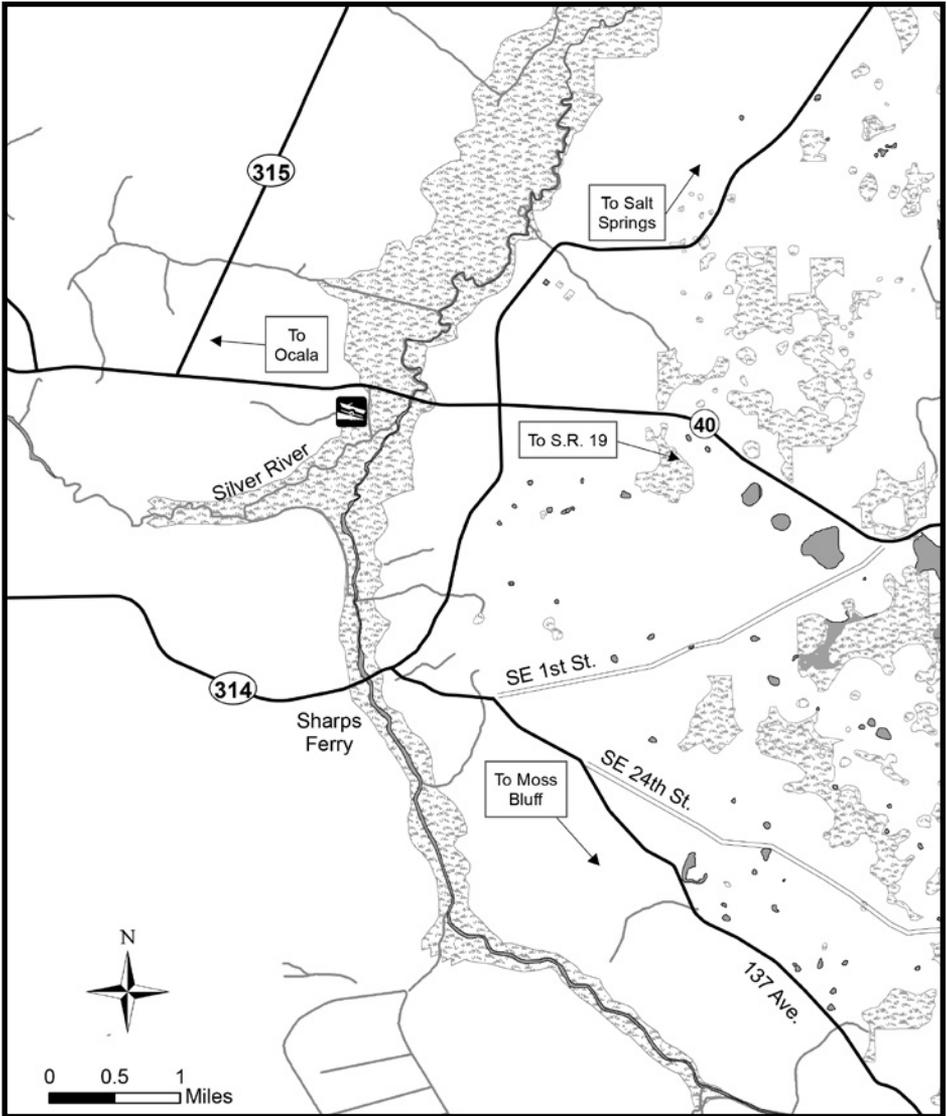
Area (acres):Not Available
Maximum depth (feet):Not Available
Water color: Stained
Trophic Status:Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Neutral (7.3)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 131
Total Alkalinity (mg/l):84
Total Phosphorous (mg/l):0.11

AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage: 20%
Emergent/Floating: 10%
Common Plants:

1. Water-lettuce
2. Spatterdock
3. Pennywort
4. Water hemlock
5. Cattail

VICINITY MAP



ST. JOHNS RIVER

SALT SPRINGS RUN

SPORT FISHING

Salt Springs Run, extending from Salt Springs to Lake George, is a very popular sport fishing area. Nice catches of a variety of sport fish are common. Power boat fishing is most popular, but jon boats and canoes can be used near the launching facility. Shoreline fishing is extremely difficult.

ACCESS

A privately-operated Class A fee ramp is located on an improved road, 0.4 mile east of S.R. 19. Rented boats and canoes are available. A parking fee is required.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

Fishing is prohibited in the designated spring area and no wake zones are in effect near the marina and at the mouth of Salt Springs Run.

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

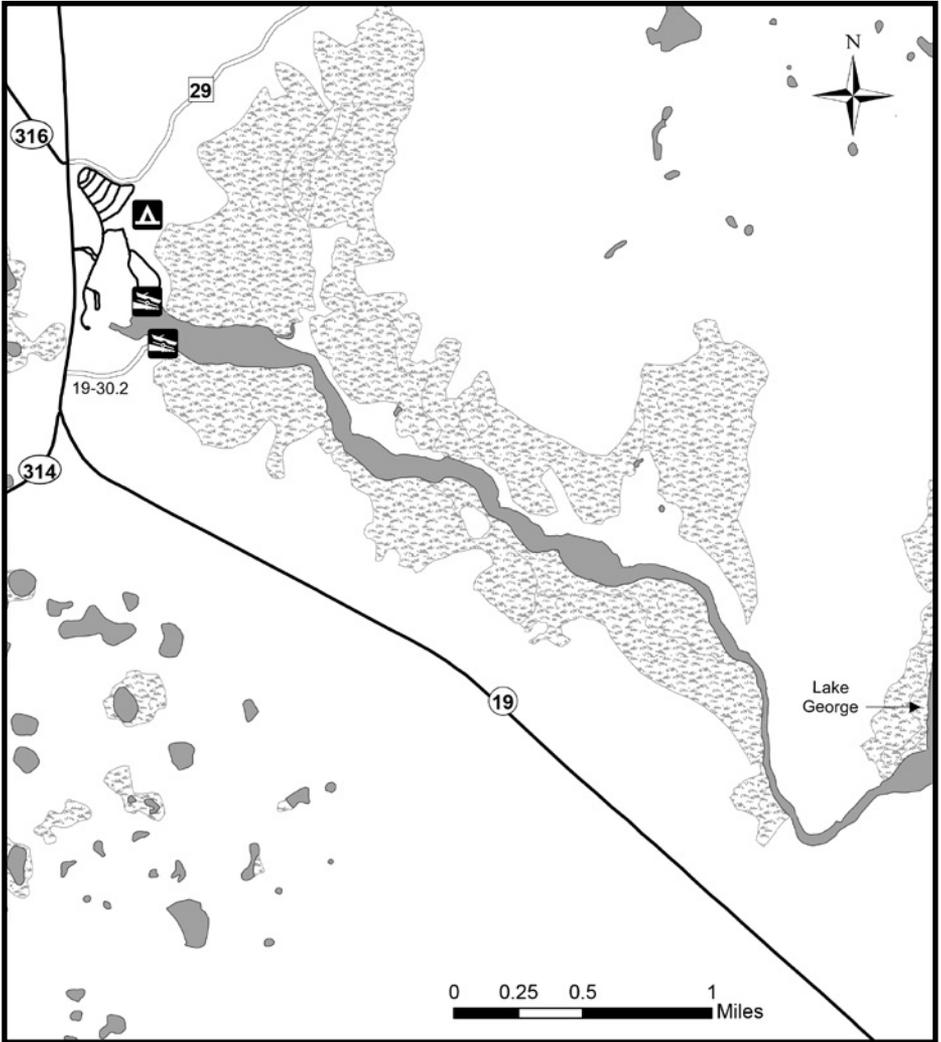
Area (acres):N/A
Maximum depth (feet):N/A
Water color: Very Clear
Trophic Status:Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH):(8.7)
Total Hardness (mg/l): >400
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 60.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.2

AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage: 90%
Emergent/Floating: 10%
Common Plants:

1. Eel grass
2. Water hyacinth
3. Pickerelweed
4. Cattail
5. Coontail

VICINITY MAP



ST. JOHNS RIVER

CROWS BLUFF SECTION

SPORT FISHING

The section of the St. Johns River from Crows Bluff north to Lake Dexter consists of numerous branches that meander through the forest lowlands. The scenic appeal and excellent production of sportfish combine to offer a truly unique fishing opportunity.

ACCESS

A class A boat ramp off S.R. 44 provides access to the portion of the St. Johns River that extends north to Lake Dexter. The boat ramp and approach are excellent and provide suitable access for all vehicle types.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

Watch for no wake areas and speed zones to protect manatees.

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

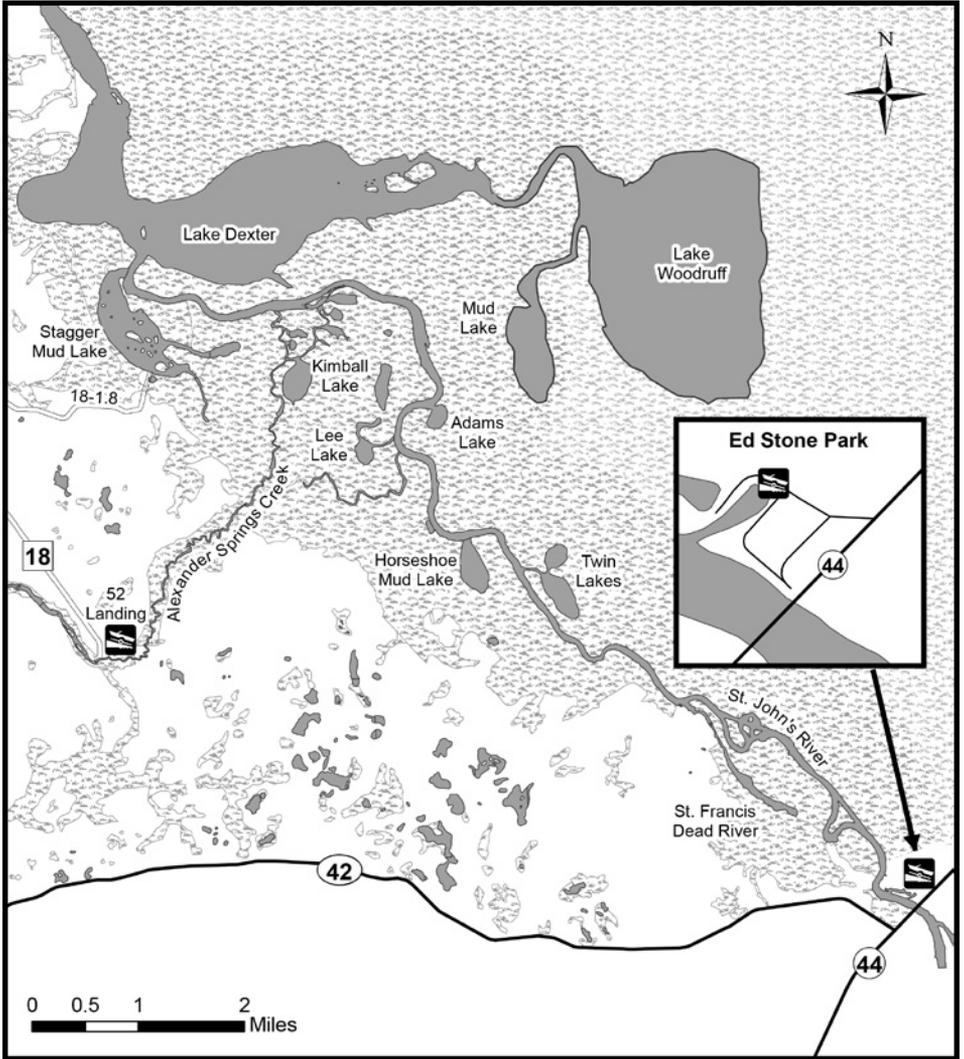
Area (acres):N/A
Maximum depth (feet):N/A
Water color: Stained
Trophic Status:Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH):Alkaline (7.6)
Total Hardness (mg/l):150
Total Alkalinity (mg/l):72
Total Phosphorous (mg/l):0.17

AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage: 30%
Emergent/Floating: 10%
Common Plants:

1. Southern naiad
2. Spatterdock
3. Coontail
4. Hydrilla
5. Eel grass
6. Alligator weed
7. Water hyacinth

VICINITY MAP



ST. JOHNS RIVER

LAKE GEORGE/ASTOR SECTION

SPORT FISHING

Lake George: The largest waterbody on the St. Johns River, provides the widest variety of sport fishing opportunities on the Ocala National Forest. In addition to excellent catches of largemouth bass, striped bass, black crappie, and sunfish that are common throughout the year, several saltwater species of sport fish are often taken, especially during periods of low water and high salinity. Larger power boats are recommended since Lake George can become very rough with moderate wind.

Astor: This section of the River is one of the most popular sport fishing areas of the Ocala National Forest. Although a variety of sport fish are taken, the most sought after species are largemouth bass in the River and black crappie in Lake Dexter and Lake Woodruff.

ACCESS

Lake George establishes the northeastern boundary of the Ocala National Forest. Accesses from the National Forest side of the Lake are described. Marinas and landings that provide access on the Lake's eastern shore are also available but not indicated here.

Salt Springs Run: Two Class A fee ramps at the head of Salt Springs provides access via a 5-mile trip down the Salt Springs Run.

Volusia Wharf: Access to the Lake's southern end is provided by a Class A boat ramp at the terminus of Lake George Road. The approach and launch facilities are suited for all vehicle types but best suited for shallow draft boats.

