

A cyclist wearing a blue and orange jersey, a white helmet, and sunglasses is riding a road bike on a dirt path. The path is surrounded by dense tropical vegetation, including palm trees and large green leaves. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

Cross Florida Beach to Beach Adventure Bicycle Route

240 Miles from
Juno Beach to Venice Beach

This document can be viewed and downloaded from the “Cross Florida Adventure Bicycle Route” tab at www.bikeveniceflorida.com

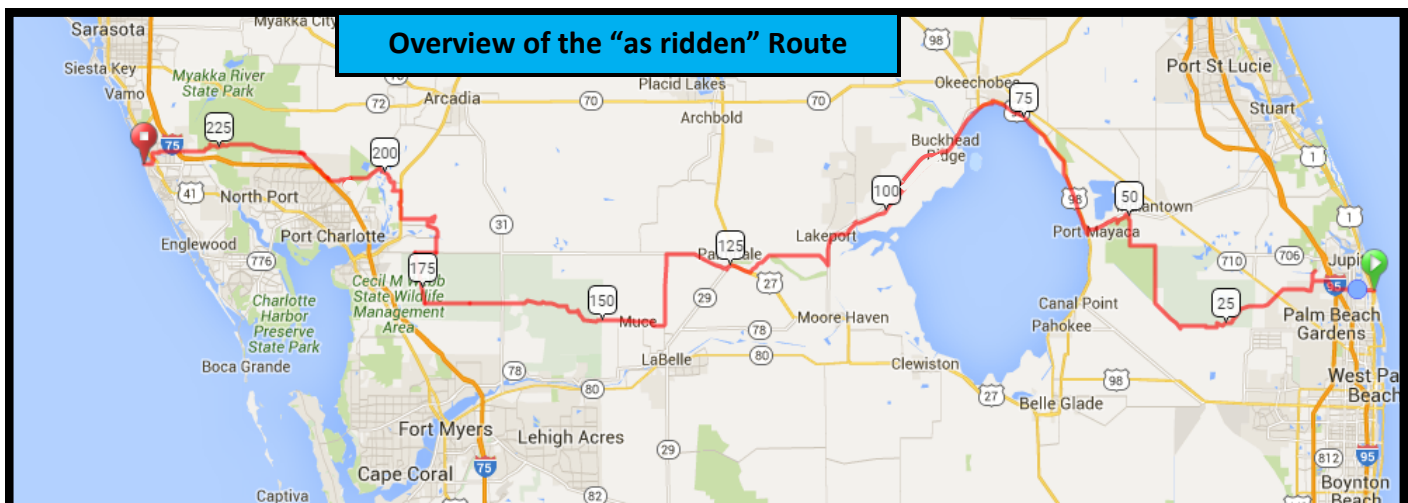
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Cross Florida Adventure Bicycle Route

240 Miles from Juno Beach to Venice

The Cross Florida Adventure Bicycle Route is an idea for a “Beach to Beach” bicycle route from Juno Beach to Venice. The route is designed to maximize the utilization of existing soft surface/unpaved roads in federal, state and local environmental lands. Approximately 75% of the route is on unpaved roads and trails and dedicated bike paths. 25% is on paved roads. The route is best ridden using a mountain bike or gravel/cyclocross type bicycle with 40 mm tires or wider. It is imperative that riders use a GPS with a downloaded GPS track of the route. There are long sections without any water or resupply opportunities. Riders must be self-supported or arrange for additional support along the route. You are on your own, you are on your own, so be prepared.

