

## **Ocklawaha River Fact Sheet**

[www.5-StarYakPak.org](http://www.5-StarYakPak.org)

NOTE: The Ocklawaha River, due to the dams, has a tendency to fill up with vegetation, especially between CR 316 and Rodman Dam. A route is kept open by the power boats but it can be erratic. Since river mileage is generally measured down the center of a river, mileage specified on an Ocklawaha river map from Point A to Point B may have no relationship to the actual miles you will have to paddle to wind through the vegetation and it can change from year to year. The mileage indicated below is an average of the ACTUAL miles paddled that we recorded with a GPS over multiple trips between 2010 and 2015 and is broken up into fairly easy day trips. Use this mileage chart as a good estimate for your trip, but realize that your mileage may vary by up to 20%.

### **Mileage One-Way**

(Remember, "river left" is the left side of the river headed downstream.)

#### **Moss Bluff North Ramp to Ray Wayside Boat Ramp**

- 0.0 Moss Bluff North Ramp (N29.08145 W81.88393)
- 0.1 Pass under CR 464C bridge (N29.08203 W81.88531)
- 2.4 Non-motorized bridge on Ocklawaha Prairie Restoration Area (N29.09938 W81.91135)
- 6.2 End of canalization where former riverbed joins from river left (N29.13681 W81.95130)
- 8.8 Dead River joins from river left (N29.15652 W81.98305)
- 10.9 Sharps Ferry, pass under County Road 314 bridge (N29.18349 W81.99259)
- 13.2 Junction with Silver River, river left (N29.21055 W81.99128)
- 13.5 Junction with Rays Wayside canal, river right (N29.21055 W81.99128)
- 13.7 Ray Wayside County Park (N29.21412 W81.99240)

#### **Ray Wayside Boat Ramp to Gores Landing County Park**

- 0.0 Ray Wayside County Park (N29.21412 W81.99240)
- 0.2 Junction with Silver River (N29.21055 W81.99128)
- 0.5 Junction with Ocklawaha River (N29.21251 W81.98798)
- 0.7 Pass under State Rd 40 (N29.21495 W81.98621)
- 1.3 Good break area, river right (N29.22010 W81.98700)
- 2.7 Grahamsville Landing, river right (N29.22711 W81.97746)
- 3.8 Turkey Landing, river right (N29.23582 W81.97062)
- 4.3 Conner Landing, river right (N29.23873 W81.96687)
- 4.6 Trail at river, river right (N29.24129 W81.96679)

- 4.9 Caldwell Landing and spring, river right (N29.24488 W81.96549)
- 6.5 Strouds Creek, south end, river left (N29.25834 W81.95692)
- 7.8 Durisoe Landing, river right (N29.26363 W81.94640)
- 8.2 Osceola Landing, river left (N29.26551 W81.94240)
- 9.0 Dead River, south end, river right (N29.27392 W81.93729)
- 9.8 Strouds Creek, north end, river left (N29.28375 W81.93685)
- 10.0 Stream, river right (N29.28554 W81.93468)
- 10.2 Stream, river right (N29.28755 W81.93231)
- 10.6 Gores Landing County Park, river left. (N29.28964 W81.92650)

#### **Gores Landing County Park to Eureka West Boat Ramp**

- 0.0 Gores Landing County Park, river left. (N29.28964 W81.92650)
- 1.0 Dead River, north end, river right (N29.29618 W81.91681)
- 2.3 Fish Creek, south end, river left (N29.31008 W81.90739)
- 3.2 Fish Creek, north end, river left (N29.31767 W81.89986)
- 3.5 Cedar Creek, river right (N29.31898 W81.89508)
- 5.9 Eaton Creek, right right (N29.33929 W81.88444)
- 7.2 Piney Island Landing, river right, nice break area (N29.35414 W81.88870)
- 9.0 Eureka East boat ramp, river right, south side of CR 316 (N29.37058 W81.89846)
- 9.2 Pass under CR 316 (N29.37199 W81.90166)13.2
- 9.4 Ocklawaha Outpost launch, river left (N29.37291 W81.90174)
- 9.6 Eureka West boat ramp, river left (N29.37421 W81.90178)

