



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Central Florida Habitat Assessment Benchmark Sites



Aquatic Ecology and Quality Assurance

March 2018

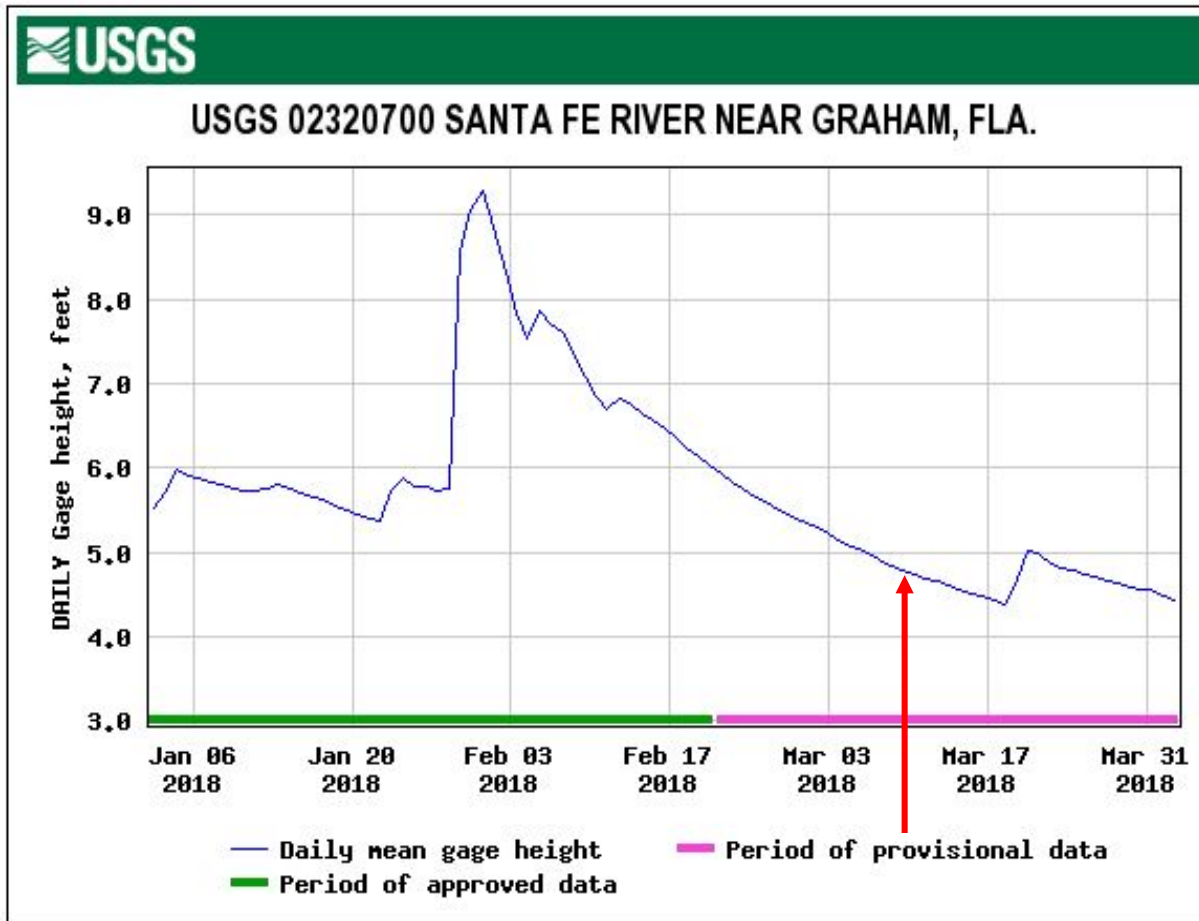


Procedure

- Evaluate each site per SOP FT3100, "Stream and River Habitat Assessment," using forms FD9000-3, FD9000-4, and FD9000-5. It is recommended that you use the most current editions of the forms and the SOP, found here:
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/sas/qa/forms.htm>
- **Work independently.**
- Submit all completed forms to your QA officer, who will send the forms to the FDEP Aquatic Ecology and Quality Assurance (AEQA) Section in Tallahassee.
- The range for a passing score is +/- 10 points from the predetermined consensus score. However, consideration will be given to scores outside this range if they were legitimately caused by different conditions at the time of sampling compared to conditions when the consensus score was decided (i.e. higher/lower water level, velocity, etc.).
- Analysts must pass 3 Habitat Assessments every 2 years .
- Once scores have been reviewed, analysts will receive notice of passing or failing from the AEQA Section.
- Analysts should take photos to document stream conditions at the time of assessment. Photos may be submitted to AEQA after initial determination of passing/failing if an analyst believes his/her score for a given site is out of the +/- 10 point range due to justifiable reasons.



