# **R**ECREATIONAL **O**PPORTUNITIES

Horseback riding, hunting, hiking, bicycling, canoeing, fishing and primitive camping at designated sites are allowed. Campers and horseback riders need to request a no-cost special use permit before visiting the Chandler Slough Management Unit.

For information, contact the Okeechobee Service Center at 1-800-250-4200 or (863) 462-5260 or call our recreation hotline at 1-866-433-6312.

More information about recreation on District lands is online at: www.sfwmd.gov/recreation

General use rules and regulations and a Recreational Guide featuring details about more than 50 additional South Florida destinations are also online.

For hunting information, visit the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission online at: www.myfwc.com/hunting

### WILDLIFE

Wading birds and waterfowl, armadillo, bobcats, deer, gray squirrels, hogs, opossum, otters, rabbits, raccoons, skunks, turkeys, quail, gopher tortoises, doves, alligator, fish and frogs are among the animals commonly found at Chandler Slough Management Unit. Panthers have also been seen at Chandler Slough.

# How to Get There

**Chandler Slough** has two trailheads with designated parking.

**The east entrance** is a designated parking area on Lofton Road with a walk-through gate. To get there from the City of Okeechobee, travel about 15 miles north on U.S. Hwy. 98 to Lofton Road. Look for the sign for "Chandler Slough and Yates Marsh Trailheads." Turn left onto Lofton Road, and travel about 1.5 miles to the entrance on the west side of the road.

**The west entrance** has a walk-through gate at the designated parking area on U.S. Hwy. 98, just north of the Kissimmee River bridge in Fort Basinger. To get there from the south, travel about 18 miles north on U.S. Hwy. 98 from the City of Okeechobee. The trailhead is on the east side of the highway about 1.5 miles before the C-38 Canal/Kissimmee River.

Boaters can access the property from the Old Kissimmee River Run off the C-38 Canal. No airboats are allowed in the marsh.

#### **Enjoy Your Visit**



sfwmd.gov

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## **CHANDLER SLOUGH MANAGEMENT UNIT** Kissimmee River Public Use Area

Chandler Slough is a diverse 3,722-acre tract of cypress swamp, oak and cabbage palm hammocks and marsh habitats found about 15 miles north of the City of Okeechobee. This slice of old Florida offers something

for everyone. It is a great spot for watching

the abundant wildlife, including wading birds and waterfowl. Hikers can access the Florida Trail, which runs through the property.

Chandler Slough became part of the Kissimmee River

Public Use Area in September 2008. In the next phase of Kissimmee River Restoration, the C-38 Canal and internal ditches will be backfilled, reviving the natural hydrology and native vegetation in the slough.

> Land management practices, including prescribed burns and exotic vegetation control, help maintain the area in its natural state.

Chandler Slough Management Unit is managed by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) in partnership with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