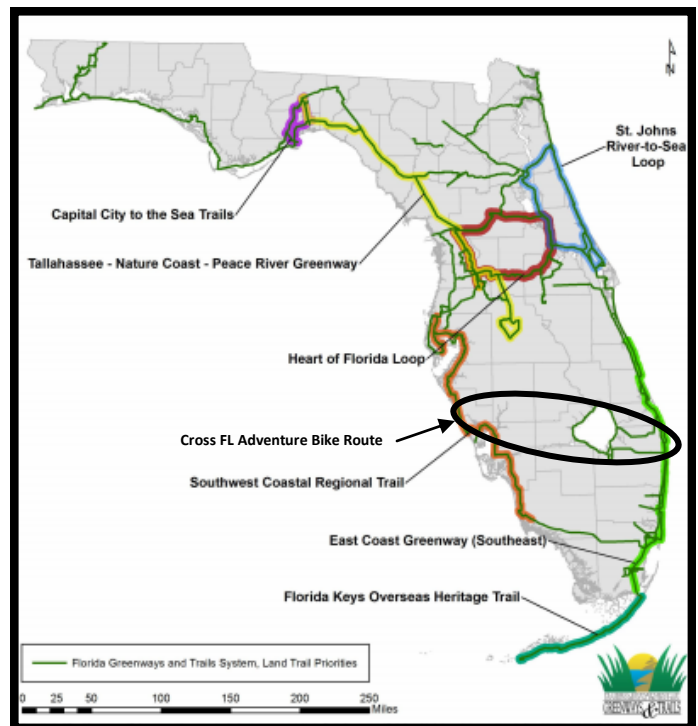
The route was designed by using satellite and surface maps to determine the initial route. Then individual sections were test ridden to prove the route. Over a 2 day period in June 2016 the entire route was ridden from Juno Beach to Venice. The “as ridden” route varies slightly in several places from the “as designed” route. These differences will be highlighted in the sector maps on the following pages.



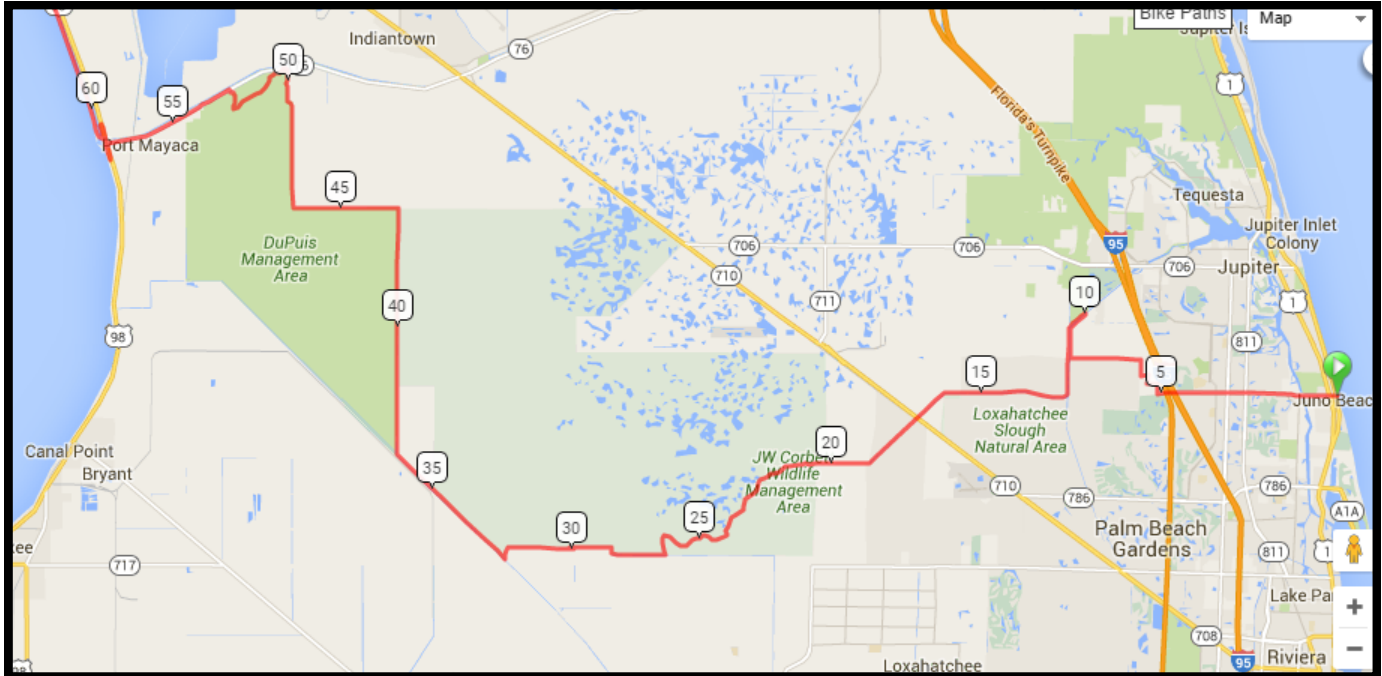
The 3 sections where the “as ridden” vary from the “as designed” are circled on the map below. At mile 75 construction on the levy required a detour onto the highway. On the route south of Okeechobee the “as designed” route follows an unpaved section of the Lake Okeechobee Bike Path. The “as ridden” followed the paved road between Buckhead Ridge and Lakeport but the mileages were about the same. At mile 205 the “as ridden” took a slightly different route.



