

Circle B Bar 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. east corner of the property

TRAIL ENTRANCE:

4399 Winter Lake Road,
Lakeland, FL 33812

OTTER PARKING COORDINATES:

N 27° 59.486 W 081° 51.615



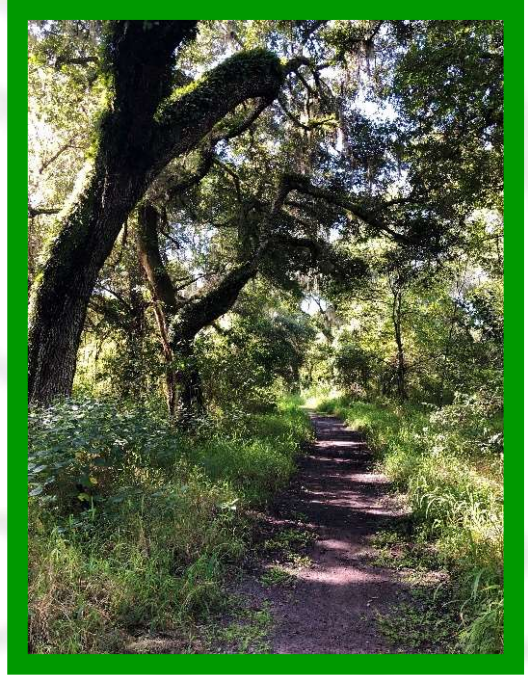
TREK TEN CACHE COORDINATES:

N 27° 58.958 W 081° 51.725

FIND THE CACHE WITHOUT GPS:

Park in the Otter parking lot. Pick up a trail map from the container on the fence to determine return trail options.

Enter Acorn Pass trail at the walkthrough. Follow the trail south, continuing on Heron Hideout trail past the intersection of Marsh Rabbit Run until you reach Eagle Roost trail. There will be a Y at the top of the rise. Bear left onto the circular drive (turnaround). You will see a lone pine about 50 feet due east from the left side of that circular drive. The cache is at the base of the tree. **HIKE is 0.65 mile one-way.** **Note: There is no shade on Heron Hideout, Eagle Roost, Wading Bird Way, or Windmill Whisper trails.**



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.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From I-4 east or west, take the Polk Parkway (Toll Road 570) and exit at US Hwy 98 south, exit 10. Turn left at Winter Lake Road (SR 540). The entrance to the Reserve is two miles east of US 98.



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.



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www.friendsoftheparks.net