St. Johns River: Access to the headwaters of Lake George is also available by launching at the Class A boat ramp on the St. Johns River at Astor and traveling downstream approximately 5 miles. This approach and launching facilities are suitable for all vehicle types.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

A large area east of the channel in the Lake's center is a designated bombing range and restricted during specific times. This area is well marked with specific instructions. No wake areas and speed zones are well marked in the river and in Lake George.

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

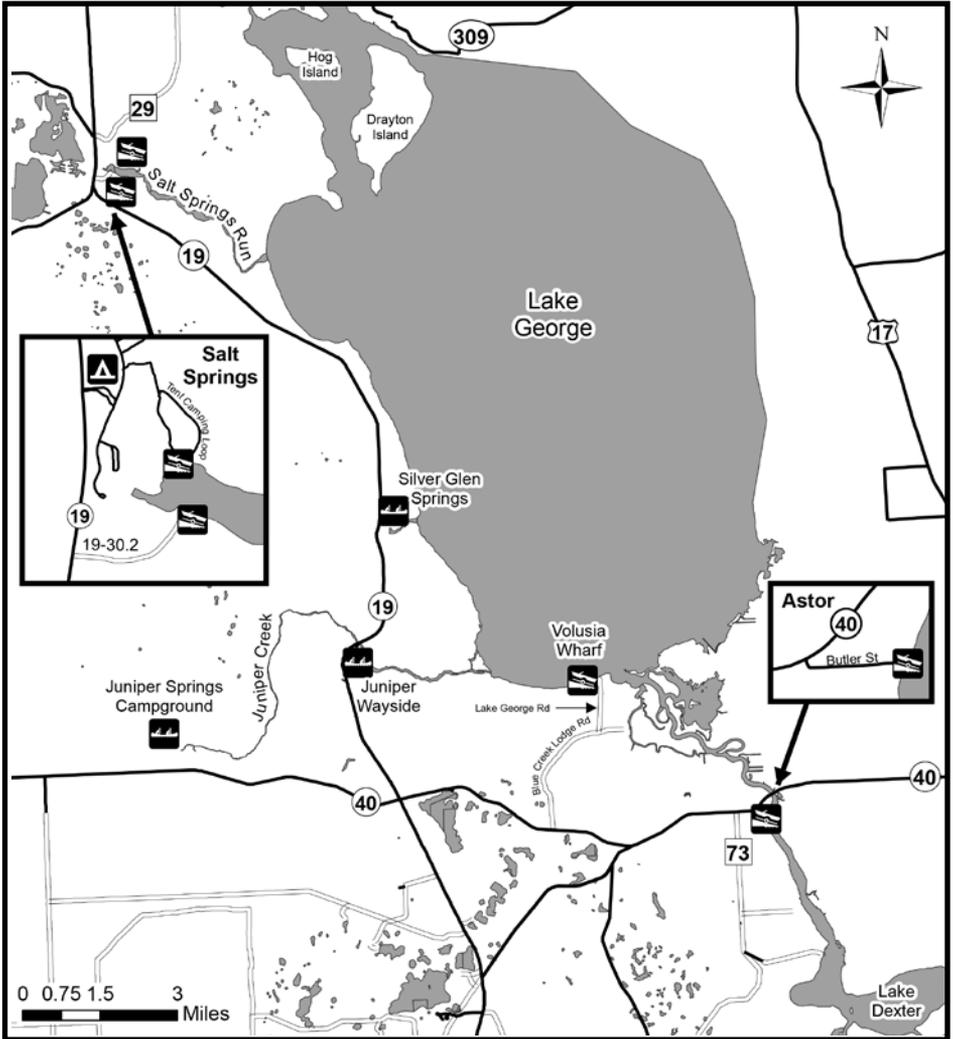
Area (acres):	46,000
Maximum depth (feet):	12
Water color:	Stained
Trophic Status:	Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH):	Alkaline (8.1)
Total Hardness (mg/l):	150
Total Alkalinity (mg/l):	65
Total Phosphorous (mg/l):	.012

AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage:	7,000 acres, 15%
Emergent/Floating:	1,400 acres, 3%
Common Plants:	

1. Eel grass
2. Yellow water-lily
3. Hydrilla
4. Coontail
5. Duckweed

VICINITY MAP



ST. JOHNS RIVER

NORWALK LANDING SECTION

SPORT FISHING

The lower section of the St. Johns River is significantly broader than sections above Lake George and, therefore, offers the sport anglers a different habitat type. The river is very productive, producing excellent catches of largemouth bass, sunfish, and crappie, as well as supporting a large population of striped bass and marine sport species that interest many anglers.

ACCESS

Access to this section of the St. Johns River below Lake George is available at a Class A boat ramp near the Fort Gates Ferry. This access area, located off F.R. 29, 7 miles northeast of Salt Springs, is considered suitable for all vehicle types.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

Watch for no wake areas and speed zones to protect manatees.

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

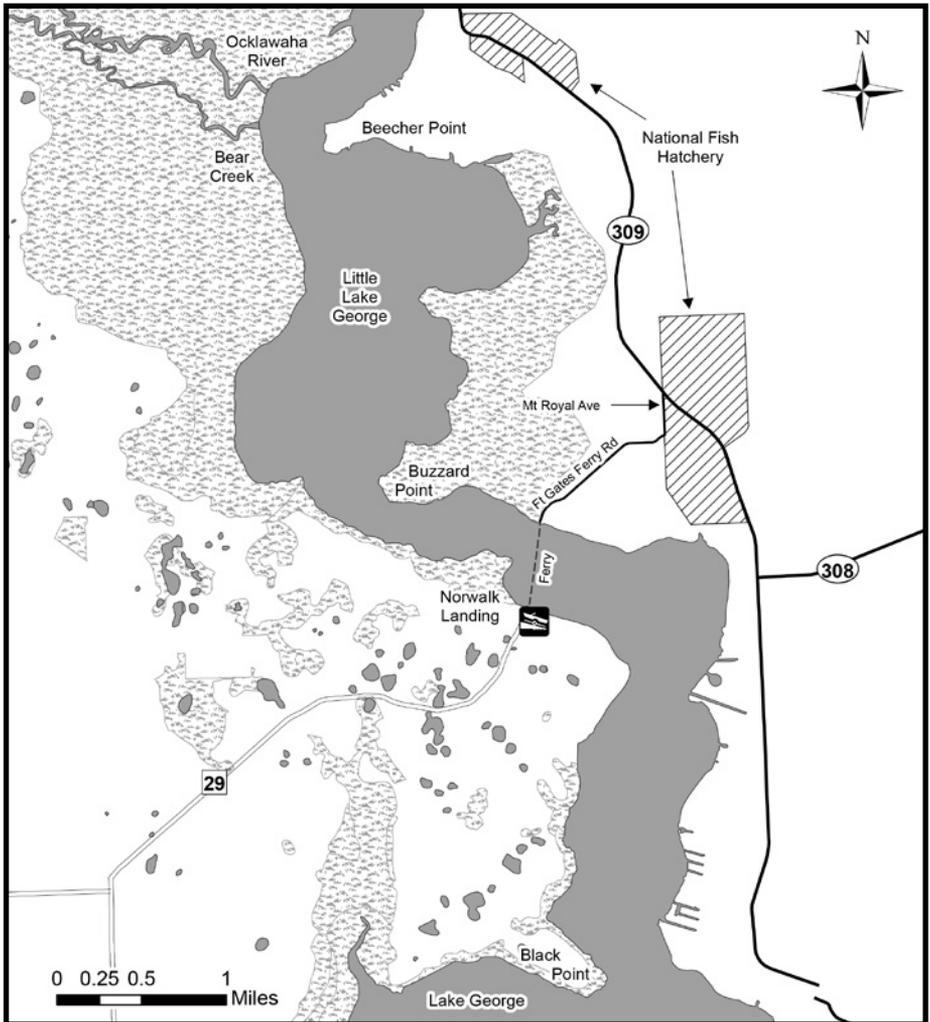
Area (acres): Not Available
Maximum depth (feet): Not Available
Water color: Stained
Trophic Status: Mesotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Alkaline (7.9)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 146
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 82
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.08

AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage: 20%
Emergent/Floating: 10%
Common Plants:

1. Eel grass
2. Coontail
3. Southern naiad
4. Hydrilla
5. Yellow water-lily
6. Spatterdock

VICINITY MAP



SELLERS LAKE

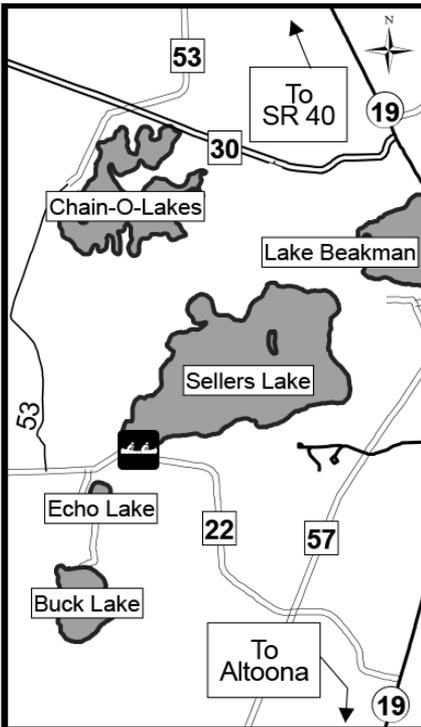
SPORT FISHING

Sellers Lake is one of the clearest, deepest lakes on the Ocala National Forest. Although the oligotrophic lake has limited fish production, some of the Forest's best largemouth bass catches have come from this lake. Although there are a few areas suited for shoreline fishing, the most popular fishing method is angling from small powered or jon boats.

ACCESS

A Class C boat ramp is located north of F.R. 22 on F.R. 22-14.2. A four-wheel drive vehicle may be needed during times of low water if a boat is to be launched from a trailer. Sellers Lake and Chain-O-Lakes are connected to Lake Beakman by a small channel that is open during normal water levels. However, during periods of low water, this channel becomes impassable.

VICINITY MAP



SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Area (acres):	378
Maximum depth (feet):	27
Water color:	Very Clear
Trophic Status:	Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH):	Acid (4.5)
Total Hardness (mg/l):	5.2
Total Alkalinity (mg/l):	1.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l):	0.01

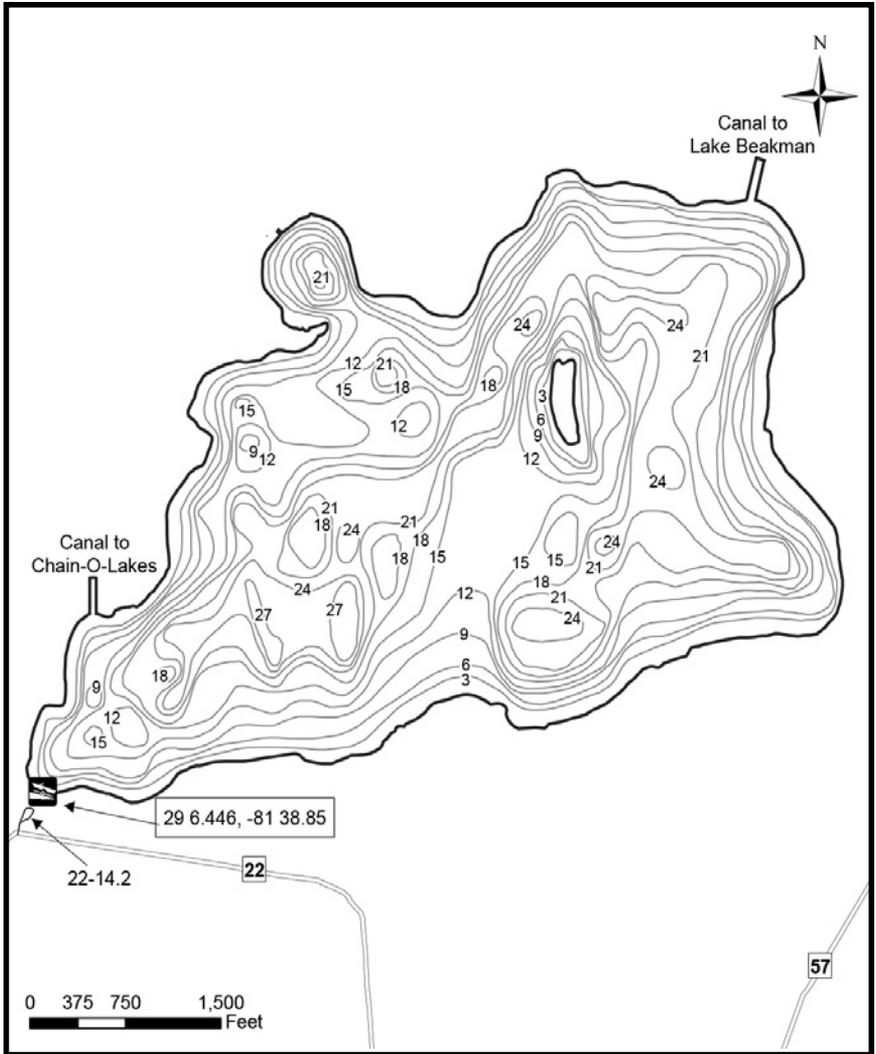
AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage:	150 acres, 40%
Emergent/Floating:	60 acres, 16%

Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Lake rush
3. Southern cutgrass
4. Spatterdock
5. Spikerush
6. Bog moss

BATHYMETRIC MAP



TROUT LAKE

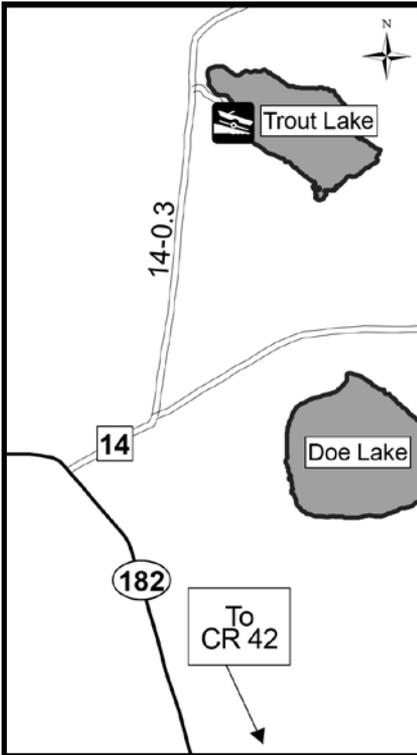
SPORT FISHING

Trout Lake is a moderately productive water-body that consistently produces good catches of sport fish. The jon boat is the most popular fishing method. A put and take channel catfish fishery has been established in this lake to supplement the largemouth bass and sunfish fishery.

ACCESS

The Lake can be accessed by improved F.R. 14 and F.R. 14-0.3A, but four-wheel drive is needed if a boat is to be launched from a trailer. The Class D ramp is located in an extremely sandy area.

VICINITY MAP



SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Area (acres):	.43
Maximum depth (feet):	13
Water color:	Stained
Trophic Status:	Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH):	Acid (4.7)
Total Hardness (mg/l):	5.4
Total Alkalinity (mg/l):	1.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l):	0.01

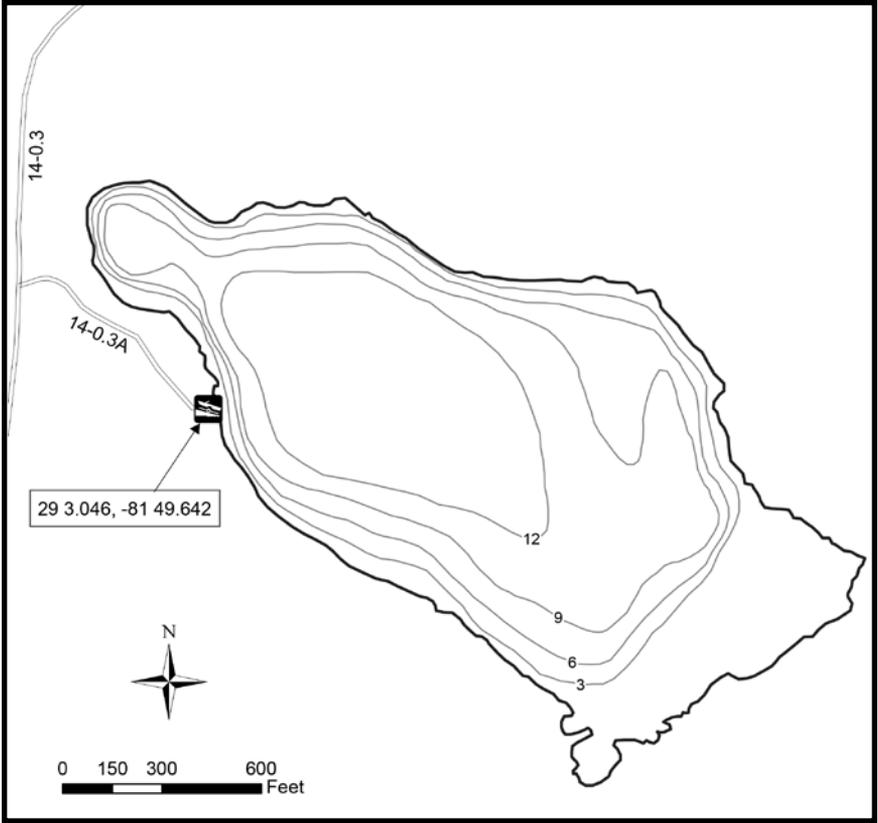
AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage:	42.5 acres, 99%
Emergent/Floating:	14 acres, 33%

Common Plants:

1. Maidencane
2. Lake rush
3. Southern cutgrass
4. Spatterdock
5. Banana-lily
6. Bladderwort

BATHYMETRIC MAP



WEST CLEARWATER LAKE

SPORT FISHING

West Clearwater is a relatively shallow, clear lake that is almost completely covered with submerged vegetation. Although fish production is considered low, the persistent angler can expect a nice catch of fish.

ACCESS

A Class D entry on the west shore of this lake is accessible by unimproved F.R. 22-0.89A. A four-wheel drive vehicle is highly recommended for access.

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

None

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

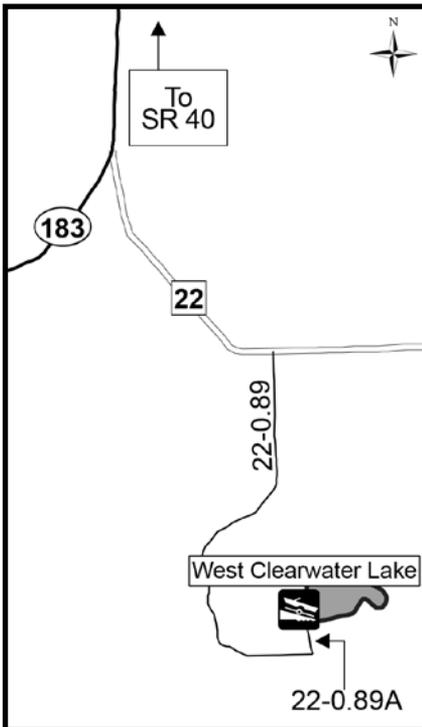
Area (acres): 19
Maximum depth (feet): 7
Water color: Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (4.8)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 5.0
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 1.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

