The Apalachicola National Forest, located in the Panhandle region of Florida, preserves and protects the natural environment for future generations. It is a place where nature thrives, and where human activities are guided by principles of sustainability. This forest is a haven for wildlife, offering habitats for a diverse array of plant and animal species. Visitors can explore its trails, lakes, and wetlands, discovering the beauty of nature in all its forms.

**FLORIDA'S LONGEST FOOTPATH**
The Florida National Scenic Trail (FNST) is more than just a 1,000-mile footpath; it's a living story of the natural and cultural history of Florida. This trail meanders through some of the most scenic areas of the state, offering opportunities for cultural and ecological exploration.

**SHORTER TRAILS ON THE APALACHICOLA NATIONAL FOREST**
- Moorehead Hill Mountain Bike Trail - 20 miles, trailhead at BR 303
- Canoe Lake Interpretative Trail - 1 mile, trailhead at Canoe Lake Recreation Area
- Lake of the Woods - 3 miles, trailhead at Canoe Lake Recreation Area
- Fort Goodwin Interpretative Trail - 1.5 miles, trailhead at Fort Goodwin Historic Site
- Leon Sink Interpretative Trail - 1 mile, trailhead at Big Dismal Sink Natural Area
- Silver Lake Interpretative Trail - 1 mile, trailhead at Silver Lake Recreation Area
- Lake of the Woods Interpretative Trail - 1 mile, trailhead at Lake of the Woods Recreation Area
- Groundhog Lake Interpretative Trail - 1 mile, trailhead at Lake of the Woods Recreation Area
- Utility Creek Interpretative Trail - 1 mile, trailhead at Lake of the Woods Recreation Area
- Aucilla Creek Interpretative Trail - 1 mile, trailhead at Lake of the Woods Recreation Area
- Wakulla Sink Interpretative Trail - 1 mile, trailhead at Wakulla Sink Recreation Area

**SCENIC BYWAYS FOR AUTOMOBILES**
- Apalachicola: Scenic Byway Route
- St. George Island: Scenic Byway Route
- Santa Rosa Island: Scenic Byway Route

**APOGEE RECREATION CENTER**
This center offers a range of activities and services for visitors, including campsites, hiking trails, and fishing spots. It's a great place to enjoy the outdoors while learning about the area's rich history and natural beauty.

**WILDLIFE VIGILANCE**
The Apalachicola National Forest is home to abundant wildlife, such as small mammals, birds, amphibians, and reptiles. These creatures play a vital role in maintaining the forest's ecological balance.

**FOOD STORAGE**
In the Apalachicola National Forest, food storage is a critical consideration. Proper storage practices help ensure the safety and health of the wildlife and the environment. Please follow these guidelines to minimize the risk of attracting wildlife.

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**CAIMAN LAKE RECREATION AREA**
This recreation area offers a variety of activities, including fishing, hiking, and camping. The Caiman Lake is a popular spot for anglers looking to catch largemouth bass, brim, and other species.

**SILVER LAKE RECREATION AREA**
Located on the Lake Inland Road, the Silver Lake Recreation Area offers a calm retreat for those seeking to relax and unwind. Fishing, kayaking, and picnicking are popular activities here.

**TRAILS AT FROUD FORD**
The UFRA Trail is a 20-mile trail located on State Route 32. This trail offers a variety of access points, including stopovers at Big Dismal Sink, which is a popular stop for bird watchers and nature enthusiasts.

**WRIGHT LAKE RECREATION AREA**
This area features a 20-mile trail that provides access to the Tallahassee National Forest. The trail is well-maintained and offers stunning views of the surrounding landscape.

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**SAFETY**
Before you venture into the forest, follow these safety tips to ensure a pleasant and secure experience:

1. **Check the weather:** Florida's summer climate can be extreme, with sudden storms and unpredictable weather patterns.
2. **Wear appropriate clothing:** Be prepared for the elements, including sun protection and waterproof footwear.
3. **Stay on designated trails:** To protect the natural environment and prevent erosion, stick to marked trails.
4. **Practice Leave No Trace:** Leave the area as you found it, without leaving trash or损害 the natural beauty of the area.
5. **Have a plan:** Before your trip, inform someone of your plans, including your expected return time.

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**RECREATION GUIDE**
Access to the Apalachicola National Forest is available through a variety of recreation areas, each offering unique opportunities for outdoor adventure.

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**LEON SINKS GEOLOGICAL AREA**
Located near the Florida-Georgia line, the Leon Sink is a unique geological feature that provides insights into the region's geologic history.

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**CAMEL LAKE RECREATION AREA**
This recreation area offers a range of activities, including hiking, camping, and bird watching. The area is renowned for its biodiversity and is a favorite spot for bird watchers.

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**Camel Lake is your own private beach where the Florida Panhandle meets the Gulf of Mexico. A little more than a mile of beachfront, Camel Lake offers a quiet retreat not far from the bustle of Tallahassee. A volunteer host lives on site.**

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**GREENUP LAKE OVERVIEW**
Greenup Lake is a small, shallow lake that is popular for fishing and canoeing. The lake is surrounded by a mix of hardwood forests and wetlands, providing a unique habitat for a variety of wildlife.

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**FORT GOODWIN RECREATION AREA**
Located on the Panhandle's western shore, Fort Goodwin is a historic site that offers a glimpse into the past. The site includes a visitor center, a small museum, and a picnic area.

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