

2016 Lake Okeechobee Construction Closures and Reroute

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Description:

As you can see from the map below, much of the trail around Lake Okeechobee will be closed indefinitely. We recommend hikers to follow the road walk along the west side of Lake O described in this notice. Please review the turn-by-turn descriptions for the North Bound and South Bound hikers below. There is a section of levee near Moorehaven that appears to be open—please do not take this route. You will reach a closure, and be required to turn around and return to the road walk. Please ONLY follow the route listed below.

The “Proposed Camping” sites on either side of Fisheating Creek have not been certified and should not be used without permission from the Army Corps of Engineers.

Lake Okeechobee and Florida National Scenic Trails CURRENT CLOSURES

Sections of the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail and the Florida National Scenic Trail are closed while the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conducts Herbert Hoover Dike rehabilitation.

The Taylor Creek to Nubbin Slough section, the Port Mayaca to Canal Point section, the Pahokee to Torry Island section, the South Bay to Clewiston section, the Liberty Point to Lakeport section of the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail as well as a portion of the Florida National Scenic Trail remain closed seven days a week for major dike rehabilitation activities. The Corps does not anticipate opening some of these sections until 2020. The Herbert Hoover Dike Rehabilitation Project's goal is to reduce flood risk to the public and the environment.

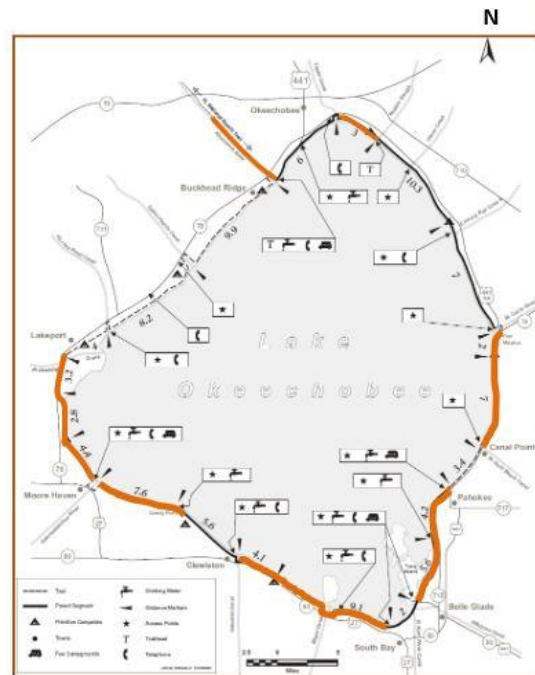
Contractors are using heavy construction vehicles and large equipment within these areas. Truck traffic on the roads during production is a constant flow, and any additional traffic on the narrow trail or dike crest poses a safety hazard for recreationists and equipment operators.

This map does not reflect future closures. If you are planning an event, please contact the Corps' South Florida Operations Office for information by calling 863-983-8101.



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North Bound

1. Coming north along the Miami Canal
2. Turn West on old US-27 (Corkscrew Rd)
3. Continue 3.5 miles, then join US-27 West
4. Continue on US-27 thru Clewiston for approx. 10 miles
5. Turn North on Hwy 720
6. Pass Uncle Joe's at 3.7 Miles and continue
7. West on 720 until it rejoins US-27 North (6.5 miles)
8. Turn North on US-27
9. Cross the bridge and turn north on 1st St (under the bridge)
10. Continue north on 1st St to Canal Rd
11. Turn Left and continue 2 miles to Hwy 78
12. Turn North on Hwy 78
13. Continue 8.9 miles to Lakeport
14. Rejoin the FNST at Lakeport

South Bound

1. At Lakeport begin walking South on Hwy 78
2. Continue 8.9 miles
3. Turn East onto Canal Rd
4. Continue 2 miles and turn right onto 1st Street
5. Go South to West end of bridge
6. Go South on US-27 for 2 miles
7. Turn left on Hwy 720
8. At 6.5 miles you will pass Uncle Joe's
9. Follow 720 to the right for another 3.7 miles
10. Turn left on US-27 to go thru Clewiston
11. Continue 10 miles and turn Southeast on old US-27
12. Continue 3.7 miles and turn South to join the FNST on Canal Road