

6th Annual

HIDDEN COAST PADDLING ADVENTURE



Photo Courtesy of Helen Cialletta

Weds-Sun, Nov., 4-8, 2015

**Come celebrate Yankeetown's and Inglis' culture and
wildlife!**

HiddenCoastPaddlingAdventures.com

Withlacoochee River

The **Withlacoochee River** (or Crooked River) originates in central Florida's Green Swamp, east of Polk City. It flows west, then north, and then turns northwest and finally west again before it empties into the Gulf of Mexico near Yankeetown. The river is 141 miles long and has a drainage basin of 1,170 square miles. It is believed to have been named after the Withlacoochee River in north Florida. The Withlacoochee River flows through Pasco and Hernando counties, and then forms part of the boundary between Hernando County and Sumter County, and all of the boundary between Citrus County and Sumter County, between Citrus County and Marion County and between Citrus County and Levy County (including Lake Rousseau).

"*Withlacoochee*" probably stems from a Muskogean dialect, which suggests that its application is comparatively recent. It is compounded of Creek *we* (water), *thlako* (big), and *chee* (little), or *little big water*.



Welcome to the historic communities of Yankeetown & Inglis

Town of Yankeetown is a charming coastal fishing village on the Gulf of Mexico. It was founded in 1923 by Armanis F. Knotts, who moved to the area because of his great love for hunting. The area is known for beautiful tree lined streets, quiet lifestyle and the tranquil waters of the lower Withlacoochee River, designated as a "Outstanding Florida Waterway" which has one of the deepest channels. Elvis Presley's "Follow That Dream" movie was filmed on location where Highway 40 West crosses Bird Creek Bridge.

City of Inglis is known locally for its friendly hometown atmosphere and tasty restaurants. Incorporated in 1955, the city has established several boat ramps and parks for access to some of the best fishing found anywhere. The cast and crew filming Elvis' movie in 1961 stayed in many of the local accommodations.



Hidden Coast Paddling Adventure

NOVEMBER 4th - 8th, 2015

**THE HIDDEN COAST PADDLING ADVENTURE IS RESTRICTED TO
PAID PARTICIPANTS ONLY, 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER**

WRIST BANDS WILL BE PROVIDED TO PAID PARTICIPANTS AT CHECK-IN AND WILL BE
REQUIRED TO ATTEND ANY AND ALL EVENTS OR PADDLES

**JOIN US FOR THIS YEAR'S HIDDEN COAST PADDLING ADVENTURE
TO BE HELD IN YANKEETOWN/INGLIS, FLORIDA.**

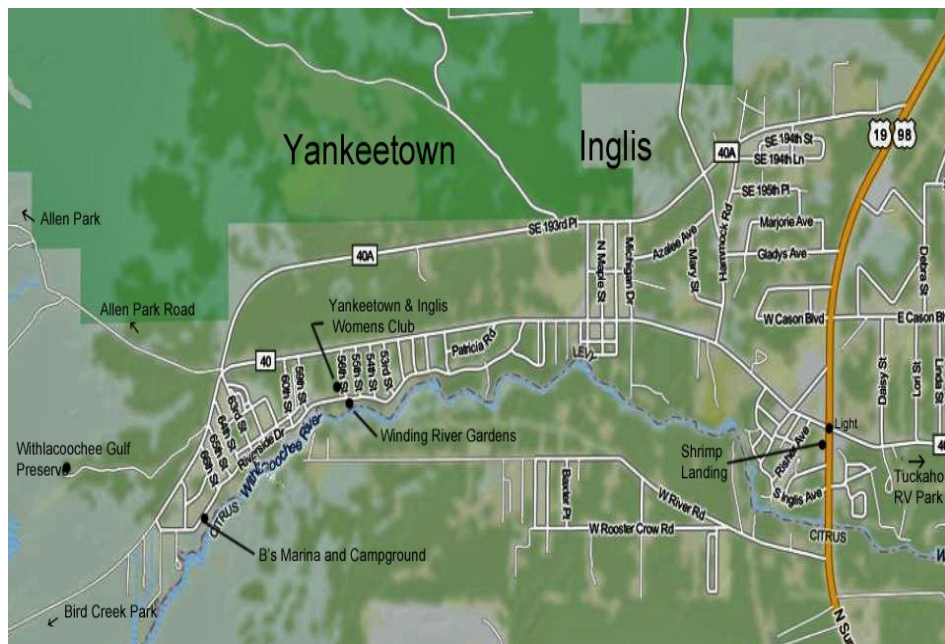
The Hidden Coast is embraced by the longest stretch of public coastline in the state making the surrounding conservation lands and waters ideal habitat for the abundant fish & wildlife that make the area home. The challenging Big Bend Saltwater Paddling Trail saunters along the coastline and miles of pristine waterways areas entice paddlers of all abilities to immerse themselves in the natural beauty of the area. The Hidden Coast Paddling Adventure is a wonderful way to explore the natural beauty of the area, make some new friends, and enjoy an adventure-packed weekend