#### **Eureka West Boat Ramp to Orange Springs Boat Ramp**

- 0.0 Eureka West boat ramp, river left (N29.37421 W81.90178)
- 0.5 Junction canal from defunct Eureka Lock, right right (N29.38139 W81.90202)
- 3.5 Landing, river right, possible break area (N29.40780 W81.90970)
- 4.7 Wells Landing, river right, possible break area (N29.41691 W81.91931)
- 5.3 Canal, river right, leading 0.2 miles to Cannon Springs (N29.42250 W81.92299)
- 6.4 Tobacco Patch Landing, river right (N29.43082 W81.92573)
- 7.1 Big Rack Rd Spring, river right (N29.43930 W81.92420)
- 7.2 Riversites Spring, river right (N29.44130 W81.92360)
- 7.5 Blue Store launch, river right, see notes below (N29.44585 W81.92418)
- 8.2 Hasty Greene Spring, river right (N29.45270 W81.92140)
- 9.2 Indian Bluff Spring, river right (N29.46450 W81.91700)
- 12.8 Hog Valley Ramp, river right, see notes below (N29.50327 W81.91046)
- 13.2 Orange Springs boat ramp launch, river left, down canal. (N29.50512 W81.91698)

#### **Orange Springs Boat Ramp to Kirkpatrick (Rodman) Dam**

- 0.0 Orange Springs boat ramp, river left (N29.50512 W81.91698)
- 0.4 Hog Valley launch, river right, see notes below (N29.50327 W81.91046)
- 0.8 Round bight of land (N29.50810 W81.90656)
- 3.5 Cedar Landing, river right (N29.51300 W81.86380)
- 4.4 Enter Rodman Reservoir (Lake Ocklawaha) proper.
- 6.9 Reach dam embankment. (N29.50314 W81.81309)

To continue on the river a portage is needed over the dam embankment. Cross the dam embankment and join dirt road on the opposite side. Turn left (towards the spillway) and follow road approximately 0.4 miles to Kirkpatrick launch.

### **Kirkpatrick (Rodman) Dam to State Rd 19**

- 0.0 Kirkpatrick Landing West, west side of Dam (N29.50584 W81.80681)
- 1.6 Junction with Kirkpatrick Dam spillway channel (N29.49756 W81.79736)
- 1.9 Take right channel at fork (N29.49463 W81.79342)
- 4.2 Davenport Landing, river left (N29.47384 W81.77332)
- 4.5 Lower Davenport Landing, river left (N29.47210 W81.76980)
- 5.6 Take right channel at fork (N29.47572 W81.75698)
- 5.9 Pass under State Rd 19, channel to boat ramp on right. (N29.47889 W81.74034)
- 6.2 Johnson Field Landing boat ramp (N29.47586 W81.73904)

### **Johnson Field Landing to St Johns River**

- 0.0 Johnson Field Landing boat ramp. (N29.47586 W81.73904)
- 0.7 Junction with Bear Creek, river right (N29.48017 W81.73754)
- 1.2 Junction stream, keep right (N29.48332 W81.73210)
- 2.3 Junction stream, keep right (N29.48295 W81.72148)
- 3.4 Junction Bear Creek, river right (N29.47540 W81.70823)
- 4.1 Junction stream, keep right (N29.47543 W81.69865)
- 5.0 Junction with St Johns River (N29.47042 W81.69033)

### **St Johns River to Johnson Landing (via Bear Creek)**

- 0.0 Junction Ocklawaha River with St Johns River (N29.47042 W81.69033)
- 0.2 Junction St Johns River with Bear Creek, St Johns river left (N29.46751 W81.69198)
- 1.9 Junction Ocklawaha River, keep left to stay on Bear Creek (N29.47530 W81.70872)
- 3.5 Junction stream, keep right (N29.48151 W81.72669)
- 4.0 Junction first of 3 streams, keep right (N29.48108 W81.73317)

