



What's New on the Circumnavigational Trail

CT Trail changes since the [8th edition of the printed Amazon guide](#) was published in June of 2022.

January, 2023: Due to damage from Hurricane Ian, the Gulf Coast Visitor Center in Everglades City is closed and drinking water is not available. There is no longer a requirement to pick up hard copy permits at the visitor centers within 24 hours. Instead, you can reserve campsites in advance online: <https://www.recreation.gov/permits/4675314>. Make sure to print out the email confirmation and have it with you if approached by law enforcement.

November, 2022: Lighthouse Inn in Segment 13, day one, is closed permanently due to Hurricane Ian. The nearby Vanderbilt Beach Resort is slated to open December 15, 2022. In segments 12 and 13, paddlers should be aware that navigational markers are down, channels have shifted, and there is still hurricane debris in the water. No swimming is advised. Paddlers should use extreme caution or postpone segments 12 and 13 for a later date.

October, 2022: Due to damage from Hurricane Ian, several state parks in segments 11, 12 and 13 are closed. Cayo Costa, Delnor-Wiggins, Gasparilla Island and Lover's Key state parks suffered extensive damage and will likely remain closed for an extended period of time. Check <https://www.floridastateparks.org/> for the latest information. Several motels featured in these segments are also closed until further notice. Paddlers heading south should stock up on supplies

around Sarasota and rely mostly on undeveloped island campsites until Marco Island and Everglades City. It is highly encouraged to register and communicate your plans with FPTA in the event Trail Angel support is needed. You can [register here](#).

The platform at the CT campsite in Econfina River State Park in segment 6 is currently unusable. Contact the park for current status. As an alternative, the [Econfina Resort](#) offers a hotel, condo and general store.

August, 2022: Thru paddlers who want to camp on Bowtie Island (Segment 12) will now need a free permit. Permit applicants should contact Calusa Blueway Coordinator Mike Hammond: mhammond@leegov.com or call (239) 707-7981 with as much advance notice as possible. A float plan is required that shows why camping is needed on the island. Other visitors are not allowed to camp on the island.