



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

North Florida Habitat Assessment Benchmark Sites

South Fork Bear Creek

Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration
Water Quality Standards Program

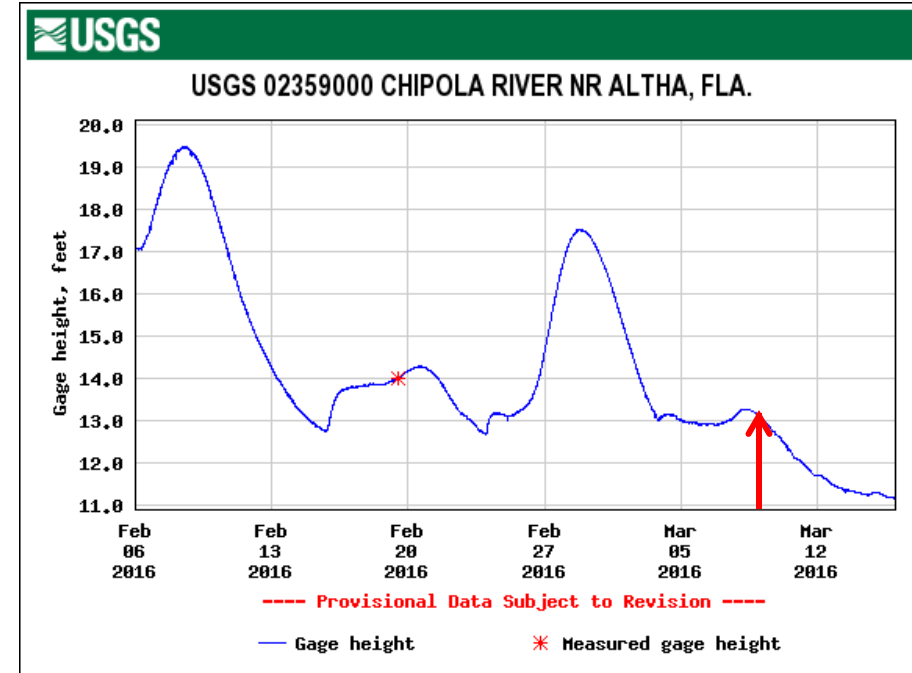
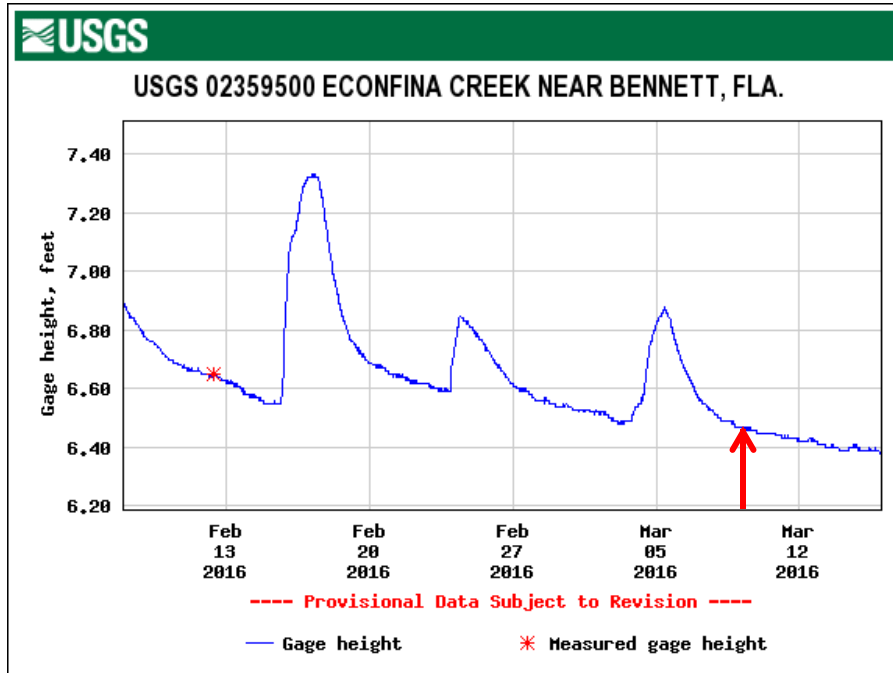


PROCEDURE

- 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 HYDROGRAPHS



The consensus score for these Panhandle Region sites were originally established on March 9, 2016, and revisited on March 5, 2026. Above is the gage height data for a nearby stream during the original visit. If you conduct habitat assessment at these sites at different water levels, be sure to document current conditions.