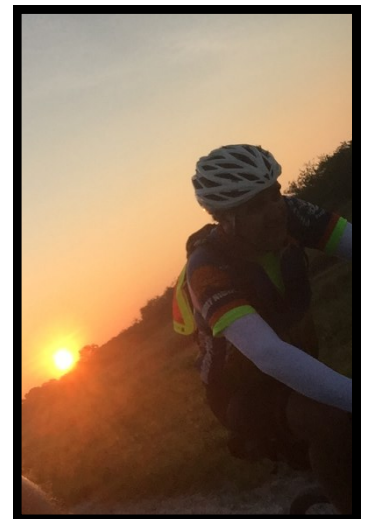
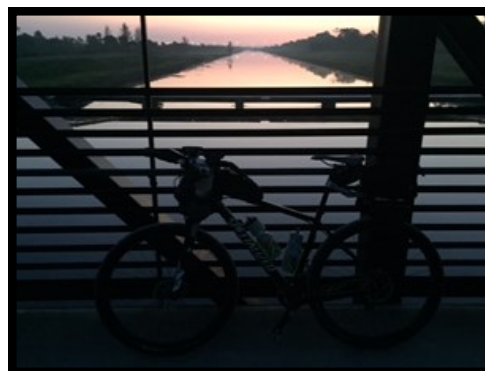
For reference the location of the Cross Florida Adventure Bicycle Route is shown in relation to the Florida Greenways and Trailways plan for hard surface bicycle trails.



