

LOCATION

Horse trails in the Citrus Tract of the Withlacoochee State Forest are located southwest of the city of Inverness in Citrus County. The primary trailhead is centrally located at the Tillis Hill Recreation Area. From State Road 44 in Inverness, turn south onto County Road 581, travel south seven miles and turn west onto County Road 480, travel west three miles and turn north onto Forest Road 13. Then travel north two miles to the paved entrance road to the Tillis Hill Recreation Area, the trailhead begins at the Day Use Area Equestrian Trailhead.

TIPS

- Tie out horses away from trees to prevent damage to this forest resource.
- Keep to trails designated for equestrian use. Hiking and other trails are ruined by horse traffic.
- Keep a bandanna on hand when riding. It has many uses: sponge, napkin, bandage, etc.
- If you are riding a lengthy trail, be sure to take along sunscreen, insect repellent and a container of water. You may wish to cache supplemental water at forest road crossings prior to riding.
- Pace yourself. If your horse isn't experienced on the trail, don't take on a 20-mile trail ride your first time out. Local horse groups hold rides regularly and can offer valuable trail tips; contact the Visitor Center for more details.
- Take your time; there is plenty to observe out on the trails.

DESCRIPTION

The horse trails are dry, all-weather trails that wind through a variety of plant communities, including sandhill scrub, oak thickets, longleaf pine timber stands and some rocky hammocks. Low areas may be wet, especially during the summer rainy season. Wildlife found in the area includes red cockaded woodpeckers, deer, quail, turkey, fox squirrels, gopher tortoises and armadillo. Snakes may also be present.

DESIGNATION

The horse trails are marked on trees with a single, 6 inch wide blue band that makes a complete circle around the tree trunk. Metal signs showing the international symbol for horse riders supplement blue bands where needed.

On the Citrus Tract of the Withlacoochee State Forest, horses are allowed only on designated horse trails, field trial runs (except when field trials area being held) and open, designated vehicle roads. Horses may not travel cross-country, on fire lines, hiking trails or closed roads.

Horses harnessed to a surrey, buggy, wagon or other similar conveyance traveling on forest roads open to vehicles must comply with Florida laws pertaining to the use of these vehicles on public roadways.

You may encounter hikers on the horse trail, at trailheads and trail crossings. Communicate to other trail users to let them know if your horse is safe to pass. Turn your horse away from other trail users so your horse can see them.

As always, all trail users must keep their dog on a leash and under control when passing other trail users.

WATER

Drinking (potable) water is available at the Holder Mine and Mutual Mine Trailheads and at the Tillis Hill Recreation Area. Water troughs for horses are located outside the day use area fences at Holder and Mutual Mine Recreation Areas and at Perryman Place. For longer, hot weather you may wish to cache supplemental water at forest road crossings prior to riding.

CAMPING

A full facility campground with 37 electric and water sites is available, by reservation only, at Tillis Hill. These campsites are furnished with picnic tables and fire rings. There are two bath-houses with showers. Also available at Tillis Hill is a kitchen/dinning hall facility with an indoor seating capacity for eighty, an open-air pavilion and barbecue grill.

In addition, horse stables are available to accommodate 36 horses, including two stallion stalls. Horses and horse trailers are not allowed in the camping area.

A fee is required for camping, horse stalls and tie-outs, non-camping day use horse riders and use of the dining hall facility at Tillis Hill. Rental horses are not available and equestrians must supply feed for their mounts.

No dogs are permitted in Tillis Hill Recreation Area except those dogs entered during Field Trial events.

Campsites may be reserved by visiting www.FloridaStateForests.ReserveAmerica.com. To reserve stables and campsites please call 877-879-3859. For Dining Hall/Pavilion reservations, call (352) 797-4140 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

www.FDACS.gov/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service/Our-Forests/State-Forests/Withlacoochee-State-Forest

CITRUS HORSE TRAILS

Withlacoochee State Forest



Florida Forest Service management plans include prescribed burning most months of the year. For personal safety reasons, area users should contact the FFS for information and location of burn areas, (352) 797-4100.

Withlacoochee Visitor Center

15003 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34601
Phone: (352) 797-4140 Fax: (352) 797-4108
www.FDACS.gov

RULES OF THE TRAIL

The Citrus Horse Trails were established by the Florida Forest Service in cooperation with local equestrian volunteers for the enjoyment of riders and nature lovers. Much of the Withlacoochee State Forest is divided into Wildlife Management Areas administered by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission. All rules and regulations pertaining to firearms, dogs, game and non-game animals and other wildlife management area regulations must be followed.