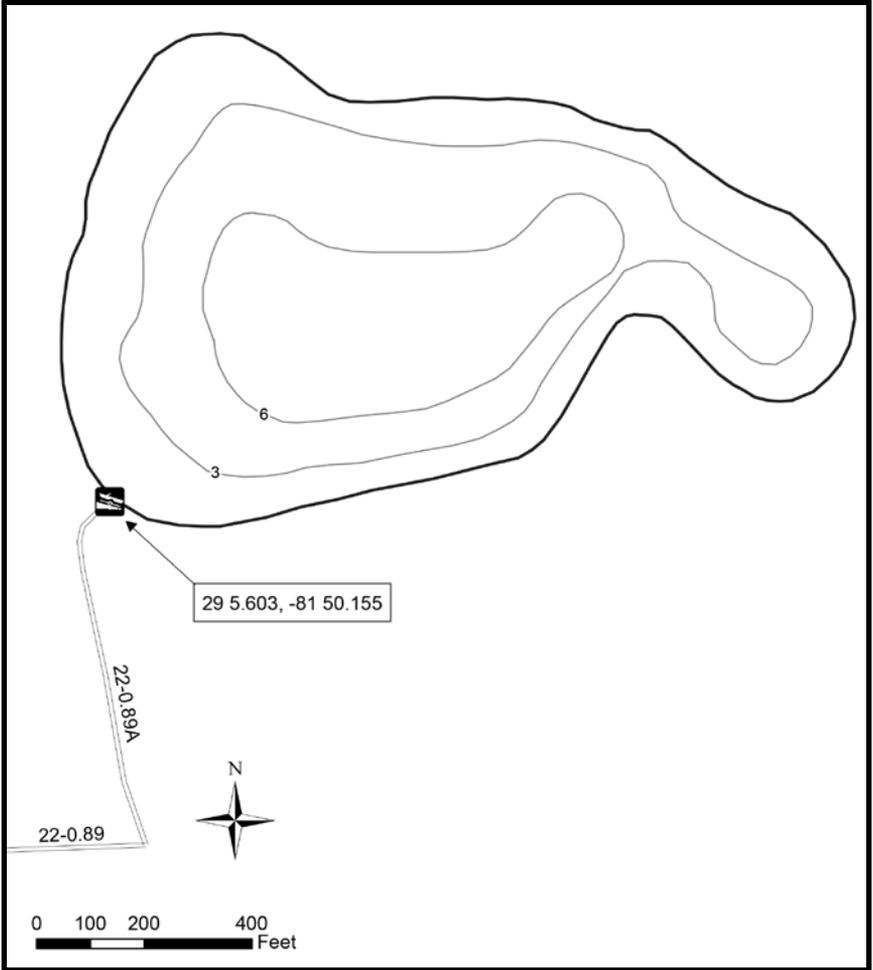
Total Coverage: 18.5 acres, 99%
Emergent/Floating: 7 acres, 35%
Common Plants:

1. Lake rush
2. Spatterdock
3. Fragrant water-lily
4. Bladderwort
5. Water milfoil

VICINITY MAP



BATHYMETRIC MAP



WILDCAT LAKE

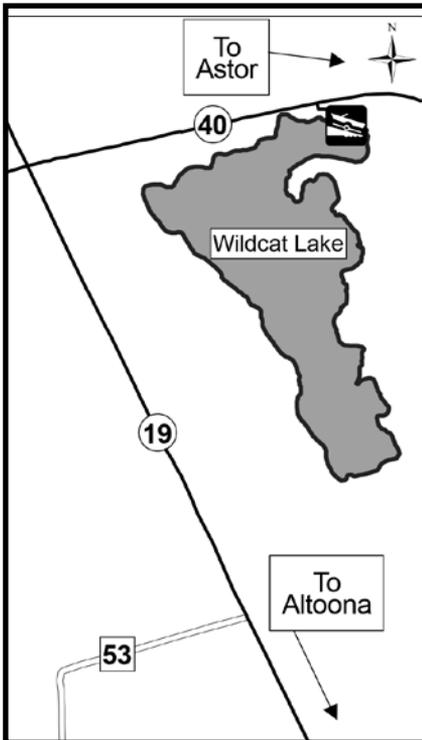
SPORT FISHING

Wildcat Lake is an easily accessed, deep, clear lake that is a favorite of many forest anglers. Good catches of largemouth bass, black crappie and sunfish are common. Trophy largemouth bass are occasionally taken, especially in the early spring during periods of low, clear water.

ACCESS

Wildcat Lake is a National Forest fee area. Costs for specific activities are posted at the entrance. A Class A boat ramp, suited for most power boats, is located off S.R. 40. Paved, designated parking is provided. A parking fee is required.

VICINITY MAP



SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

Largemouth bass are catch and release by State Regulations.

LAKE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

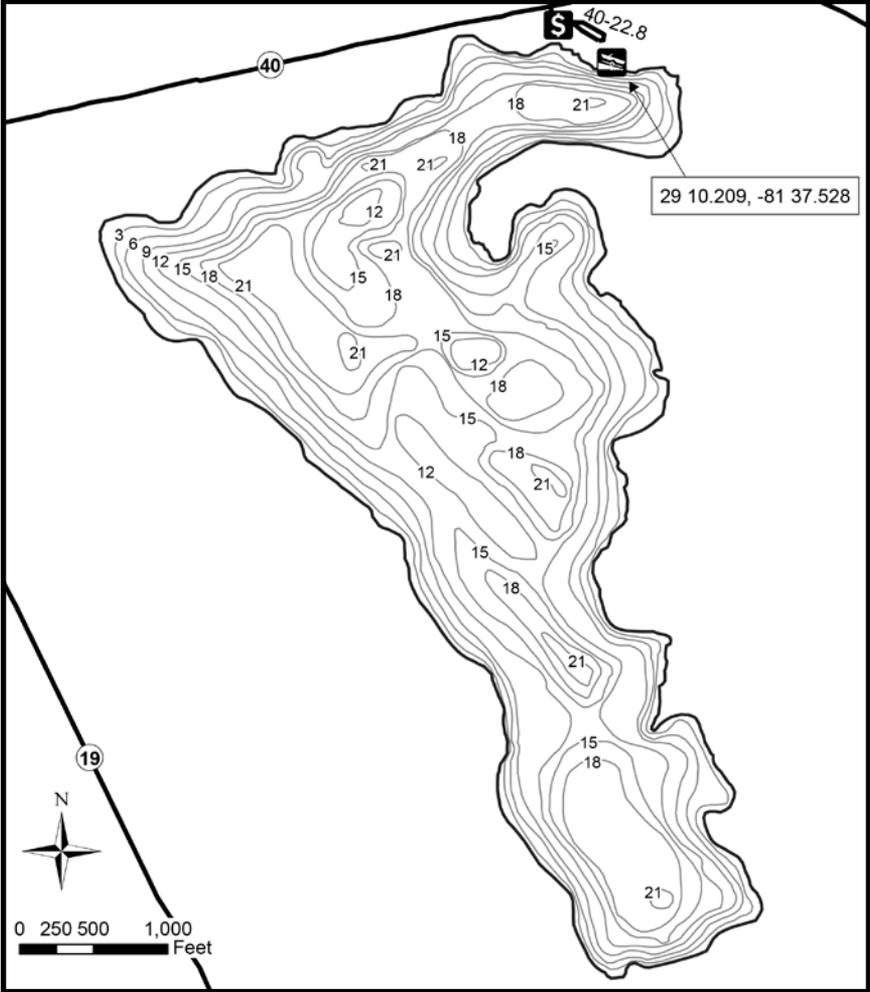
Area (acres):258
Maximum depth (feet):23
Water color:Clear
Trophic Status: Oligotrophic
Hydrogen-ion(pH): Acid (4.5)
Total Hardness (mg/l): 4.2
Total Alkalinity (mg/l): 2.0
Total Phosphorous (mg/l): 0.01

