



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central Florida Habitat Assessment Benchmark Sites

Little Orange Creek above CR 21

Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration
Water Quality Standards Program



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.
- **Work independently.**
- Submit all completed 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).
- Analysts must pass 2 out of 3 Habitat Assessments every 5 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 score for this site was established on October 27, 2021, and was revisited on March 30, 2026. The above graph shows the gage height data for a nearby site during the original visit. If you conduct habitat assessment at this site at different water levels, be sure to document the conditions.

Graph courtesy of the US Geological Survey.



Little Orange Creek above CR 21

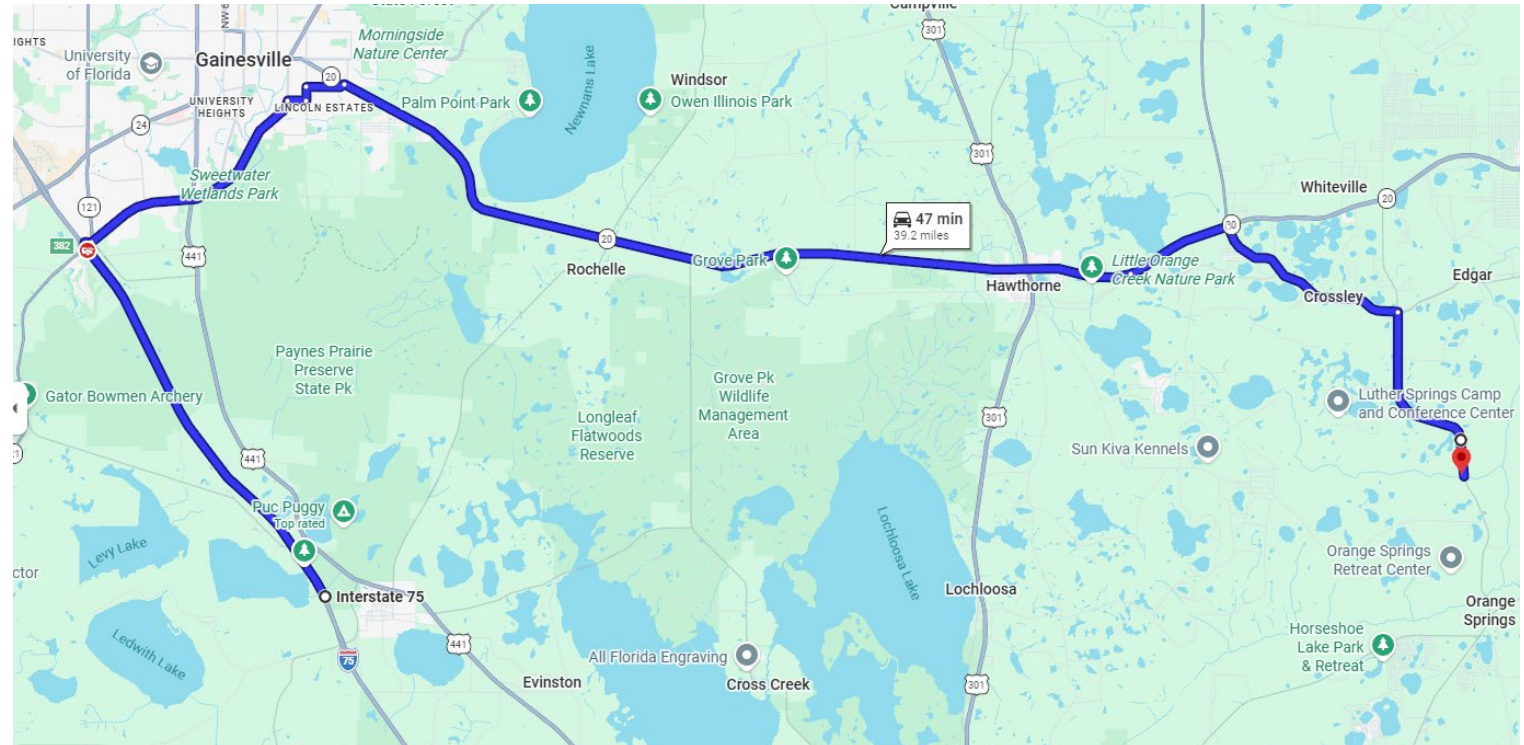
- **Region:** Central
- **County:** Putnam
- **Lat/Longs:**

Parking: 29.5413, -81.954

0m: 29.54127, -81.95339

100m: 29.54129, -81.95442

Directions: From I-75, take exit 382 for FL-121/FL-331 toward Gainesville/Williston. Take FL-331 N to FL-20/SE Hawthorne Rd in Gainesville. Follow FL-20 to Co Rd 20A in Putnam County. Continue on Co Rd 20A. Turn right on Co Rd 21 and continue to destination.





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- Accessing the site: The site starts about 10m above the road. Park on the NW side of the road, enter near the bridge and walk upstream to the site. There is a “No Trespassing” sign on the left bank; stay on the right bank as much as possible.



0m flags: 29.54127, -81.95339