This trail system is included in the Citrus Wildlife Management Area and is legally open to hunting during specified seasons. From September through April check in advance for open hunt season dates and restrictions related to open hunts. Bright colored clothing is recommended when hunt seasons are open. Hunting rules and regulations for the Citrus Wildlife Management Area are available at www.myfwc.com or the Withlacoochee Visitor Center.

Parking for vehicles is provided at the trailheads. The Florida Forest Service is not responsible for articles lost, damaged or stolen.

Unlicensed off-road motorcycles and ATVs (all-terrain vehicles) are not allowed on the Withlacoochee State Forest, with the exception of the Croom Motorcycle Area. All other vehicles must be licensed and travel only upon open, designated vehicle roads.

All groups using the Withlacoochee State Forest are required to obtain a Special Use Permit from the Visitor Center.

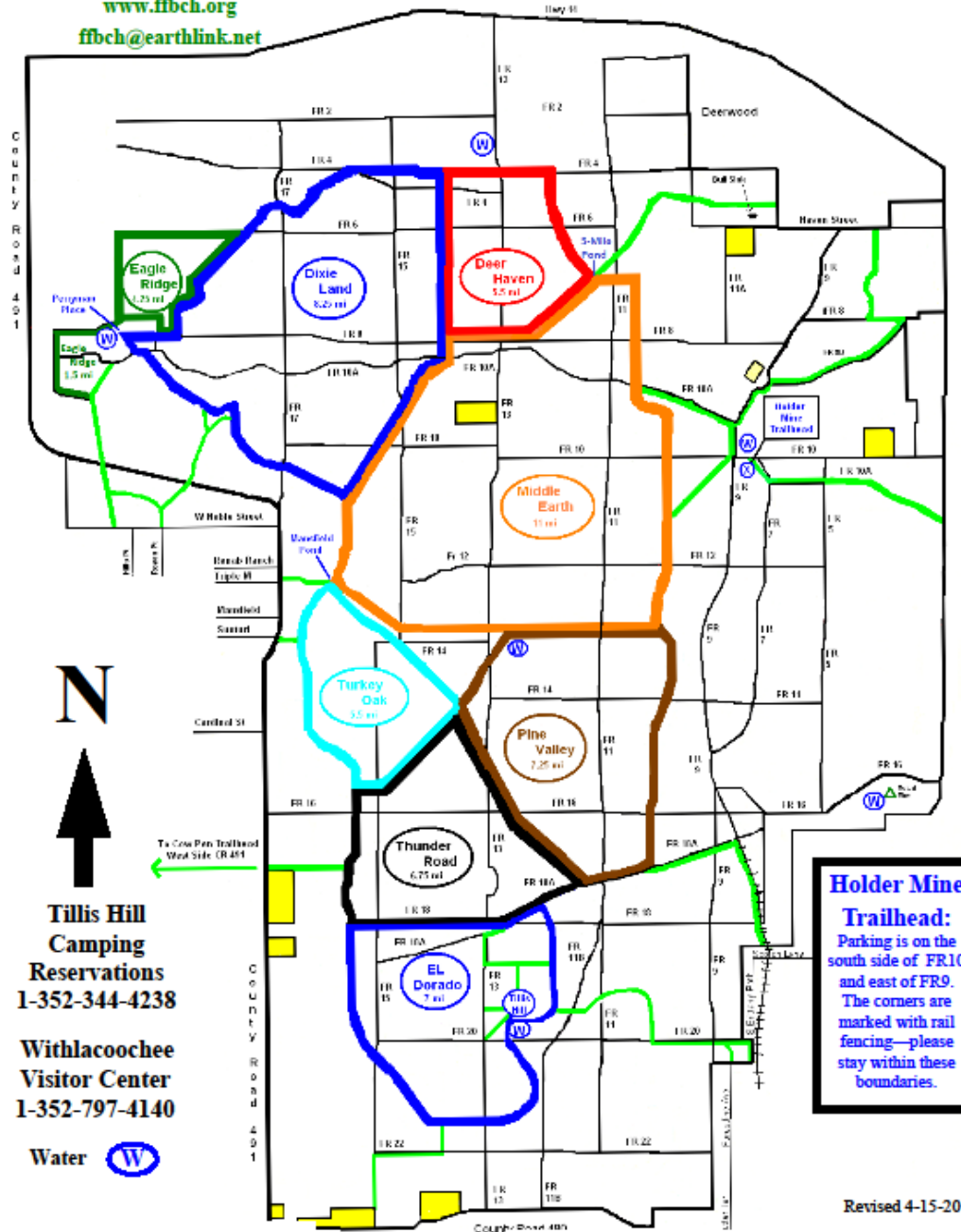
As per State Statutes, all horses entering the Withlacoochee State Forest or any other managed lands must produce proof of a negative Coggins test for Equine Infectious Anemia.