AQUATIC VEGETATION

Total Coverage: 70 acres, 27%
Emergent/Floating:25 acres, 10%
Common Plants:

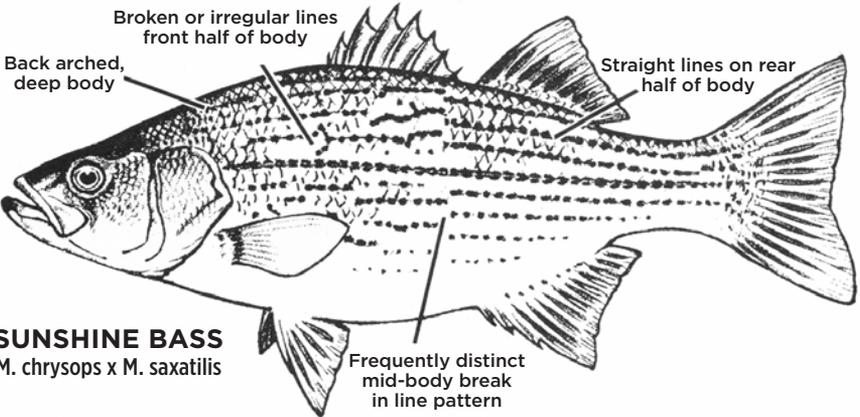
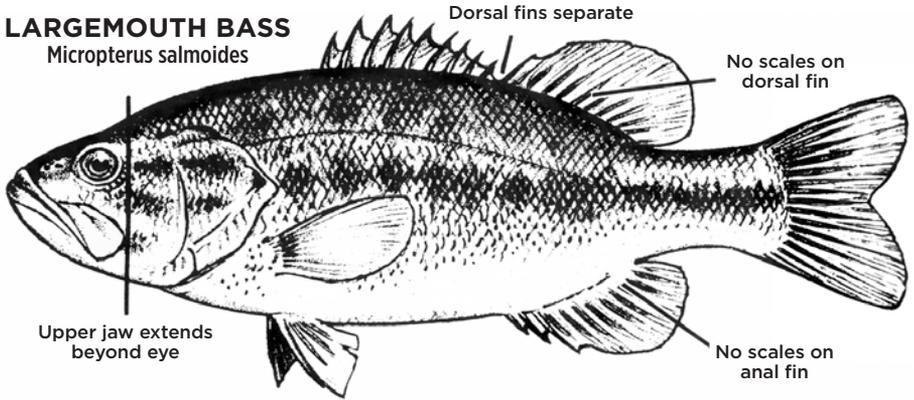
1. Maidencane
2. Giant cutgrass
3. Spatterdock
4. Spikerush

BATHYMETRIC MAP

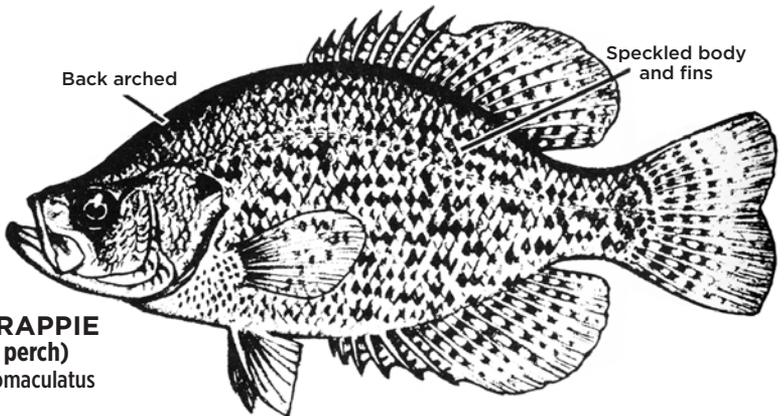


FISH IDENTIFICATION

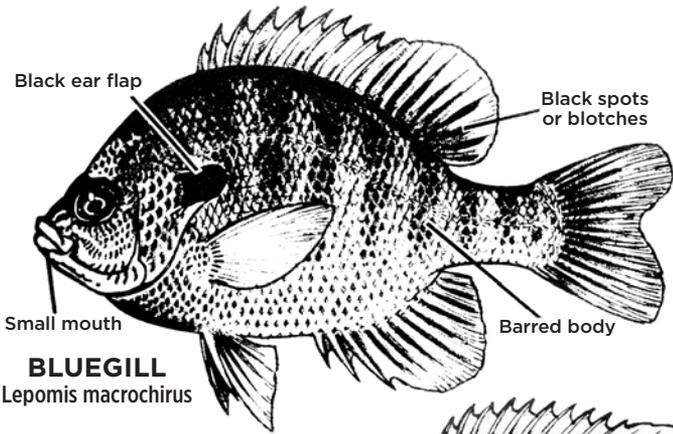
LARGEMOUTH BASS *Micropterus salmoides*



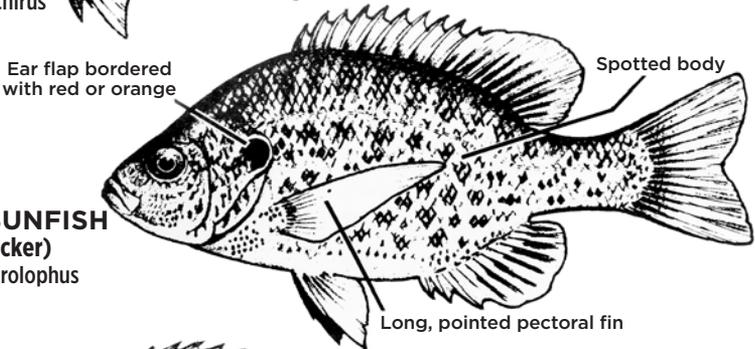
SUNSHINE BASS *M. chrysops* x *M. saxatilis*



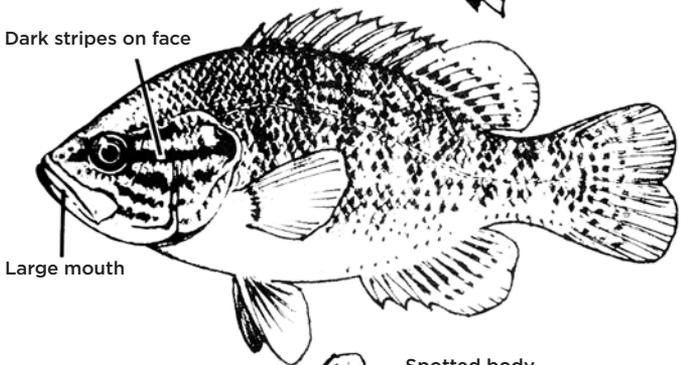
BLACK CRAPPIE (speckled perch) *Pomoxis nigromaculatus*



