The Osceola National Forest, located in northeastern Florida, encompasses more than 2,450,000 acres and is the largest forest in the state. Many people use and enjoy this forest.

On a fateful day in 1864, North met South in a decisive Civil War Battle on February 20, 1864. On a hill called Big Shoal, residents of the nearby town of Olustee. The most significant historic site on the forest, the Olustee Battlefield is the national historic site that began in the area in the late 1800s and is filled with historical information and artifacts from the Civil War. The conflict that led to the battle as well as the development of the battlefield is one of the most significant events in history.

**HORSEBACK RIDING**

On horseback, you can journey quietly through open pine flatwoods and wetlands, be on the lookout for large animals, and visit historic sites such as the site of the Battle of Olustee.

**FLORIDA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL**

The Florida National Scenic Trail (FNST) traces more than 480 miles of the Cupola and Baldcypress Trail. All the trailhead signs are closed to all motorized vehicles. Any forest visitor riding an unlicensed vehicle like an ATV or trail bike risks an administrative fine. Know the rules and ride responsibly on designated roads and trails, but only six are venomous. The six that are venomous are the diamondback rattlesnake, bushmaster, King snake, copperhead, cottonmouth, and the broad-banded copperhead. exceptionally well camouflaged and can be found in the forest. The most effective way to avoid snakes is by wearing closed-toed shoes and long pants, and by making noise on the trail. For more information, contact the Osceola National Forest.

**RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

The Osceola National Forest offers a multitude of recreation opportunities including camping, swimming and wildlife viewing. You can explore the Osceola National Forest by backpack, foot or bicycle. Trails throughout the forest lead visitors to cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. For more information, contact the Osceola National Forest.

**LIFE LEAFlet DEPOT VISITOR CENTER**

The Osceola National Forest is located in the Osceola Depot Visitor Center is open from 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm. The center is closed on Saturdays and Sundays. For more information, contact the Osceola National Forest.

**OCEAN FORD AND OLUSTEE BEACH**

On the southern shore of Ocean Pond, Olustee Depot Visitor Center is open from 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm. The center is closed on Saturdays and Sundays. For more information, contact the Osceola National Forest.