Registration is only \$100 and is limited to the first 100 applicants. Look at all we offer!!

- Thirty guided paddling trips to choose from with experienced Guides and Safety Sweeps offering tours along the pristine coastline and meandering rivers.
- 9 Land Events that share the fascinating history, culture, and natural resources of the area.
- 50% Off Semi—Primitive camping tent camping only at B's Marina & Campground
- 2015 Hidden Coast Paddling Adventure T-shirt
- Meal package includes: Two drink coupons, Meet and Greet/Happy Hour Thursday evening at Shrimp Landing, delicious local-fare dinner Friday night at the Tuckahoe RV Park & Tavern and enjoy a catered brunch Sunday with a tour of the Ellie Schiller Educational Building at the WGP. Bag lunches Friday and Saturday. Pick up 7:00 AM at the Women's Club
- Bonus features include a guided kayak fishing trip on Saturday and an 'early bird' overnight Spoil Island primitive camping trip Wednesday night (Nov. 4th), limited to the first ten registrants.
- All paid participants of HCPA will receive a FREE digital edition to their choice of Rapid, Canoeers, Adventure Kayak or Kayak Angler Magazine.

*A small portion of registration fee goes to support a local conservation area, the
Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve.*

YANKEETOWN—INGLIS MAP



Important Notice

Hidden Coast Paddling Adventures requires all participants joining guided paddling trips to wear a life jacket with safety whistle attached. It is the paddlers responsibility not to choose a paddling trip that exceeds his or her own capabilities. There are inherent dangers in any paddling trip. There are special hazards in the Yankeetown/Inglis area due to shifting tides, changing wind and weather, shallow waters and treacherous bottoms with soft mud and oyster bars. It is up to the registrant to be aware of these dangers, to accept and be prepared for the risks involved, and to be certain that the registrant has the skills necessary and equipment to safely paddle in such waters.

Please ask at the Check-in desk for Yankeetown/Inglis maps and Wi-Fi Hot Spot information.

Hidden Coast Paddling Adventure Schedule

Thursday **Check-in**

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve

6:00 PM—8:00 PM Shrimp Landing (See Map)

Friday **Check-in**

6:00 AM Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve (See Map)

Check-in is mandatory to participate!!!

Wednesday - November 4th, 2015



High Tide: 7:27 AM Low Tide: 3:15 PM High Tide 8:59

PM Sunrise 6:45 AM Sunset 5:43 PM

Spoil Island Overnight Primitive Camping 10:00 AM 2.5 Miles

Experience camping overnight on the Florida's Saltwater Circumnavigational Paddling Trail by joining a group paddling a 2.5 mile open water crossing from the Bird Creek Park to a Barge Canal spoil island. Pitch your tent beneath the scrub which frame a stunning open vista of the Gulf. Fishing is excellent in this area. Remember your fishing gear, binoculars, and a camera. Prepare for bugs if the wind drops. All participants **must** be gear/food/water independent. Please note this is **primitive** camping. There are no grills, picnic tables, water or bathrooms available. Cars will be left overnight at Bird Park. An alternate, more protected campsite will be available if the winds are too high.

This trip is limited to the first 10 registrants. **Launch Site: Bird Creek Park**

Thursday - November 5th Water Events



High Tide 8:55 AM Low Tide 4:20 PM

Sunrise 6:46 AM Sunset 5:42 PM

Lower Withlacoochee Paddle 1:00 PM 4.7 Miles **Shuttled**

Meet at Bird Creek Park where paddlers and gear will be shuttled up to Winding Rivers Garden. From there we will begin our paddle down the Withlacoochee. After paddling a short distance past Yankeetown, the river turns into the wilder and more saltwater influenced portion of the tannic river.