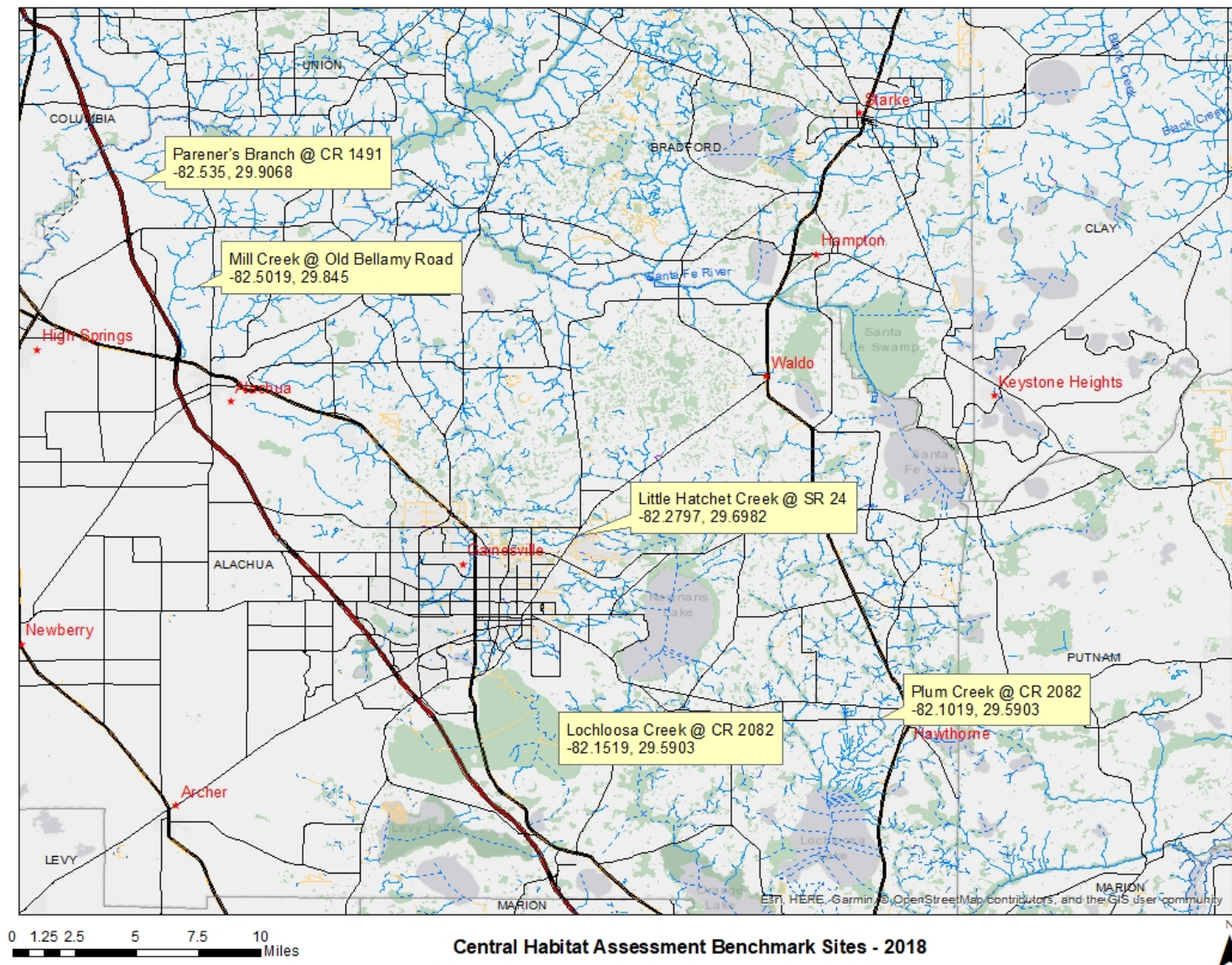
Area Hydrograph



The consensus scores for these Central Region sites were established on March 7-8, 2018. Above is the gage height data for a stream in the area during that time period. If you conduct habitat assessment at these sites at different water levels, be sure to document current conditions.