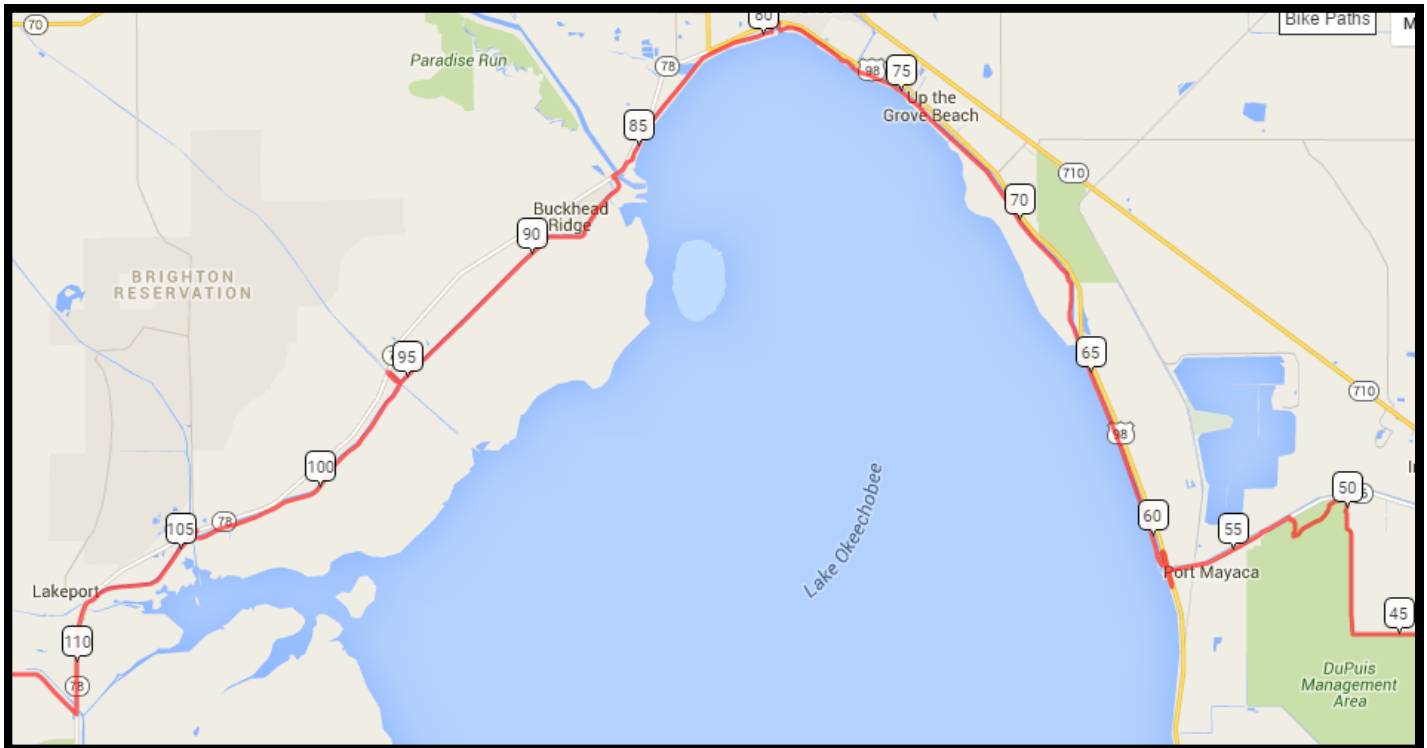
Juno Beach to Port Mayaca



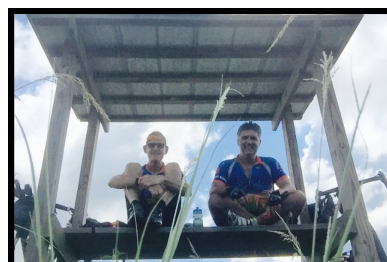
- Miles 0 to 7 are on hard surface streets in Juno Beach
- Miles 7 to 53 are unpaved roads and trails in the Loxahatchee Slough Natural Area, JW Corbett WMA and the DuPuis Management area. There is not any support or drinking water in this section. There is a faucet for drinking water at the DuPuis Visitor Center.
- Miles 53 to 59 are on paved roads.
- There are not any access issues on this section.
- There are not any resupply locations on this section.



