

River Lakes Conservation Area

Courtesy of the St Johns River Water Management District



Description; This 39,663-acre conservation area includes lakes Washington, Winder and Poinsett. St. Johns River water flow is regulated at one point — a fixed-crest weir located just north of Lake Washington — to help ensure water supply to Melbourne. The area contains extensive wetland communities, typically dominated by emergent species such as saw grass, smartweed, arrowhead and maidencane.

Recreational activities

- 1. Seasonal hunting (the entire area is part of the Upper St. Johns River Marsh Wildlife Management Area), fishing, hiking, bicycling, primitive camping at designated sites, canoeing, boating and wildlife viewing.*
- 2. Lake Washington County Park provides picnic pavilions, restrooms, a fishing pier and boat/canoe and airboat ramps.*
- 3. Two shelters are located in this conservation area. The shelters are for day-use only, for picnicking or protection from the weather.*
- 4. Geocache located on property. Please visit our [geocache database](#) for more information.*

Wildlife viewing; Please respect Florida's wildlife and use caution while visiting district lands. These are wild animals. For your safety, do not approach or feed any wild animal. This area provides important habitat for fish and wildlife populations, including several listed species: wood storks, bald eagles, Florida sandhill cranes and river otters. The diversity of fish and

wildlife provides an important recreational resource for anglers, hunters, boaters and bird-watchers.

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Access; Primarily by water. Boat ramps are available on SR 520, on U.S. 192 and at Lake Washington County Park. Hiking Trail access at western end of Wickham Rd.