Felburn Park/ Dam Paddle 1:00 PM 6.2 Miles



Launch from the HWY 19/Barge Canal ramp at Felburn Park and paddle up the Barge Canal to the Withlacoochee River, then another mile and a half up to the Inglis Dam. Current in the river section will depend on recent rainfall.

Three Sisters Springs Paddle 1:00 PM 1.5 Miles Each Way

Meet at Aardvarks Kayak Shop in Crystal River for a short film about manatee safety. Then launch from Hunter Springs in Crystal River to Three Sisters Springs. These are a series of incredible, crystal clear springs. Although early in the season for manatees, we may get lucky and spot some. There is no swimming allowed on this trip. This trip is subject to United States Fish and Wildlife Service Regulations.

Sunset Paddle 4:45 PM 1–2 Miles



Depart from Bird Creek Park for a short paddle out to watch the sun set, and return to Bird Creek Park.

Thursday November 5th Land Events



Camping Check-in at B's Marina and Campground (See Map)

50% Discount for primitive tent camping only—Port-o-lets, outside shower

Please call 352-447-5888 for reservations, and tell them you're with the HCPA!

HCPA Check-in - Sign Waiver and Pick up Registration Packet and Goody Bag

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve (See Map)

6:00 PM—8:00 PM Shrimp Landing (See Map)

Meet and Greet/ Happy Hour 7:00 PM Shrimp Landing (See

Map) Just south of the Hwy 19/Inglis light. Join us for Hors d'oeuvres and drinks.

Friday- November 6th, Water Events



High Tide 10:11 AM Low Tide 5:16 PM

Sunrise 6:47 AM Sunset 5:42 PM

Spoil Islands Circumnavigation 8:00 9.2 Miles



Launch from the beach at Bird Creek Park and we'll head to the Barge Canal Spoil Banks, then out in the to the western tip and return. If we have time, we'll stop for a break on a spoil island Florida Circumnavigational Saltwater Paddling Trail campsite.

Withlacoochee River Paddle 8:00 AM 9.7 Miles Shuttled



Paddlers and gear will be shuttled from Bird Creek Park up to Buddy Risher Park. From there we'll paddle down the tannic waters of the Withlacoochee from the Inglis Lock, of the now defunct Cross Florida Barge Canal, to the mouth of the river, passing by the towns of Inglis and Yankeetown along the river's north bank.

Bennetts Creek Loop 8:00 AM 6.4 Miles



Launch at Bird Creek Park and we'll head toward East Pass and up Bennetts Creek., which opens back into the Withlacoochee for our paddle back. This is a great creek for birding and observing wildlife, so bring your binoculars and camera.

Johns Creek Paddle 8:00 AM 7.5 Miles



Launch at the beach at Bird Creek Park and paddle a little ways up the Withlacoochee River where we will head south down to the pristine Johns Creek. On our way back, if the tides are high enough, we'll take a southern connector creek from Johns Creek to Trout Creek and return down Trout Creek.

Covas Creek to Vassey Creek Paddle 8:00 AM 3.7 Miles



Launch at Allen Park and paddle down Covas Creek far enough to see the open Gulf. Then we'll round Hodges Island and paddle along the marsh up Vassey Creek and under the Allen Park Rd. bridge to our take out. After take out, there is a 1/4 mile hike back down Allen Park Rd. to get our vehicles.

Bird Creek Loop 8:30 AM 3 Miles



Launch at Bird Creek Park and paddle a short distance up the Withlacoochee, where we'll enter Bird Creek and wind through the small cedar hammocks and under the HWY 40 Bridge. From there it will be a short trip along the coast back to the Park.

East Pass Paddle 8:30 AM 3.3 Miles



We'll launch from Bird Creek Park and head up river to East Pass. From there we'll continue along the open Gulf to the Spoil Banks of the Barge Canal and around Chambers Island. There's a nice place to take a break on the west side of Chambers Island.

Chambers Island Circumnavigation 8:30 2.4 Miles



Tired of long paddles? This one is a short but sweet paddle starting at Bird Creek Park, down East Pass, around Chambers Island and back to Bird Creek Park.

Lake Rousseau Paddle 1:00 PM 7.6 Miles



Launch at Dessie Smith Park and paddle the western end of scenic Lake Rousseau which was formed in 1909 when Florida Power built a hydroelectric dam on the Withlacoochee River. There are usually plenty of birds on this body of water, so bring your binoculars and camera. Watch out for the tree stumps!