Graphs courtesy of the US Geological Survey.

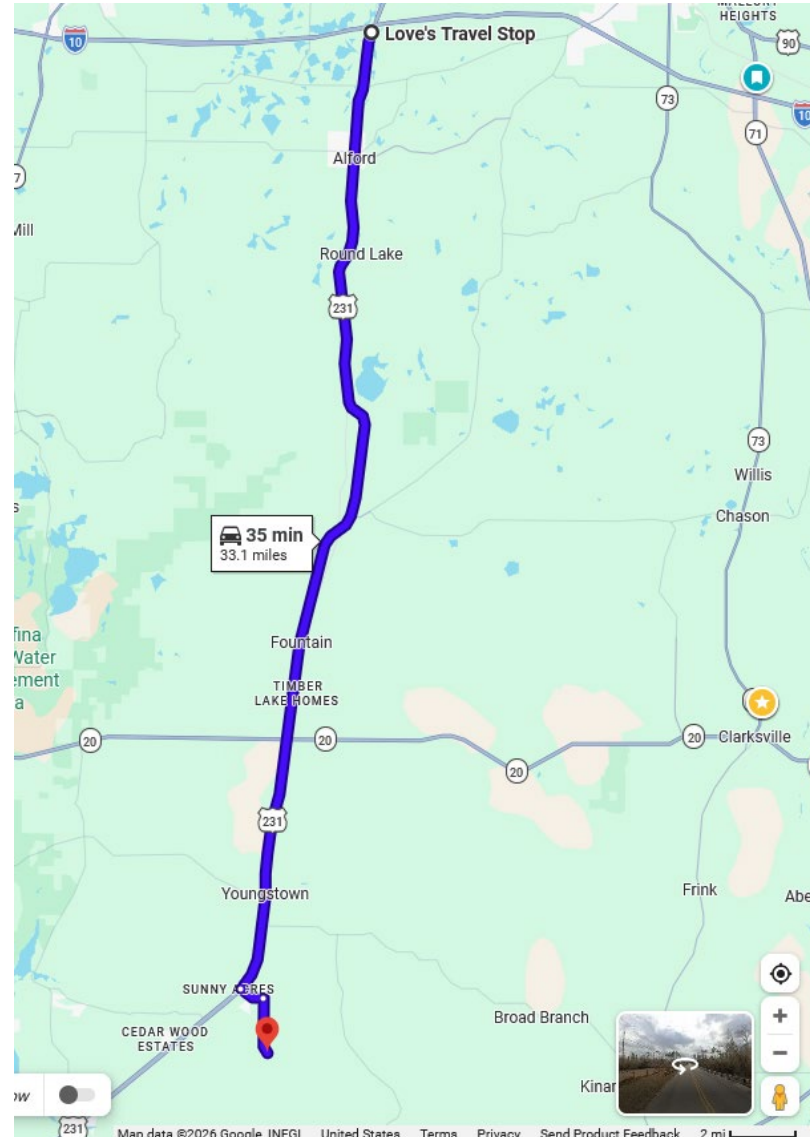


SOUTH FORK OF BEAR CREEK

- **Region:** North
- **County:** Bay
- **Lat/Longs:**

parking	30.29580, -85.43725
0m	30.29577, -85.43812
100m	30.29548, -85.43729

- **Directions:** From I-10, exit south on US 231 for 30.5 miles. Turn left onto N. Bear Creek Rd, go 0.8 miles. Turn left onto Ed Lee Rd go 1.7 miles. Park on the northwest side of the bridge. Enter through the woods and the 0m flags are about 15m below the bridge.





SOUTH FORK OF BEAR CREEK



0m flags: 30.29577, -85.43812



100m flags: 30.29548, -85.43729