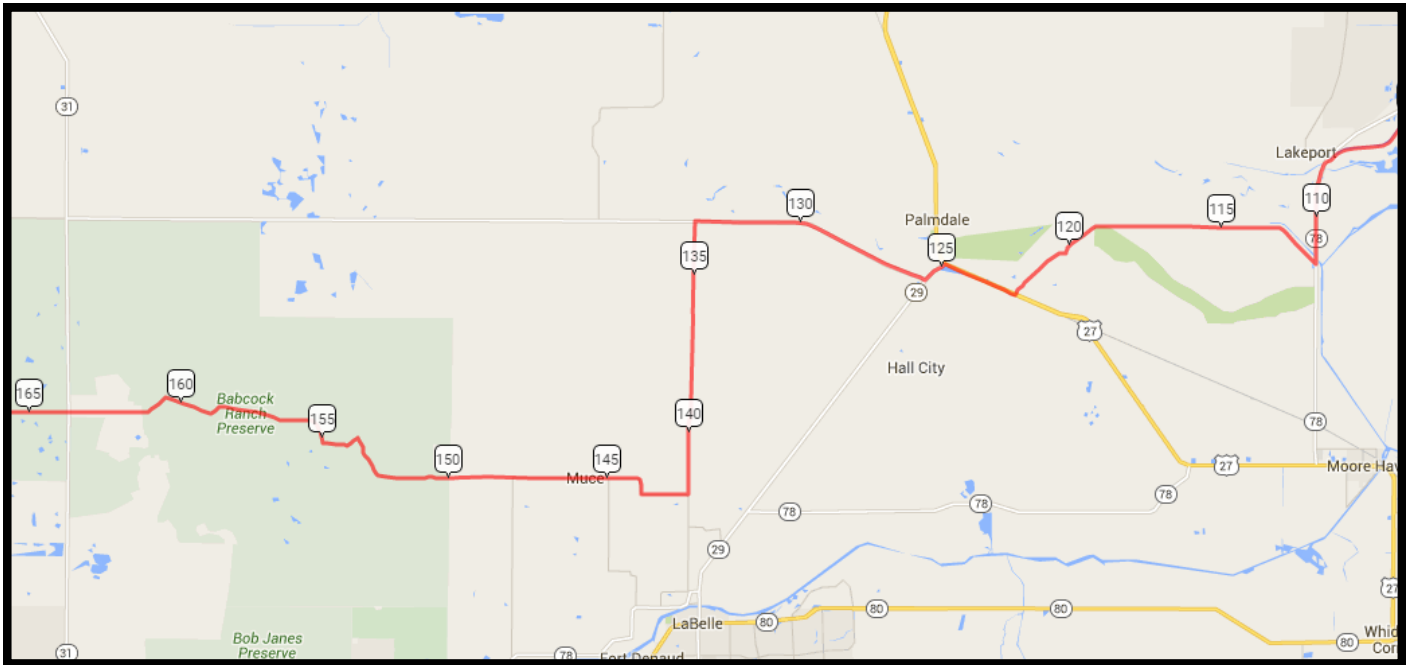
Port Mayaca to Lakeport



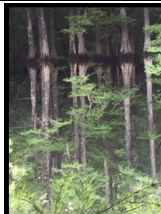
- Miles 59 to 108 in Lakeport are all on the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail.
- Miles 59 to 86 are on a paved trail.
- Miles 86 to 108 are on an unpaved trail.
- Construction on the levy at mile 75 results in a detour for several miles onto a paved shoulder on the highway.
- Full resupply opportunities are available adjacent to the route in Okeechobee and Lakeport.
- There are not any access issues in this section.