Upper Withlacoochee Paddle 1:00 PM 5.2 Miles Shuttled

Paddlers and gear will be shuttled from Winding River Gardens up to Buddy Risher Park. From there we'll paddle down the tannic waters of the Withlacoochee from the Inglis Lock, of the now defunct Cross Florida Barge Canal, to Winding River Gardens passing by the towns of Inglis and most of Yankeetown along the river's north bank.

Felburn Park/ Dam Paddle 1:00 PM 6.2 Miles



Launch from the HWY 19/Barge Canal ramp at Felburn Park and we'll paddle up the Barge Canal to the Withlacoochee River, then another mile and a half up to the Inglis Dam. Current in the river section will depend on recent rainfall.

Three Sisters Springs Paddle 1:00 PM 2.5 Miles



Meet at Aardvarks Kayak Shop in Crystal River for a short film about manatee safety, then Launch from Hunter Springs in Crystal River and paddle down the run into King's Bay then under the Kings Bay Drive Bridge to Three Sisters Springs. These are a series of incredible, crystal clear springs. Although early in the season for manatees, we may get lucky and spot some. There is no swimming allowed on this trip. This Paddle is subject to USFWS regulations.

Waccasassa River Trail Paddle 1:00 PM 5.3 Miles



This Paddle starts at the end of CR 326 in Gulf Hammock and proceeds down river to a circumnavigation of Staffords Island, and back to the ramp. Typical plant habitat is hydric hammock with a transition into salt marsh as you get closer to the Gulf.

Pontoon Boat River Cruise 1:00 PM



Tired of paddling? Osprey Nature Tours offer a unique eco/historical river trip, departing from the dock located at the Riverside Inn in the historic Izaak Walton Lodge in Yankeetown. The trip consist of a seven mile loop down the Withlacoochee River to the Gulf of Mexico and back. We provide a detailed history of the area dating back to the eighteen hundreds, accompanied with photographs of that era. Native flora, fauna and wildlife will be identified by the knowledgeable crew. The trip takes approximately two hours

Friday November 6th, Land Events



Pick up your Bag Lunch at the Women's Club 7:00 AM (See Map)

Birding Tour with Andy Wraithmell FWC Bird Specialist 8:00 AM

This beautiful property features salt marsh, pine flatwoods and mixed hammocks of hardwoods, cedars and palms, plus tidal ponds and creeks. We'll take a slow walk along the Yellow Fishing Pier Trail looking for Yellow-crowned Night Herons, Clapper Rails and Ospreys. We'll also be on the lookout for migrating songbirds such as American Redstart and resident songbirds such as Eastern Towhee. The preserve provides haven for many species of butterfly too so we'll be on the look out for them as well. At the Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve.

Intro to Kayak Fishing Part 1—Local Fishing Techniques 1:00 PM

Intro to Kayak Fishing - Part 1 Local Fishing Techniques - Learn what works well in local waters from the Kayak Fishing Guide Brian Stauffer who will be leading Saturdays Fishing Trip, He will be going over knots, artificial lures, etc. then hit some open shoreline get to know everyone's casting ability's, and meet all who have signed up to fish with him on Saturday. Participation in this event requires registration for Saturday's Guided Kayak Fishing Trip (8:00 AM). At the Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve.

Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve Nature Hike 1:00 PM

Take a 1 1/2 walk through the Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve with a Florida master naturalist. The emphasis will be on the habitats and the plants and critters of typical Florida ecosystems – uplands, wetlands and coastal. The walk will include a fully accessible board walk through woods and tidal streams, as well as a walk along the saltmarsh with a visit to a two-story observation tower. Bring your binoculars.

Barge Canal Bike Ride 2:00 PM 12.5 Miles

Meet at the Felburn Park Trailhead where there is plenty of parking and bathroom facilities. We'll star off with a short (1 mile), hilly, westward jaunt to the east end, then turn around and head 6 miles out to the Gulf on a flat trail along the south side of the Barge Canal. There's a great pavilion at the west end over looking the Gulf where we can take a short break and enjoy the scenery. Bring your own mountain or road bike. This trail is paved.

Dinner 5:30 PM Dinner is at the Tuckaho RV Park and Tavern on Lake Rousseau - 20050 SE 110th Ave., Inglis, FL, and will consist of a delicious traditional local fried mullet dinner, with grits, slaw, drinks and real Key Lime pie! Bring your chairs for the bonfire later. Tavern is cash only.