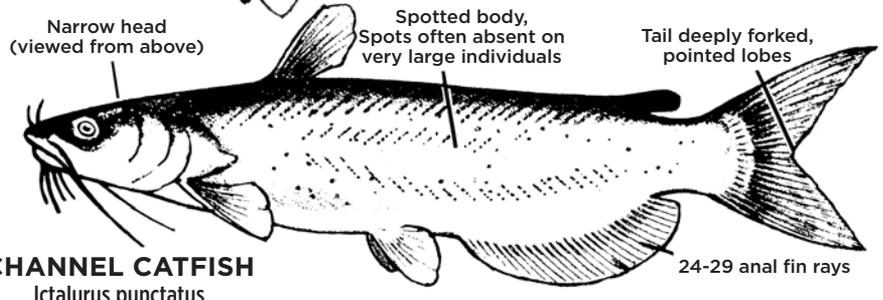
BLUEGILL
Lepomis macrochirus



REDEAR SUNFISH (shellcracker)
Lepomis microlophus



WARMOUTH
Lepomis gulosus



CHANNEL CATFISH
Ictalurus punctatus

AQUATIC PLANT IDENTIFICATION



BLADDERWORT

Free floating,
no visible roots



CATTAIL

Grows up to
10-feet tall

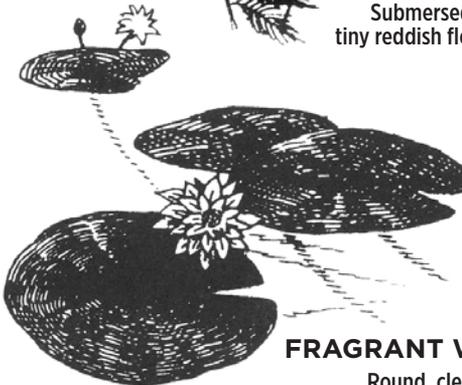
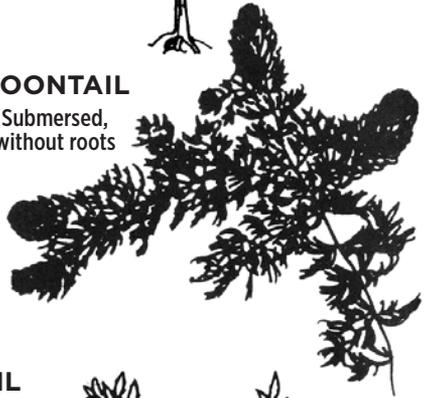


**EURASIAN
WATER-MILFOIL**

Submersed,
tiny reddish flowers

COONTAIL

Submersed,
without roots



FRAGRANT WATER-LILY

Round, clefted, leaf
white flower



HYDRILLA

Submersed

MAIDENCANE

Grows 2-6 feet tall



PONDWEED

Submersed, can grow in 6-8 feet of water

PICKERELWEED

Grows up to 4 feet tall, violet-blue flowers



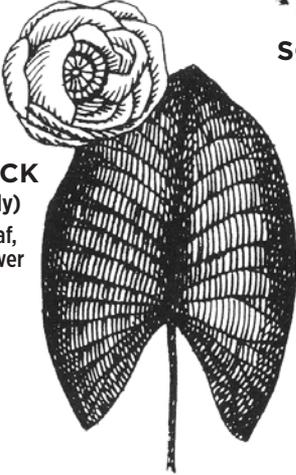
SOUTHERN NAIAD

Submersed

SPATTERDOCK

(Yellow Water Lily)

Heart-shaped leaf, bright yellow flower



WATER HYACINTH

Free floating, blue, violet or white flower

GLOSSARY

The following are definitions which may be helpful in understanding terms in this book.

pH: The concentration of hydrogen ions in water, pH = 7 is neutral; pH less than 7 is acidic; pH greater than 7 is alkaline. Slightly acid water is generally best for fishes. When the pH is less than 6, the eggs of some sensitive species may not survive. Adult fishes may continue to occupy the waterbody, but do not reproduce. When the pH is less than 4, only a few specialized species can survive. In Florida, low pH waters are generally associated with swamp drainages. Higher pH waters have been buffered by limestone.

Alkalinity: The ability of ions in a water sample to neutralize acid. This is usually due to contact with limestone.

Hardness: The measure of positive ion concentration in water. In central Florida these are usually ions of calcium and magnesium ions. Limestone supplies most of the hardness in our area. Hardness is related to alkalinity and pH and is reported in terms of equivalent concentrations of calcium carbonate (limestone).

Nutrients: The nitrogen and phosphate content of water affects suitability for plant and animal species. High nutrients promote algae which may deplete the dissolved oxygen of the water upon decay, causing a fish kill. Waters with too little nutrients do not support fishes.

Oligotrophic: Clear waters low in nutrients.

Mesotrophic: Waters of moderate nutrients.

CAMPING POLICY FOR THE OCALA NATIONAL FOREST

Camping with equipment drawn, propelled or contained by a motor vehicle is prohibited except in designated areas. Camping, when only a tent is used for overnight lodging, is permitted anywhere in the general forest area unless posted otherwise and except during hunting season.

Practice **Leave No Trace!** land ethics. Make it hard for others to see or hear you and **Leave No Trace!** of your visit.

REMEMBER...only you can prevent wildfires!



LITTER, YOU AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Litter has an enormous impact on the environment. It defaces the places we love, fouls the water and soil, and harms the creatures that inhabit the lakes and woods. A thoughtlessly tossed can, plastic six pack holder, monofilament line or any other thing not naturally found may remain for a very long time and can become a death trap for wildlife. A tangle of fishing line can easily wrap around animals and birds, resulting in a lingering death. Six pack holders caught around wildlife can slowly and painfully kill as the creature outgrows the holder.

Litter can infect your favorite spot for years. Some litter can take up to 100 years to degrade, and some never does. It is also contagious. When people throw trash down, other people tend to do the same. Pride in the area is lost as its natural beauty is diminished.

We want you to enjoy the bounty of the Ocala's fishing water. We also need to maintain a safe, clean habitat for the creatures of the Forest. You can help by disposing of trash properly. If you are a user of the Ocala National Forest's resources, you are also responsible for its protection. Have fun and enjoy fishing and boating, keeping in mind that if you pack it in, pack it out.

Please make your impact on our environment positive!

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STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!TM

Be A Good Steward.
Clean. Drain. Dry.

StopAquaticHitchhikers.org