

Micco Landing to Oak Creek Celebration Hike

Information

To those of you who signed up for this celebration hike, welcome. We are so happy you have decided to join us in celebrating the third anniversary of the opening of this section of the Florida National Scenic Trail (FNST). Just so you know this is also a fundraiser for both the Florida Trail Association and the Tropical Trekkers chapter of the FTA. Proceeds will be shared equally between FTA and Tropical Trekkers. More about the fundraiser later. The following information will help you prepare for this hike.

The celebration starts at 8:00 am at the Micco Landing trail head. Clicking on this link [Micco Landing Trail Head Location](#) will take you to a Google map showing the location of the trail head. Simply click the Directions button and insert your starting location and the map will generate a route for you. After registering, you can then partake of a light continental style breakfast consisting of pastries, cereal, coffee and juice. After some brief comments the hike will start at 9:00 am.

The Micco Landing to Oak Creek section of the FNST is approximately 12 miles in length from the trail head at US 98 to the parking lot along Micco Bluff Road. The figure below shows the route of the trail. We will have a shuttle service from the Micco Landing trailhead to the Oak Creek Campsite. Therefore, the planned hike is approximately 11 miles. There will be refreshment stations setup at the indicated locations. Here you will be able to rest, get some water and a snack.



Figure 1. Micco Landing to Oak Creek Trail

For those of you who do not want to hike the entire 11 miles there will also be a much shorter (approximately 4 mile round trip hike) that starts at the Micco Landing trail head and returns to that location.

After your hike please be sure to sign out so we know you are not still on the trail somewhere.

The trail has been recently maintained, however, it is still a primitive trail so you should be prepared for that. I suggest you wear good hiking boots, a hat, long pants and long sleeve shirt. The trail meanders through hammocks, open marsh lands and some pasture areas. The sun can be intense. Sunscreen is advised. The weather has been getting much warmer, so, you **MUST** bring plenty of water. We insist that you have a least 2 quarts of water or equivalent in order to do this hike. If you do not have that much water we will not let you hike with us. I also suggest you bring something to eat along the way. I expect the hike will take at least 4 hours, so, having a lunch would be good. There are wet and muddy areas along the trail. You may get wet. Also, the trail can be quite rough in places where feral hogs have been feeding. If you are not sure footed I suggest you bring hiking sticks.

Please be advised that there are **no public access points** along the trail route, so, unless you are doing the short hike you must be prepared to hike the entire 11 miles.

For the fundraiser we will have a donation jar at the Micco Landing trail head. There is no defined donation amount, but, we are hoping you will be generous. As most of you know it takes a lot of work to maintain hiking trails. To do that work we need equipment and other resources – gas and oil for our equipment, equipment repairs and eventually the purchase of new equipment. Tropical Trekkers spends about \$2000 per year maintaining our section of the FNST. This does not count the money spent to purchase new equipment. Over the past 3 years our chapter has spent approximately \$3100 on the purchase of new mowers, brushcutter and utility trailer.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call or email me or Barbara Quinn.

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Thanks again for helping us celebrate the opening of this section of the Florida National Scenic Trail. We are looking forward to seeing you and hiking this beautiful addition to the FNST.

Tom