Saturday November 7th Water Events

High Tide: 11:11 AM Low Tide: 6:01 PM

Sunrise 6:48 AM Sunset 5:41 PM



Intro to Kayak Fishing Part 2—Guided Fishing Trip - 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Introduction to Kayak Fishing Part 2 will consist of a full day on the water learning about the tides and underwater terrain of Yankeetown, Florida. Each angler will also be taught the use of artificial lures to target such species as red drum (redfish), snook, spotted seatrout and summer flounder. Fishhead Kayak Charters' goal is that each angler leave this 2 day event with an increased knowledge of fishing knots, rigging tackle, reading tides and predicting weather along with the confidence to fish any location while targeting the more popular species using artificial lures. Location to be determined. Either Bird Creek Park or the west end of Felburn Park off the Barge Canal.

Spoil Islands Circumnavigation 9:00 9.2 Miles



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Covas Creek to Vassey Creek Paddle 9:00 AM 3.7 Miles



See Previous Description on Page 7

Johns Creek Paddle 9:00 AM 7.5 Miles



See Previous Description on Page 7

Bennetts Creek Loop 9:00 AM 6.4 Miles



See Previous Description on Page 7

Bird Creek Loop 9:30 AM 3 Miles



See Previous Description on Page 7

East Pass Paddle 9:30 AM 3.3 Miles



See Previous Description on Page 7

Chambers Island Circumnavigation 9:30 2.4 Miles



See Previous Description on Page 7

Lake Rousseau Paddle 1:30 PM 7.6 Miles



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Lower Withlacoochee Paddle 1:30 PM Shuttled



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Felburn Park/ Dam Paddle 1:30 PM



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Waccasassa River Trail 1:30 PM 5.3 Miles



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Pontoon Boat River Cruise 1:30 PM



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Sunset Paddle 4:45 PM 1—2 Miles



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Saturday October 7th, Land Events



Pick up your Bag Lunch at the Women's Club 7:00 AM (See Map)

Aardvark's of Crystal River Kayak Demo 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Aardvark's Florida Kayak and SUP will be proving demos of their lines of light weight kayaks from 9 am to 3 pm on Saturday at no cost to participants. This is your chance to try all of the Eddyline and Hurricane Kayaks. Aardvark's specializes in quality light weight thermoform kayaks made in the USA. Place an order for a new kayak during the event and get 10% off plus free shipping to Crystal River. Meet at Bird Creek Park.

Crystal River Archeological State Park Guided Tour 1:30 PM

Take a guided tour through this ancient site that is a National Historic Landmark. This six mound complex is one of the longest occupied pre-Columbian sites in Florida. It has burial mounds, temple mounds, a substantial midden and a plaza. Explore the artifacts at the Visitors Center that depict different cultural periods and technologies of the area. Your free State Parks Pass in your HCPA Check-in Packet may be used for entry. Meet at the State Park just north of Crystal River.

Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve Nature Hike 1:30 PM

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Wooden Kayak Boatbuilding 1:30 PM



Would you like to learn the basic steps in building a "Stitch and glue" or "Strip-built" kayak? Want to learn the meaning of scarf joint, sheer clamp, end pour, whiskey plank or any of the other archaic nautical terms peculiar to boat building? -OR- Do you already own, build or paddle wooden canoes and kayaks? Would you like to discuss marine varnishes and epoxy resins ad nauseam? Whether a novice or pro, come join us at the "Building Wood Kayaks" booth for a hands-on experience in kayak construction at the Ellie Schiller Educational Bldg. In the Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve.

Dinner On Your Own

Try one of our great local restaurants for a true taste of coastal Florida

Stargazing Night 8:00 PM



If the skies are clear, and the stars align, John Novak may open up the heavens for us. Astronomy night at the Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve. **This Event is pending.**

Sunday - November 8th, 2015



Buffet Brunch at the beautiful Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve - 9:00 to 11:00 AM—101 Old Rock Road, Yankeetown, FL

Enjoy a relaxed Sunday brunch with eggs, cereal, fresh fruit, granola, yogurt, drinks and more before heading home.





Photo Courtesy of S. Cournoyer



Photo Courtesy of Diane Lewis



Photo Courtesy of S. Cournoyer



Photo Courtesy of Dianne Lewis



Photo Courtesy of Diane Lewis



Photo Courtesy of Diane Lewis



Photo Courtesy of Diane Lewis

Yankeetown/Inglis



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Have A Safe Trip Home!