

History & Nature

In the 1860s, Confederate deserters camped along the banks of the Econfina during the Civil War. Pledged to assist Union blockade ships, these deserters utilized the river to deliver Confederate prisoners, contraband, fresh provisions and information to Federal gunboats. During the Great Depression the river was a source of mullet, which was salted, packed in barrels and then swapped or bartered for other food products. Fish camps have successfully operated on the Econfina since 1931.

The Econfina River empties into the Gulf of Mexico 2.2 miles south of the park's boat ramp. This small blackwater river winds for 43 miles and drains nearly 300 square miles of rural land. The park's marshes and wetlands serve as a filter that protects marine nurseries from pollution. These marshes and wetlands form coastal food webs that provide sanctuary and an abundance of food and nutrients to a great many species. This park and its neighbors, Big Bend Seagrasses Aquatic Preserve to the south and St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge to the west, combine to protect one of the last stretches of unspoiled coastline in Florida.

Visitors may observe many varieties of oak, saw palmetto, St. John's wort, yaupon holly, cabbage palm, bald cypress, red cedar, swamp tupelo and saw grass. Florida black bear, white-tailed deer, blue herons and egrets, bald eagle, marsh hawk, otter and bobcat call this habitat home.



Florida State Parks

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks

Econfina River State Park

4741 Econfina River Road
Lamont, Florida 32336
(850) 922-6007

FloridaStateParks.org

Park Guidelines

- Hours are 8 a.m. until sunset, 365 days a year.
- Boat ramp use requires a fee or display of a Florida State Park Annual Entrance Pass.
- Potable water is available at the restroom facility.
- All plants, animals and park property are protected. Collection, destruction or disturbance is prohibited.
- Pets are permitted in designated areas only. Pets must be kept on a hand-held leash no longer than six feet and well behaved at all times.
- Big Bend Paddling Trail users and primitive campers must register with the park office. Because of the park's remote location, it is advisable that all users file a trip or float plan.
- Fishing, boating and fires are allowed in designated areas only. A Florida fishing license may be required.
- Alcohol, fireworks and hunting are prohibited.
- 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 park office.

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Florida state park.



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Northwest
Florida

Econfina River State Park

Spectacular vistas nestled in a corner
of untouched wilderness



...the Real FloridaSM



National Gold Medal Winner

Florida State Parks - "America's First Three-Time Winner"

Real Fun in ...*the Real Florida*SM

Nestled in the corner of north Florida on the Gulf of Mexico, Econfinia River State Park contains 4,543 acres of diverse landscapes ranging from mixed forest to broad expanses of salt marsh dotted with pine islands.

Spectacular vistas and large expanses of salt marsh are accessible from 16.1 miles of **multi-use trails** that meander through flatwoods, hammocks, tidal marshes and coastal strands. Detailed trail maps are available on the website and at the park.

A **boat ramp** offers the chance to explore narrow, secluded tidal creeks that snake through a dynamic wetland environment accented by a thick canopy of trees. South of the boat ramp the river changes character from a narrow stream with limestone banks to a broader waterway that winds through the marshland.