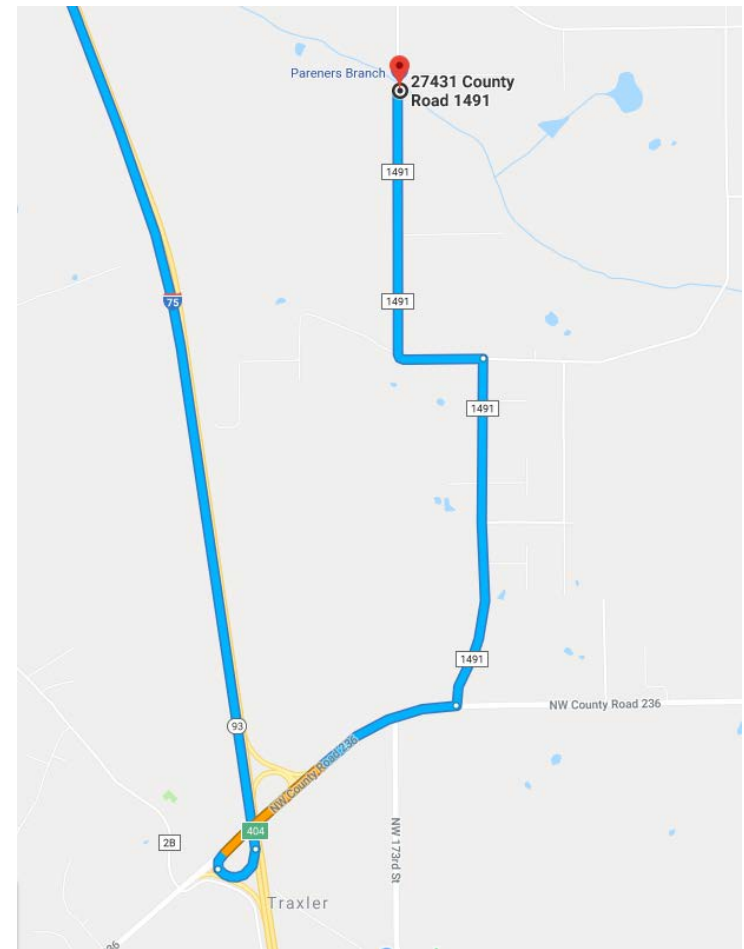
Overview Map of Central Habitat Testing Sites





Pareners Branch @ CR 1491

- **Region:** Central
- **County:** Alachua
- **Date Analyzed:** 2/20/2018
- **Directions:** From Interstate 75 N or S, take the Lake Butler exit (exit 404). Turn east onto NW County Road 236 (signs for Santa Fe/Lake Butler). In approximately 0.9 miles, turn left onto Co Rd 1491. In 1.1 miles, turn left onto Co Rd. 1491/NW 262nd Ave. Continue to follow Co Rd 1491 for 1.1 miles. Destination will be on the right.





Pareners Branch @ CR 1491

- **Directions:** Park on the SE side of bridge. 0 m mark starts about 20 m below bridge.
- **Homeowner:** Jane Nesbit



Park on right side of road.