We hope you enjoy the Citrus Horse Trails. Please follow good riding and safety practices. Maps and information may be obtained from the Visitor Center.



Visit us on Facebook
www.ffbch.org
ffbch@earthlink.net

Withlacoochee State Forest Citrus Tract Equestrian Trails



**Tillis Hill
Camping
Reservations**
1-352-344-4238

**Withlacoochee
Visitor Center**
1-352-797-4140

Water

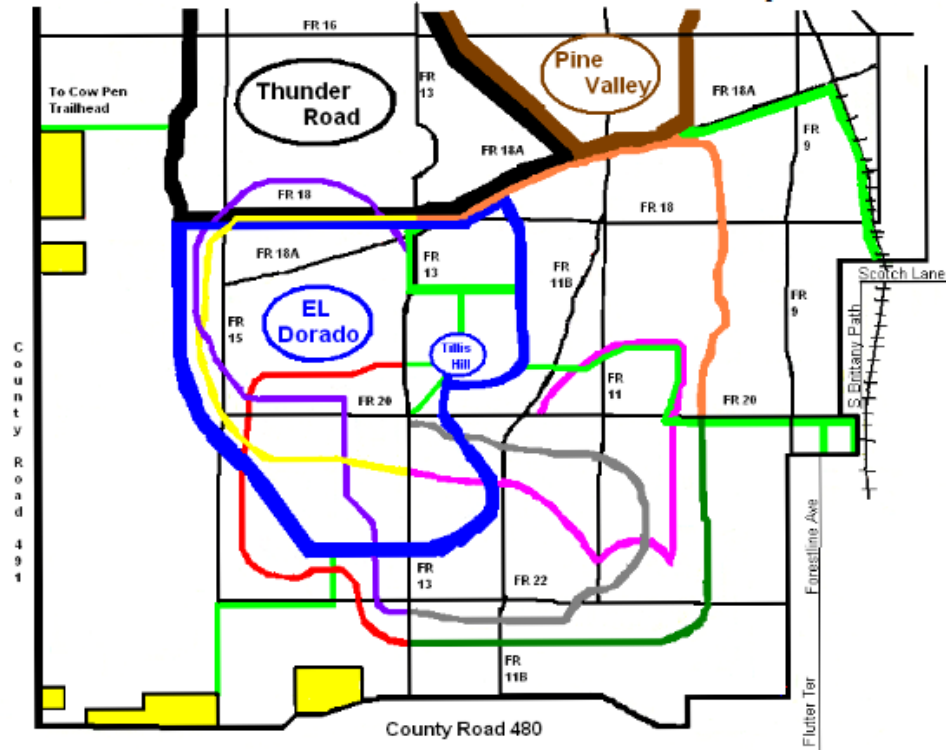
**Holder Mine
Trailhead:**
Parking is on the
south side of FR10
and east of FR9.
The corners are
marked with rail
fencing—please
stay within these
boundaries.

Revised 4-15-2014

Withlacoochee Visitor Center 1-352-797-4140
Florida Forest Service-Dispatch Phone 1-352-797-4100
Tillis Hill Camping Reservations 1-352-344-4238
EMERGENCY CALL 911

Tillis Hill Recreation Area Map

- Field Trial Trails are the thinner multi-colored lines.
 - Horse Trails are the thicker blue, black or brown lines.
 - Neighborhood access trails are bright lime green.
 - See "Citrus Trails" for full map.
- | Field Trial Run Mileage: | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Purple | 4.0 miles |
| Green | 2.8 miles |
| Red | 2.9 miles |
| Yellow | 3.3 miles |
| Pink | 4.2 miles |
| Orange | 3.2 miles |
| Gray | 3.6 miles |
- Field trial trails south of FR18A are also open horse trails.
 - Horse trails are marked with blue bands and signs. Double blue bands indicate turns.
 - Please ride only on marked horse trail and designated forest roads.
 - Trail names on signs are color coded to trail colors on map.



Open Forest Roads
Horse Trails
Neighborhood Access Trails
Private Property