

## S14ENPF Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips Everglades National Park - Flamingo

### **Southeast Cape Sable Primitive Camp Trip Information Sheet**

**Description:** This is an open water paddle with beautiful primitive beach camping. After leaving the saltwater basin launch ramp, head west along the shore. If tides are low, you may have to stay off shore a ways, especially close to Flamingo. There are plenty of places to land on the beaches along the paddle if you want to take a break. If you are into hiking, there is plenty of beach to walk from your campsite.

**Skill Level:** Advanced

**Distance/Time:** 10.4Miles/4 Hours

**Launch Site:** Everglades National Park Flamingo Visitors Center Saltwater Basin Ramp

**Special Considerations:** No facilities, open water paddling. Cape Sable is usually a windy area due to its exposure, so check the weather before departing. There is little to no shade, so bring your own if you want to keep out of the sun. ENP Permit required. Review the ENP website before and during the planning stage.

#### **Skill Level Definitions**

**Beginner:** New to paddling and may need tips and or instructions about paddling strokes, safety procedures, and entering/exiting kayaks. Comfortable on short trips of 1 to 3 miles on protected waters, when wind does not exceed 5 mph.

**Novice:** Paddlers acquainted with basic paddle strokes and can manage kayak handling independently in winds not exceeding 10 mph on protected waters. Comfortable on trips up to 6 miles.

**Intermediate:** Paddlers with experience in basic strokes and some experience on different venues, including some open water. Comfortable on trip distances of 6 to 10 miles, winds not exceeding 15 mph.

**Advanced:** Seasoned paddlers who possess skills and experience to paddle all venues and conditions. Experienced in self-rescues. Should be comfortable paddling more than 10 miles in a day.

**NOTE:** Great care has been taken to ensure this guides accuracy, but weather, tides, and water conditions can change rapidly and create hazardous conditions. These maps are for visual reference only, please consult NOAA Charts for navigation. Paddlers should have all proper safety equipment and check conditions before departure. All paddlers should always wear PFDs while on the water, and leave a float plan. There are inherent dangers in any paddle sport. There are special hazards along the Florida coast due to shifting tides, changing wind and weather, shallow waters, and treacherous bottoms with soft mud, rocks, and oyster bars. It is up to each paddler to be aware of these dangers, to accept and be prepared for the risks involved, and to be certain they have the skills to safely paddle in these conditions.