0 m mark



Pareners Branch @ CR 1491

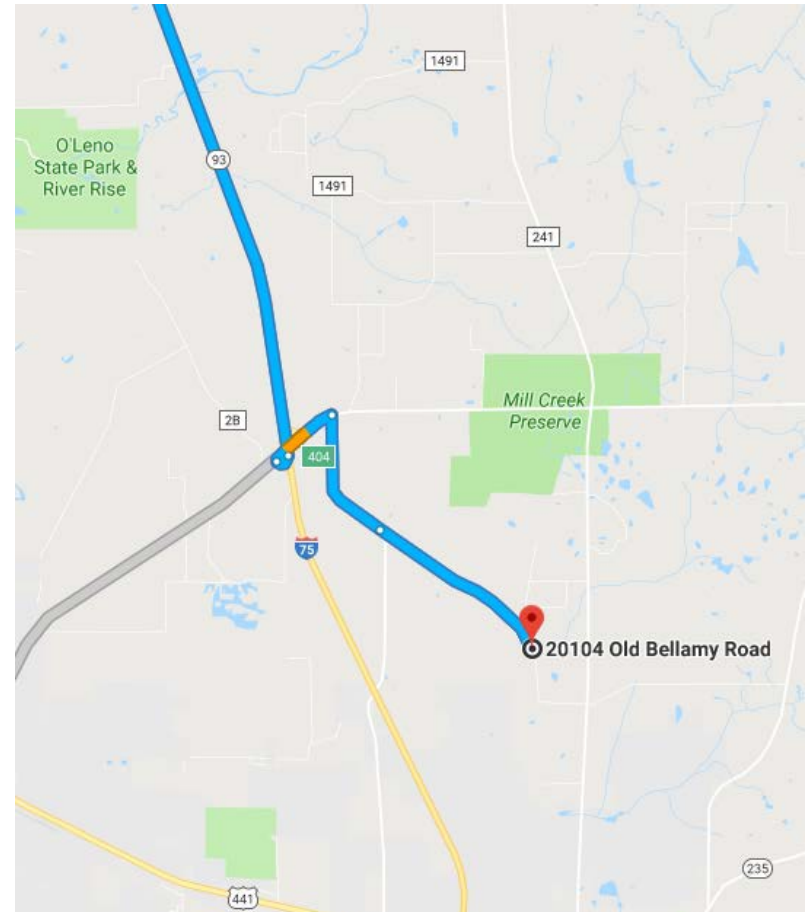


0 m mark looking upstream



Mill Creek @ Old Bellamy Rd

- **Region:** Central
- **County:** Alachua
- **Date Analyzed:** 2/20/2018
- **Directions:** From Interstate 75 N or S, take exit 404 for County Rd 236 toward High Springs/Lake Butler. In approximately 0.2 miles, turn right onto NW County Rd 236 (signs for Santa Fe/Lake Butler). In approximately 0.7 miles, turn right onto NW 173rd St. In 1.4 miles, turn left onto Old Bellamy Rd. In approximately 2.0 miles, destination will be on the left.





Mill Creek @ Old Bellamy Rd

- **Directions:** Park on NE side of bridge. 0 m mark about 30 m upstream of bridge. Additional green and pink flagging at site - **Use orange flags!**



