

Shired Creek Paddle

Description: Paddle upstream from the wide creek mouth, leaving behind the salt water of the Gulf of Mexico. As the creek narrows, the elevation of the land gradually rises, and the transition from salt to freshwater and from salt marsh to island hammocks is encountered. Turnaround is at the Dixie Mainline bridge. This paddle is one of the best ways to see the effects of rising sea levels on the area's different tidal habitats. For an easier paddle, try to time it so you can paddle up with the incoming tide and down the creek with the outgoing tide.

Distance/Time: 5 Miles from County Boat Ramp, 7 Miles from County Park/ 2.5 - 3 Hours

Skill Level: Novice/Intermediate

Indigenous Wildlife: Eagles, ospreys, various shorebirds and waterfowl, mullet, redfish, spotted sea trout, raccoons, otters, and blue crabs.

Launch Site: .From HWY 19 take CR 351 (Horseshoe Beach Rd.), turn onto CR 357 (Shired Is. Rd.) on left, continue on CR 357 to Shired Island County Boat Ramp on the right, just before the Campgrounds at the end of the road.

NOTE: Great care has been taken to ensure this guides accuracy, but weather, tides, and water conditions can change rapidly and create hazardous conditions. Routes may change due to weather considerations. Users should consult NOAA Charts for navigation. Paddlers should have all proper safety equipment and check conditions before departure. All participants are required to wear PFDs while on water based events .



