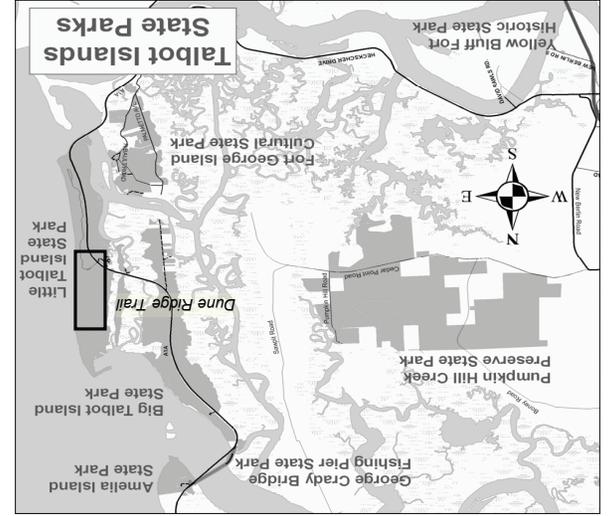


Talbot Islands State Parks offers many trails with a variety of uses from hiking to cycling to horseback riding and even Segway® tours. For information & maps on other Talbot Island trails contact the ranger station at (904) 251-2320.

## Looking For More Trails?



Welcome

The Dune Ridge Trail is a four mile long loop that takes you through picturesque maritime hammock, coastal scrub, dune, and beach habitats. The trailhead is located west of the ranger station north of park drive. **Remember to check in at the Ranger Station before embarking on your hike.**

## Changing Landscape

The trail meanders atop an ancient dune ridge, under a canopy of live oaks, cedars and sable palms, in a lush maritime hammock. The final stage of coastal forest succession. During the earlier stages of succession, while the ridge was forming, it was covered with pioneering salt tolerant vegetation such as the sea oats and railroad vines that we see on the foredunes today. These coastal dune plants provide the foundation for dunes and their formation. They have an extensive root system which works to hold the dunes together, while their leaves trap wind-blown sand, which in time will cause the dunes to grow higher.

Changing Landscape Continued

When these pioneering plants die and decompose they contribute to the creation of a thin, fertile organic soil layer called the humus layer. Most plants require this layer in order to survive and it may take years for it to form in a coastal environment such as this one. As the dunes age, they become more stabilized and form a hearty humus layer, small plants such as scrub oak and cabbage palm begin to take hold. You may notice on your hike that some of these plants have distinctive shapes and growth patterns. This is because they are pruned and flattened by salt spray which is a major limiting factor for plant growth. These plants, although affected, are able to survive and provide a buffer enabling less salt tolerant plants to grow behind them. Eventually, trees such as live oak and slash pine will begin to colonize the dunes, and over time they will become the dominate plants forming a maritime hammock. As you hike the dune ridge trail you will observe all of the successional stages of the ever-changing coastal beach-dune system. Enjoy your walk through time.

## Park Guidelines

- Hours are 8 a.m. until sunset, 365 days a year.
- A park entrance fee and additional fees may be required.
- All plants, animals and park property are protected. The collection, destruction or disturbance of plants, animals or park property is prohibited.
- Pets are permitted in designated areas only. Pets must be kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet long and must be well behaved. **DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE BEACH.**
- Fishing, boating and fires are allowed in designated areas only. Florida fishing license may be required.
- Collection of firewood and driftwood are prohibited.
- Fireworks and hunting are prohibited.
- Alcoholic beverage consumption is allowed only in designated areas.

### Leave No Trace

- Take only pictures, leave only foot prints.

## Talbot Islands State Parks

12157 Heckscher Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32226  
(904) 251-2320  
FloridaStateParks.org

Florida's state parks are committed to providing equal access to all facilities and programs. Should you need assistance to enable your participation, please contact the ranger station at (904) 251-2320.