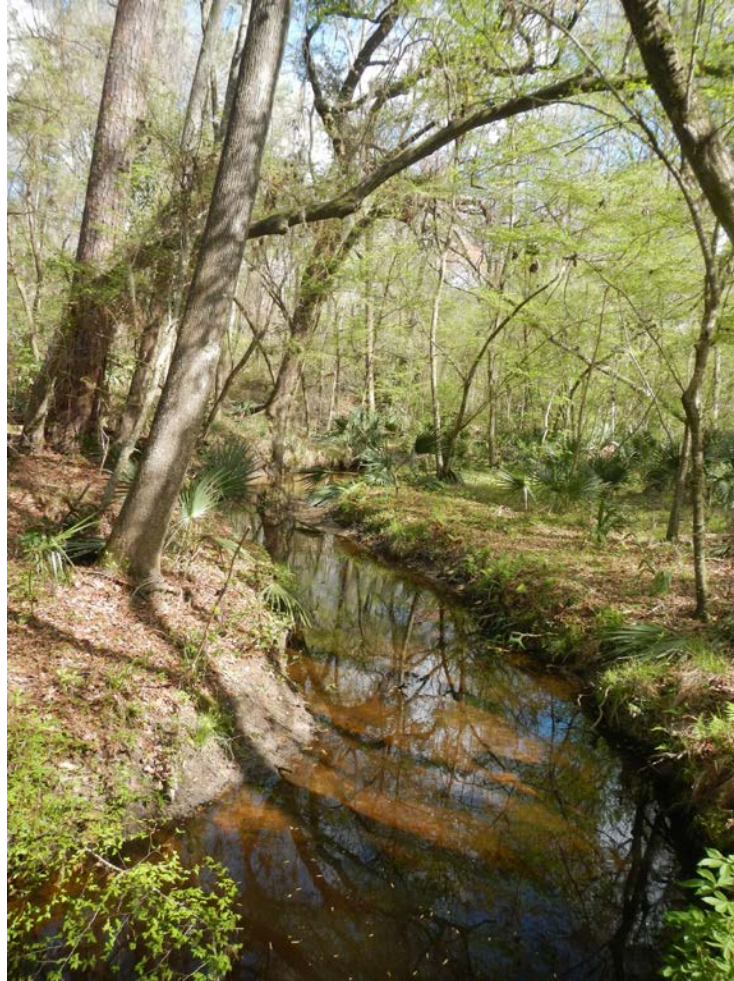
Park on NE side of road



0 m mark looking upstream



Mill Creek @ Old Bellamy Rd

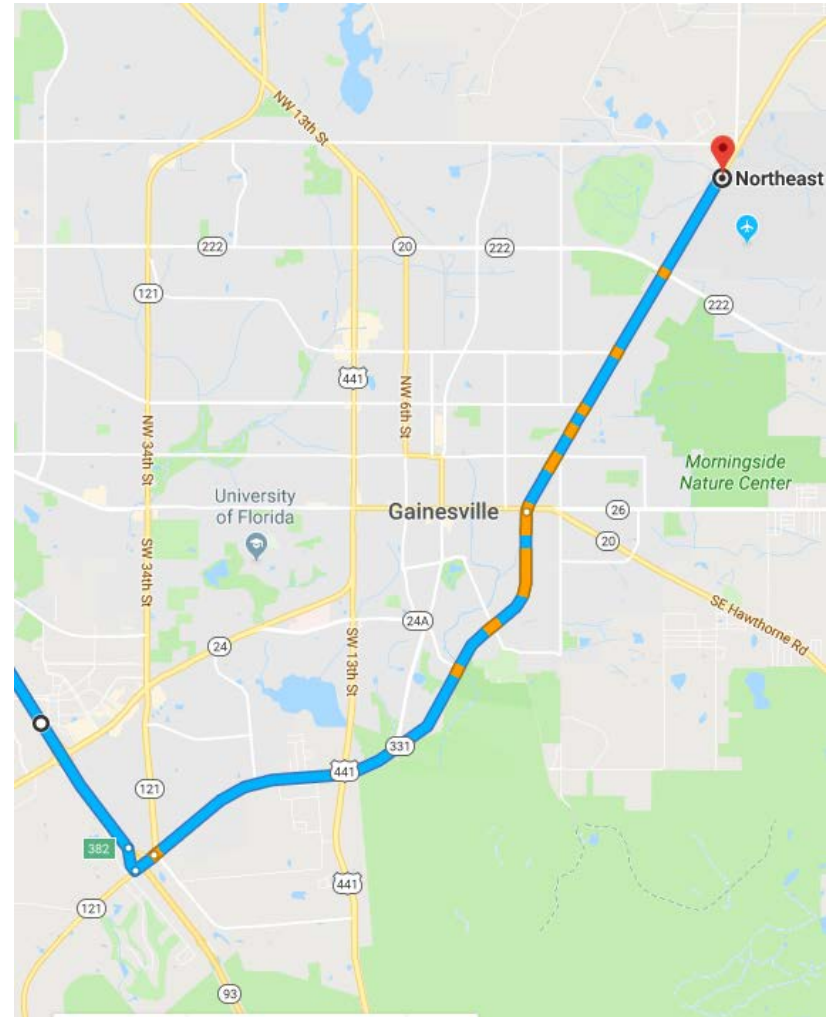


Mill Creek near 10 m mark



Little Hatchet Creek @ SR 24

- **Region:** Central
- **County:** Alachua
- **Date Analyzed:** 2/20/2018
- **Directions:** From Interstate 75 N or S, take exit 382 for FL-121 N toward Gainesville. Turn onto FL-121 N and continue straight onto FL-331 N for approximately 5.4 miles. Continue straight onto NE State Rd 24/NE Waldo Rd. In approximately 3.7 miles, the destination will be on your right.





