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## TREK 10 TRAILS

# Circle B Bar Reserve

The Reserve is named after a cattle ranch that once existed on the 1,267-acres. Purchased to protect the floodplain of Lake Hancock and to restore the Banana Creek marsh system, it also offers large natural communities of oak hammocks and various forested wetlands in the northeast corner of the property. Lake Hancock, Polk County's 4th largest lake, sits at the headwaters of the Peace River.

### TRAIL ENTRANCE:

4399 Winter Lake Road,  
Lakeland, FL 33812

### DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From US Hwy 98, turn onto Winter Lake Road (SR 540). The entrance to the Reserve is approximately two miles on the right.



### TREK TEN CACHE COORDINATES:

N 27° 59.373' W 081° 51.350'



### POLK'S NATURE DISCOVERY CENTER:

Provides Information and many discovery opportunities about the unique water, wildlife and wilderness resources, as well as the associated cultural heritage and nature-based recreation opportunities on environmental lands in Polk County. The Nature Discovery Center includes picnic pavilions, wildlife observation viewing platforms, boardwalks and multi-use trails. The Reserve is open daily, year-round, from 6:00 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. Standard Time and until 8:00 P.M. during Daylight Savings Time. This area may become wet during the rainy season. Don't forget the insect repellent and water. Be careful and enjoy the area.



### FIND THE CACHE WITHOUT GPS:

From the Discovery Center parking lot, enter the boardwalk towards the buildings. Turn right to head towards the trail map kiosk and follow the blacktop trail to the Shady Oak Trail sign. Take the trail to the left to the next trail sign then bear right and continue on the mowed Shady Oak Trail past the Butterfly sign until you reach the dead end near Lake Hancock. Turn left onto Lake Trek and follow the gravel road until you reach the intersection of Lake Trek and Lost Bridge trails. Turn left and about 135 feet down the trail, look for a large oak tree on the right. The cache is at the base of the small tree beside it. Continue on the trail back to the intersection of Shady Oak Trail and turn right. Continue on the trail turning right again onto the blacktop trail and right onto the boardwalk that leads to the parking lot

**(Hike is 1.7 miles round trip.)**



### THINGS TO SEE

While hiking the trails you may see a variety of birds, including sandhill cranes, bald eagles, wood storks, great blue herons and many other wading birds, as well as vistas across Lake Hancock and Banana Creek Marsh. Take a walk along the banks of Lake Hancock and you will see many alligators.