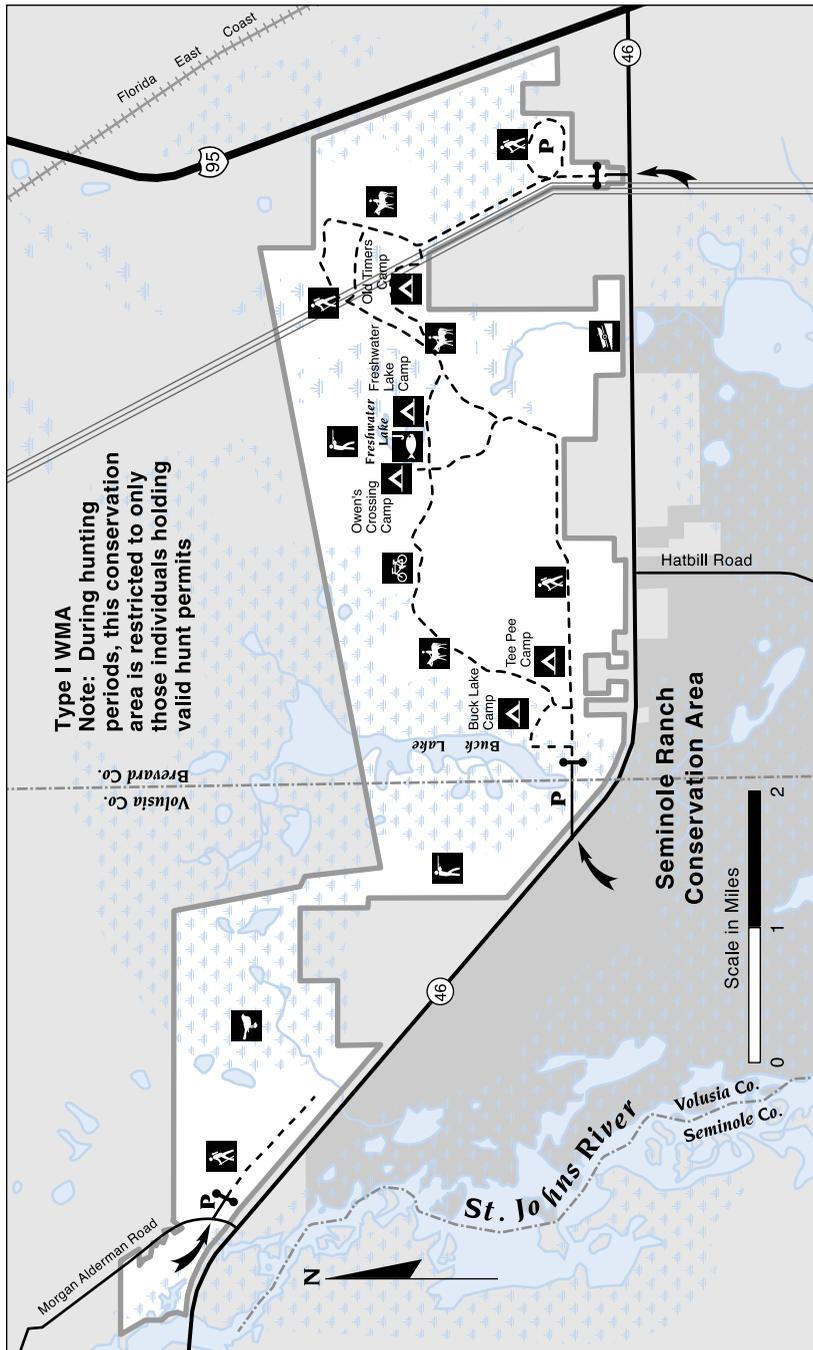


# Buck Lake

## CONSERVATION AREA



**Size:** 9,291 acres.

**Location:** In southeastern Volusia County and northwestern Brevard County, north of SR 46 and west of I-95.

**Description:** The Buck Lake tract consists of natural woodlands and wetlands that have been used historically for pine and hardwood timber production and cattle ranching. The ridge found in the eastern part of the property supports about 200 acres of scrubby flatwoods and oak hammock which provide appropriate habitat for scrub jays. A basin swamp community dominates the eastern third of the property. This swamp and depression marsh receive surface water runoff from adjacent uplands and discharge into a wet prairie that makes up the headwaters of Six Mile Creek. This creek runs southward to Salt Lake, Loughman Lake and eventually to the St. Johns River. The western portion of the property features a large floodplain marsh and a marsh lake, Buck Lake. This conservation area provides a chance to preserve and protect many natural communities. The property protects regionally significant habitat for several plant and animal species and provides a significant amount of floodwater retention to slow downstream flooding. This land also filters stormwater runoff before it reaches the river. More than 80 percent of this property was burned during the wildfires of 1998.

**Wildlife viewing:** Scrub jays, gopher tortoises, bald eagles, otters, deer, woodpeckers, owls, bobcats, alligators, turkey, herons, egrets and fox.

**Recreational activities:** Seasonal hunting, hiking, horseback riding, bicycling, fishing, wildlife observation and primitive camping at designated sites (see Using District Land section at the end of this document).

**Restrictions:** Category 2 (see Restrictions section at the end of this document). Special restrictions: Camping is prohibited during periods open to hunting.

**Access:** In Brevard County, from I-95 (Exit 81) travel west on SR 46. Entry and two parking areas are on the north side of SR 46. The east parking area is .75 mile west of I-95. The west parking area is 6.4 miles west of I-95. A boat ramp is located on SR 46 3.5 miles west of I-95 at Six Mile Creek.

**For more information:** Call the District's Division of Land Management at (407) 893-3127. For hunting information, see the Hunting section at the end of this document.