Little Hatchet Creek @ SR 24

- **Directions:** Park on SE side of bridge. 100 m mark starts about 30 m downstream of bridge.



Park on SE side of bridge



Looking downstream near the 100 m mark



Little Hatchet Creek @ SR 24

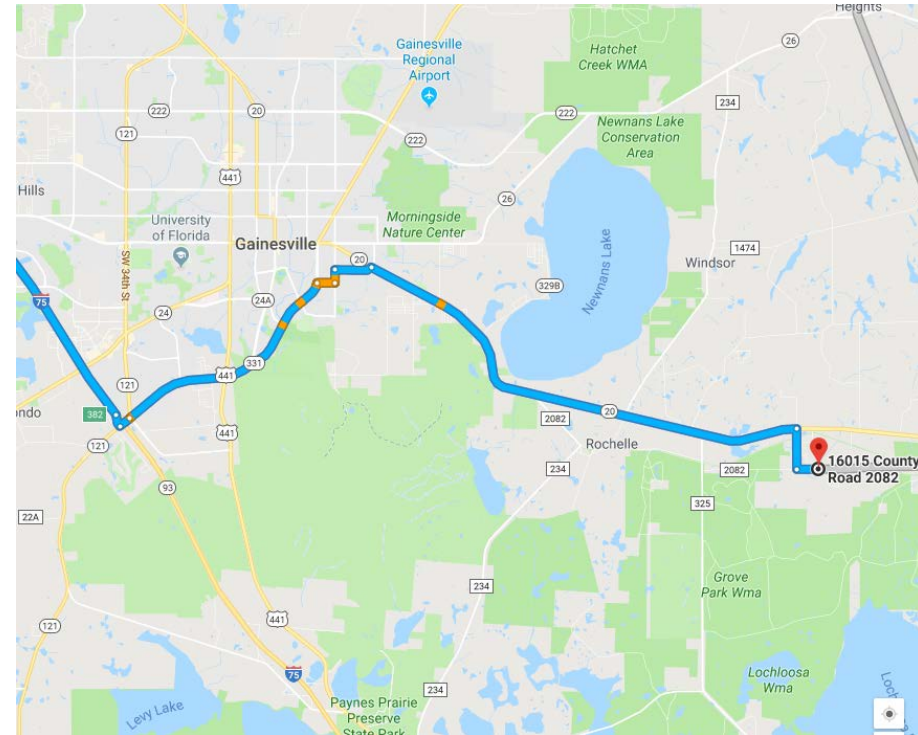


Little Hatchet Creek looking downstream



Lochloosa Creek @ CR 2082

- **Region:** Central
- **County:** Alachua
- **Date Analyzed:** 2/20/2018
- **Directions:** From Interstate 75 N or S, take exit 382 for FL-121 N toward Gainesville. Turn onto FL-121 N and continue straight onto FL-331 N. In approximately 4.7 miles, turn right onto SE 11th Ave, then make a left onto SE 15th street. In about 0.2 miles, turn right onto SE 8th Ave. In 0.7 miles, turn right onto FL-20 E/SE Hawthorne Rd. In approximately 9.4 miles, turn right onto SE 152 St. In 0.8 miles, turn left onto Co Rd 2082. In approximately 0.4 miles, the destination will be on the left.





Lochloosa Creek @ CR 2082

- **Directions:** Park on NW side of bridge. 0 m mark starts about 30 m upstream of bridge.