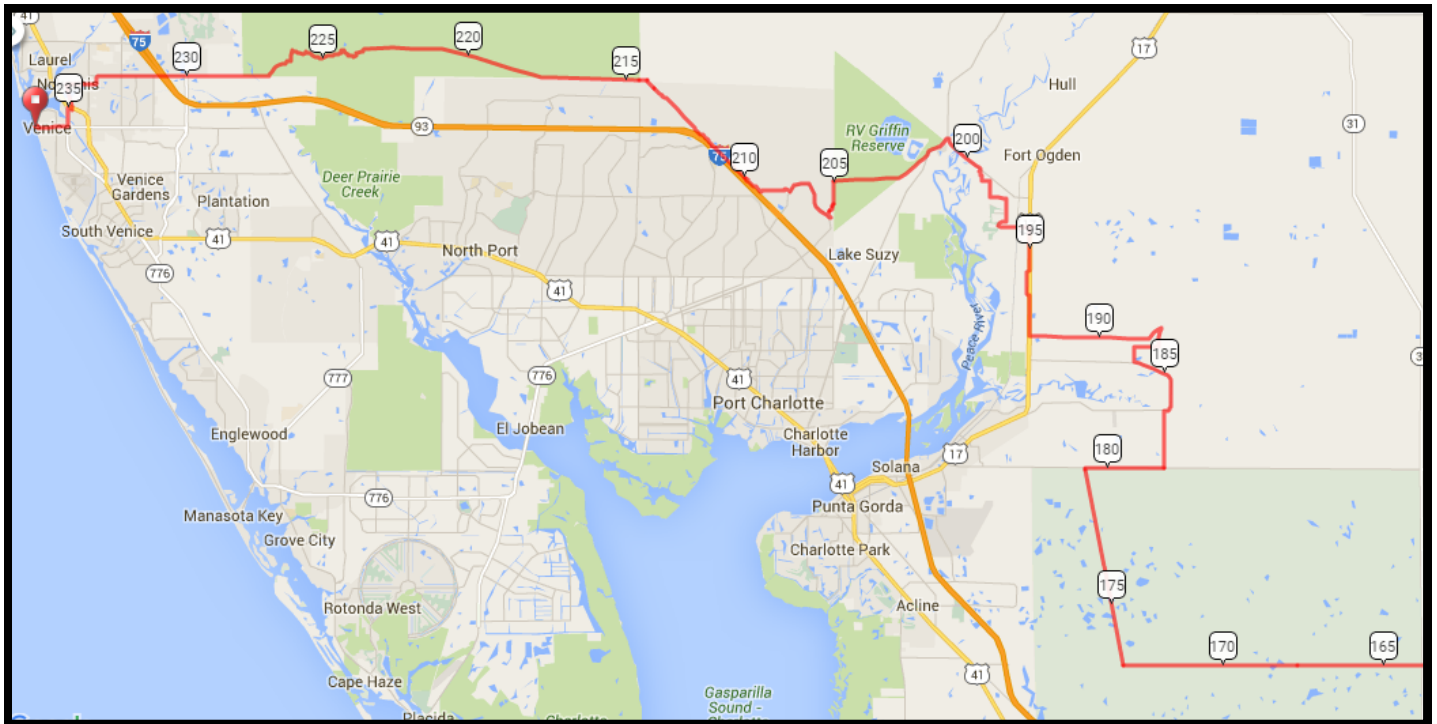
Lakeport to Highway 31 Crossing



- Miles 108 to 112 is on the paved shoulder of highway 78.
- Miles 112 to 122 is on the LD-3 section of the Herbert Hoover dike. There is currently an access issue on this section. The Lykes Bros. Corp is working on the Nicodemus Slough project which abuts the dike. The Corp of Engineers is reviewing this issue.
- Miles 122 to 126 is on a paved highway with a shoulder and miles 126 to 134 are on a paved highway without a shoulder.
- Miles 134 to 143 is on an unpaved road.
- Miles 143 to 150 is on a very lightly traveled paved road.
- Miles 150 to 164 is on unpaved roads through the Babcock Ranch property. The State of Florida takes possession of this tract at the end of July 2016. Access issues should be clarified after this transaction is completed.
- The only fresh water and resupply location in this section is the visitor center at mile 161 at the Babcock Wilderness Adventures.



