

Hilochee Wildlife Mang. Area – Osprey Unit

The Osprey Unit straddles I-4 between C.R. 557 and U.S. 27. Hilochee is within the Green Swamp, a critical hydrologic resource, encompassing the headwaters of the Withlacoochee, Little Withlacoochee, Ocklawaha, Hillsborough and Peace rivers and serving as a major recharge area for the Floridan aquifer. This 6,093 -acre property is open for wildlife viewing, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding and hunting. Hiking, biking and horseback riding is best on non-hunting days in the fall.

TRAIL ENTRANCE:

Homerun Blvd. Davenport, FL

PARK GPS COORDINATES:

N 28° 12.894 W 081° 39.489



TREK TEN CACHE

COORDINATES:

N 28° 12.784 W 081° 40.102

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From the intersection of Interstate 4 & U.S. 27 follow signs for US-27 South and merge onto US-27 South. Travel about 0.8 mile and turn right at traffic light onto Homerun Blvd. Follow Homerun Blvd. until it dead ends into the grassy parking area.

THE OSPREY UNIT:

This cache is located within the Hilochee WMA Osprey Unit. Visitors should be aware of seasonal hunting and must abide by all area regulations while on the area. No Daily-Use Fee.

Check the FWC Website for hunt dates:

<https://myfwc.com/recreation/lead/hilochee/planning-your-visit/>

NOTE: Trail may be flooded in wet weather.

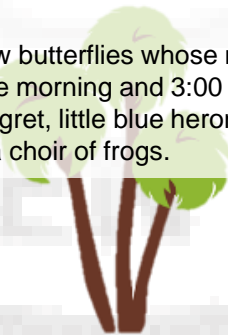


FIND THE CACHE WITHOUT GPS:

Park at the end of Homerun Boulevard. Enter thru the walk thru and follow the East trail, the two-track will bend to the right and then to the left under the power lines and then straighten out. Continue walking until you reach a stand of pine trees on the left side of the trail, continue to the end of this tree line, and turn left. You will see a sign that reads "Road Closed to Vehicles" turn left again, look for the geocache at the end of the tree at the base of the large oak tree. **(Hike 1.5 miles round trip)**

THINGS TO SEE

Hilochee has offers excellent opportunities to view butterflies whose numbers peak in the fall. The best time to observe butterflies is between around 10:30 in the morning and 3:00 in the afternoon. You can also see a variety of birds including anhinga, great blue heron, great egret, little blue heron, green heron, wood stork, bald eagle and (of course) osprey. Early morning visitors will hear a choir of frogs.



FRIENDS OF THE PARKS
www.friendsoftheparks.net