Park on NW side of road



0 m mark looking upstream



Lochloosa Creek @ CR 2082

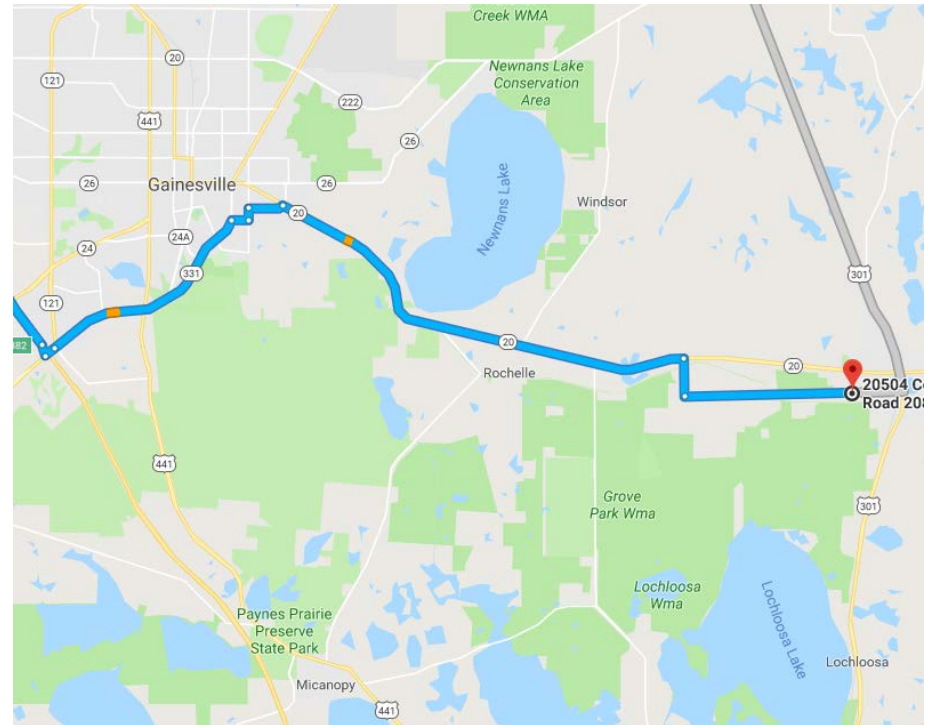


Looking upstream near 0 m mark



Plum Creek at CR 2082

- **Region:** Central
- **County:** Alachua
- **Date Analyzed:** 2/20/2018
- **Directions:** From Interstate 75 N or S, take exit 382 for FL-121 N toward Gainesville. Turn onto FL-121 N and continue straight onto FL-331 N. In approximately 4.7 miles, turn right onto SE 11th Ave, then make a left onto SE 15th street. In about 0.2 miles, turn right onto SE 8th Ave. In 0.7 miles, turn right onto FL-20 E/SE Hawthorne Rd. In approximately 9.4 miles, turn right onto SE 152 St. In 0.8 miles, turn left onto Co Rd 2082. In approximately 3.4 miles, the destination will be on the right.



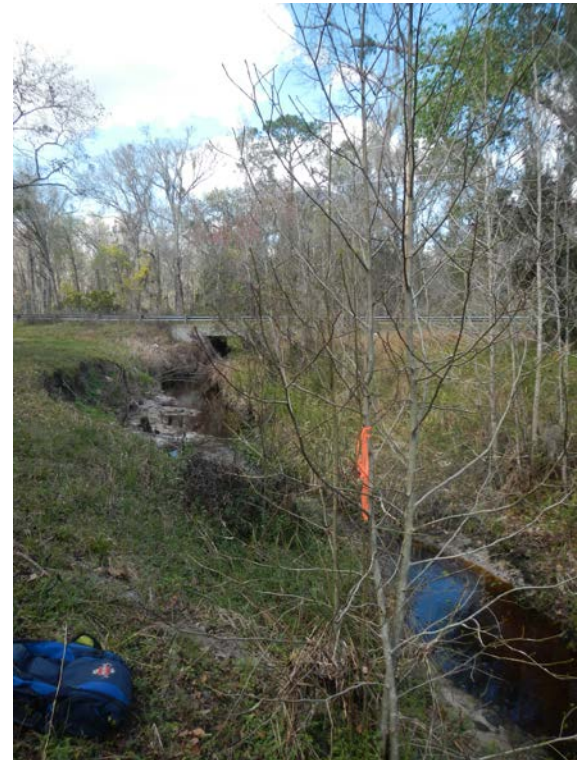


Plum Creek at CR 2082

- **Directions:** Park on SW side of bridge. 100 m mark about 30 m below bridge.



Park on SW side of bridge



100 m mark looking upstream



Plum Creek at CR 2082



Plum Creek looking downstream