Highway 31 Crossing to Venice

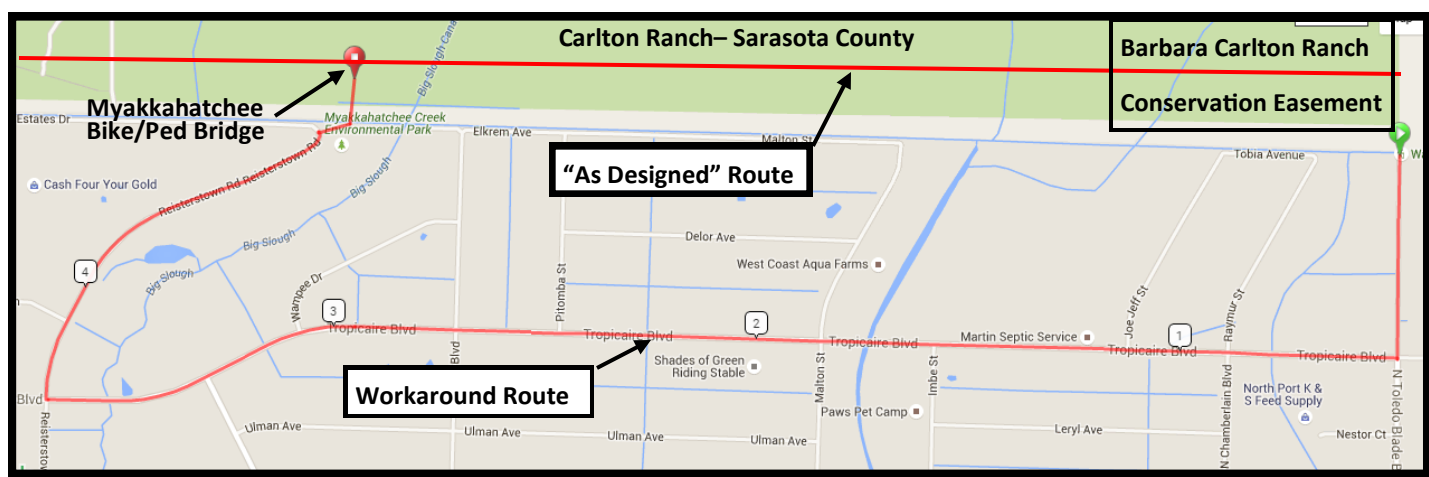


- Miles 164 to 179 are on unpaved roads in the Babcock/Webb WMA.
- Miles 179 to 182 are on a paved road with a narrow shoulder.
- Miles 182 to 184 are on an unpaved road.
- Miles 184 to 186 are on paved roads.
- Miles 186 to 192 are on an unpaved road in the Prairie Creek Preserve.
- Miles 192 to 201 are on paved roads. A convenience store for resupply is located at mile 199.
- Miles 201 to 209 are on unpaved roads in the RV Griffin Reserve and an adjacent vacant residential development.
- Miles 209 to 214 are on the powerline corridor adjacent to I75 in the Orange Hammock Ranch property. There is an access issue with this section. The Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast is working to arrange funding to acquire and conserve the property.
- The map shown on the next page is a workaround route on paved roads for this section. There is a convenience store for water and resupply on this route at Toledo Blade and Cranberry. Miles 214 to 227 are on unpaved roads and trails in Sarasota County's Carlton Ranch and T. Mabry Carlton Memorial Reserve.
- Miles 227 to 240 are on a combination of paved roads with a shoulder or bike lane and a short section of the Legacy Trail bike path.

Highway 31 Crossing to Venice Beach, continued



- At mile 214 there is a .4 mile long section that is through the private property of the Barbara Carlton Family Ranch. Sarasota County has a conservation easement thru this section but the details have not been finalized. Until this access issue is resolved there is a workaround route to avoid the private property section.



Future Plans for the Cross Florida Adventure Bicycle Route

- The Cross Florida Bicycle Route is a project to create a primarily off high-way route across the south-central area of Florida. The route showcases a variety of environmental land areas in this region. In its “as designed” configuration it is a very challenging route with long stretches between water and resupply opportunities. Only experienced endurance riders should plan on riding the route unsupported. However, with a dedicated support vehicle the route lends itself to individuals and groups that are interested in exploring some of the vast expanse of Florida that remains wild and undeveloped.
- **Summary of access issues**—Over the 240 mile length of the route there are three sections that have access issues. The route should not be ridden as designed until these issues are resolved. We are working to resolve these issues.
 - We are working with the Corps of Engineers regarding the section from mile 112 to 122 on the LD-3 section of the Herbert Hoover dike. We are investigating alternate routes if this access issue can not be resolved.
 - We are working with the State of Florida regarding the section from mile 150 to 164 thru the Babcock Ranch property. This access issue may be resolved when the State of Florida takes full control of the Babcock Ranch property at the end of July 2016.
 - Sarasota County is working to resolve the terms of the conservation easement through the .4 mile section thru the Barbara Carlton Ranch at mile 214.
- **The following is a link to the GPS Track of the “as designed” route:**
 - <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/14538187>
 - Note that there are access issues in 3 locations on this “as designed” route. The route should not be ridden as designed until those issues are resolved.
- This idea gets its inspiration from the Sarasota County Off Road Riders (SCORR). SCORR is a group of riders that are dedicated to promoting trail building and off road riding in Sarasota County. The Cross Florida Adventure Bicycle Route is an idea that will extend their boundaries of exploration across the entire state.
- Eric John Claessens is the route designer and one of the two riders that have ridden the route from Beach to Beach.
- This document can be viewed and downloaded from the “Cross Florida Adventure Bicycle Route” tab at www.bikeveniceflorida.com.
- Address any comments or questions to Steve Christian, happytrls2@juno.com.