Alternate format available upon Request at the Ranger Station



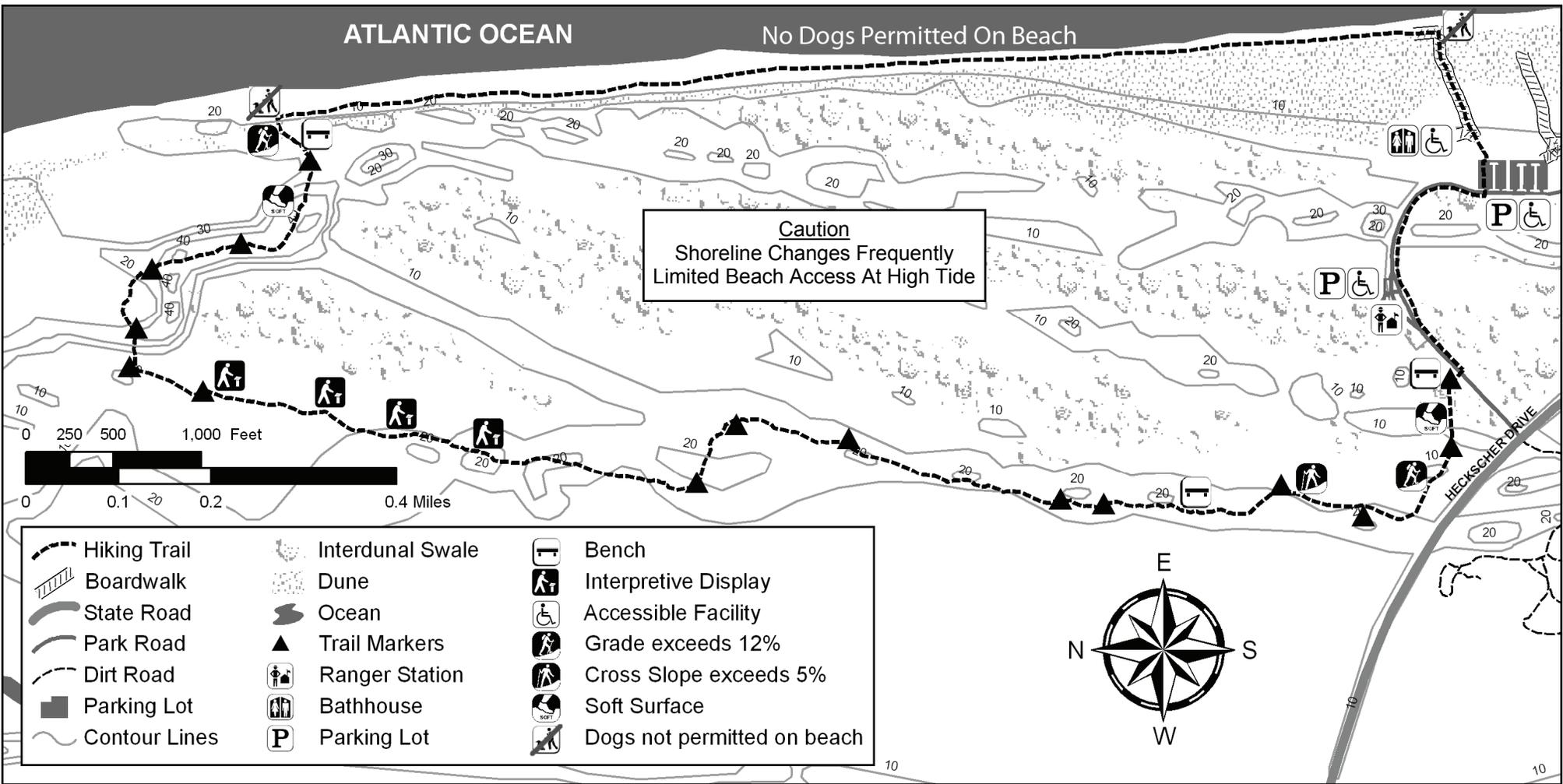
## Dune Ridge Trail Little Talbot Island State Park



...the Real Florida<sup>SM</sup>

National Gold Medal Winner  
Florida State Parks—"America's First Two-Time Winner"





## Dune Ridge Trail

### Little Talbot Island State Park

Trail Loop Length 4 miles



Hiking



Bicycling



Pets Allowed  
No Pets on Beach



Grade Typical 2.3%

4% of trail is 8% to 15%

65 ft section is 12% to 15%



Cross Slope Typical 1.2%

6% of trail is 3% to 12%

896 ft section is 3% to 12%



Tread Width Typical 80 in

Minimum 47 in

Ranges from 47 in to 138 in



Surface Type Typical Duff

85% of the trail is Firm or Better

1959 ft of trail is soft or worse



Roots

3 in

Warning: Trail conditions may have changed since this trail was assessed. Temporary obstructions (e.g. fallen trees or landslides) may not have been mapped. Maximum grades and cross slopes may vary.

8% grade is a standard ramp.

Level surfaces can have up to a 2% cross slope.



Trail Access  
Information