- 4.2 Junction last of 3 streams, keep right (N29.47964 W81.73576)
- 4.3 Junction with Ocklawaha River, keep left (N29.48017 W81.73754)
- 4.5 Junction channel to boat ramp (N29.47888 W81.74005)
- 4.8 Johnson Field Landing boat ramp (N29.47586 W81.73904)

**Directions to Moss Bluff North Ramp:**

16298 SE 95th Place, Ocklawaha, FL 32179 352-671-8560  
\$5 parking fee in 2015. Open sunrise to sunset.  
N29.08145 W81.88393

From the junction of State Rd 40 and State Rd 326 east of Silver Springs, go east on SR 40 for 9.4 miles to Country Rd 314A in Forest Corners. Turn south (right) onto CR 314A (SE 160 Ave) and continue for 7.8 miles. Turn right onto County Rd 464C S/Ocklawaha and Moss Bluff Hwy for 0.4 miles. Turn left onto SE 95 Pl and then left at the boat ramp. Picnic pavilions and restrooms on site.

**Directions to Ray Wayside County Park:**

9564 NE 28<sup>th</sup> Lane, Silver Springs, FL 34488 352-671-8560  
\$5 parking fee in 2015. Open sunrise to sunset.  
N29.21412 W81.99240

From the junction of State Rd 40 and State Rd 326 east of Silver Springs, go east on SR 40 for 2.5 miles to the park entrance on your right. Entrance is just before the high-rise bridge over the river. Picnic pavilions and restrooms on site.

**Directions to Gores Landing County Park:**

13800 NE 98 St, Fort McCoy, FL 32134 352-671-8560  
\$5 parking fee in 2015.  
N29.28964 W81.92650

From the junction of State Rd 40 and State Rd 326 east of Silver Springs, go east on SR 40 for 1.1 miles to County Rd 315. Turn north (left) onto CR 315 and continue 6.3 miles to NE 105 St. Turn right onto NE 105 St and follow it to 2.1 miles to T intersection. Turn right at the T onto NE 130 Ave. Follow NE 130 St Ave 0.8 miles to NE 98 St. Turn right onto NE 98 St and continue for 0.58 miles to park entrance. Hand launch is straight ahead from fee station. Park so you don't block the campsites. Camping (primitive), picnic tables and restrooms on site.

**Directions to Eureka East boat launch:**

15698 NE 152nd St, Fort McCoy, FL 32134 352-671-8560  
Free in 2015.  
N29.37058 W81.89893

From the intersection of County Rd 315 and County Rd 316 in Fort McCoy, go east on CR 316 for 4.2 miles to NE 152 St on your right. This is the first road on your right after the bridge. The boat launch will be on your right in about 500 feet.

**Directions to Eureka West boat launch:**

NE 154 St, Fort McCoy, FL 32134 352-671-8560  
Free in 2015.  
N29.37454 W81.90212

This ramp is hard to find because of confusing signage and similarly named roads. In fact, the county, who maintains the ramps, gives the same address for both ramps even though they are in different locations, so people frequently end up at Eureka East when they are looking for Eureka West. You have been warned!

From the intersection of County Rd 315 and County Rd 316 in Fort McCoy, go east on CR 316 for 3.8 miles to NE 152 Pl on your left. This is the last road before the bridge. Look for Cross Florida Greenway and Ocklawaha Canoe Outpost signs. Turn left onto NE 152 Pl and go 0.2 miles then turn left onto NE 152 Court Rd at Recreation Area sign (Ocklawaha Canoe Outpost will be on your right.) Turn right at the next road (unmarked NE 154 St) and continue about 0.1 mile to end. There is a circular drive to unload at the ramp then you must move your vehicles up to the parking lot you passed coming in. Portolets in parking area, picnic table in launch area. Caution: boat ramp is metal and can be slick.