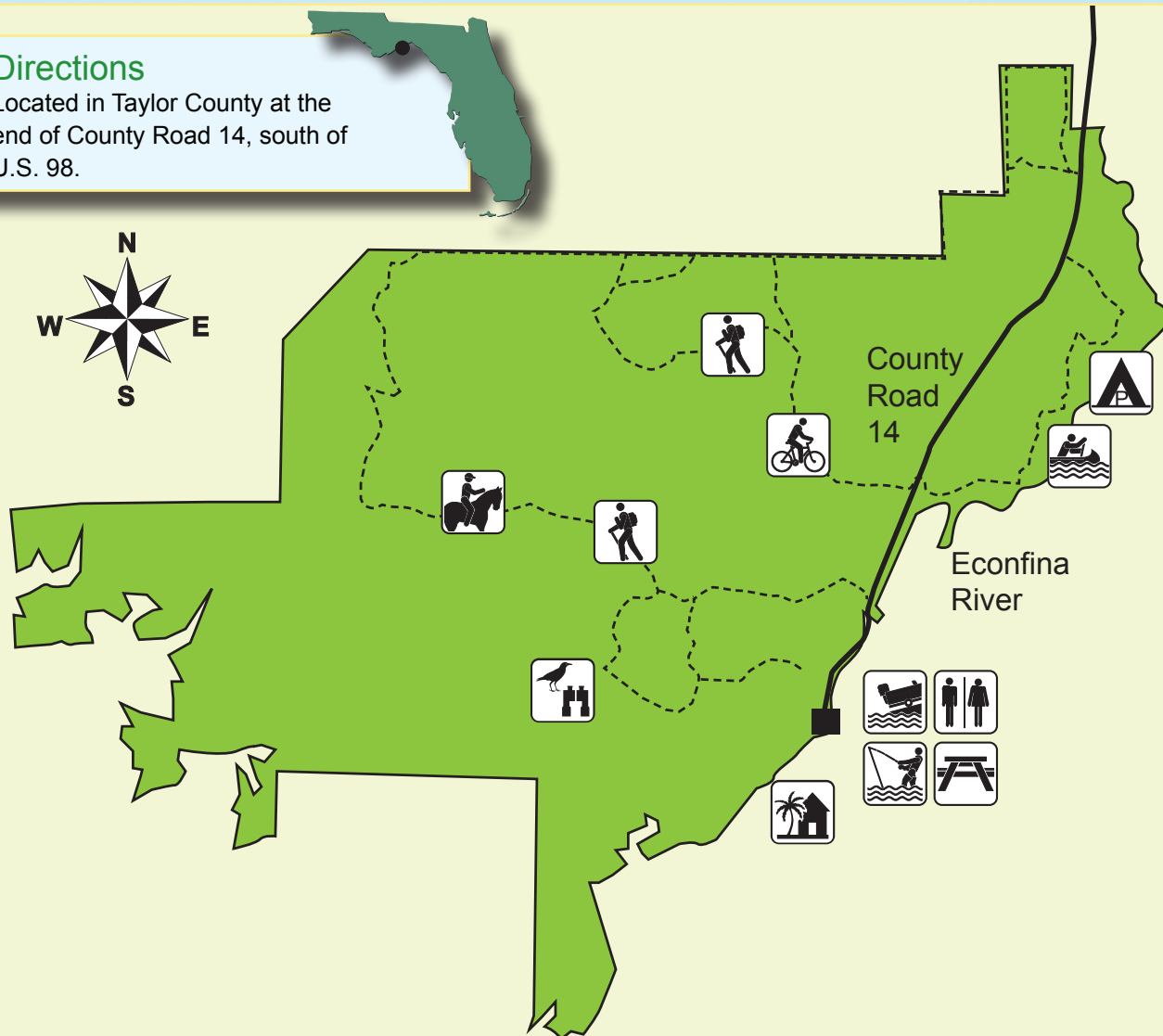
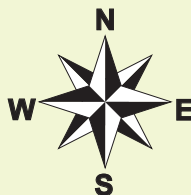
Whether by foot, **bicycle**, or **horseback**, **trails** to the southern end of the park lead to a panoramic view of coastal Florida where lush islands dot the horizon. Trails may flood during seasonal rains.

Archaeologists have identified various prehistoric sites at the park, including ancient middens (remains of burial mounds), a chert quarry and a possible campsite. Please note that all plants, animals and cultural features in the park are protected. We ask that you take nothing but photographs and leave nothing but footprints.



Directions

Located in Taylor County at the end of County Road 14, south of U.S. 98.



Bicycling



Birding



Boat Ramp



Cabins/Lodging



Camping-Primitive



Canoeing



Fishing



Hiking



Equestrian



Picnic



Restroom