**Directions to Orange Springs boat ramp:**

14525 NE 245 Street Rd, Fort McCoy, FL 32134 352-671-8560  
Free in 2015.  
N29.50512 W81.91698

From the intersection of County Rd 315 and County Rd 21 in Orange Springs, go north on CR 315 for 0.3 miles to NE 245 St Rd (River Rd) on your right. Turn right and continue on NE 245 St Rd for 1.6 miles to the boat ramp. Picnic pavilion in park.

**Directions to Hog Valley launch:**

NE 245 St Road, Fort McCoy, FL 32134  
Free in 2015. Requires high clearance vehicle. Road can be VERY rough.  
N29.50407 W81.91272

From the intersection of County Rd 315 and County Rd 316 in Fort McCoy, go east on CR 316 for 5.1 miles to NE 160 Ave Rd on your left. Turn north (left) onto NE 160 Ave Rd and continue for 9.8 miles to NE 245 St Rd. Turn left and wind around the private roads and tree trunks until you reach the water for about 0.4 miles. Not recommended unless you have high clearance vehicles and have first scouted the area.

**Directions to Blue Store launch:**

NE 202 Lane, Fort McCoy, FL 32134

Free in 2015. Requires high clearance vehicle.

N29.50407 W81.91272

From the intersection of County Rd 315 and County Rd 316 in Fort McCoy, go east on CR 316 for 5.1 miles to NE 160 Ave Rd on your left. Turn north (left) onto NE 160 Ave Rd and continue for 5.7 miles to NE 202 Lane. The Ocklawaha River Country Store is on the corner (and used to be painted blue, hence the local name for the launch).

Turn left onto NE 202 Lane follow it about 0.6 miles to the river. Not recommended unless you have high clearance vehicles and have first scouted the area.

**Directions to Kenwood Park boat ramp:**

115 Boat Ramp Rd, Interlachen, FL 32148

Free in 2015.

N29.52550 W81.87810

From the intersection of State Rd 20 and Country Rd 315 in Interlachen, go south on CR 315 for 6.3 miles. Where CR 315 makes a bend to the east, go straight ahead and join Boat Ramp Rd. Follow Boat Ramp Rd for 0.9 miles to the park and boat ramp.

This gives access to the north side of Rodman Reservoir via a 0.5 miles canal.

**Directions to Kirkpatrick (Rodman) Dam hand launch:**

115 Boat Ramp Rd, Interlachen, FL 32148

Free in 2015.

N29.50584 W81.80681

From the State Rd 19 high rise bridge over the Cross-Florida Barge Canal, go south 0.5 miles on SR 19 to Kirkpatrick (Rodman) Dam Road. Turn west (left) onto Rodman Dam Rd and continue for 4.3 miles. You will cross the dam spillway. At the end of the dam embankment, turn left (down the embankment) onto the dirt road which parallels the embankment below it. Go back west on the dirt road 0.4 miles to the hand launch area on your right. Note that the Dam may be closed on Wednesdays for maintenance. In that case you can launch for the paved boat ramp on the East side of the dam and poaddle down the dam canal to the river. Restrooms are available at the complex on the east side of the dam.

**Directions to Johnson Field boat ramp:**

45621 State Road 19, Salt Springs, FL

Free in 2015.

N29.47586 W81.73904

From the State Rd 19 high rise bridge over the Cross-Florida Barge Canal, go south 4.2 miles on SR 19 to the boat ramp entrance on your left. The entrance is 0.2 miles after you cross the Ocklawaha River bridge.

**Directions to Welaka Public Boat Ramp:**

9199 Elm Street, Welaka, FL 32193

Free in 2015.

N29.47863 W81.67469

If you don't want to paddle back up Bear Creek from the St Johns River, you can paddle about 1.5 miles down the St Johns to the Welaka Boat ramp, but it's a long – about an hour one way - drive around since you have to go all the way to Palatka to cross the St Johns. From the intersection of US 17 and State Rd 207 in East Palatka, drive south on US 17 for 9 miles to the junction with County Rd 309. Turn south (right) onto CR 309 and continue for 5.5 miles into Welaka. At Elm St turn west (right) and go about 3 blocks to the boat ramp. There is a small parking area and boat ramp.