

## Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge – Marsh Trail Birding Walk (Friday)

Date: **Friday**, January 15, 2010

Focus: **Birding** – This field trip will focus on the identification and biology of birds. Please bring binoculars and a bird field guide (if you have one).

Field Trip Description: We will spend the morning walking along newly opened Marsh Trail (2 miles roundtrip) which is the only trail access into the Ten Thousand Islands NWR. Wading birds such as Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night-Heron and White Ibis should be plentiful and there is a good chance we will see Wood Storks, Roseate Spoonbills and possibly Sandhill Cranes. We will also attempt to draw out secretive marshbirds such as rails and bitterns and search for landbirds wintering in the tropical hardwoods along the road. (This is the same field trip that has been offered in past years as “Oil Pad Road”)

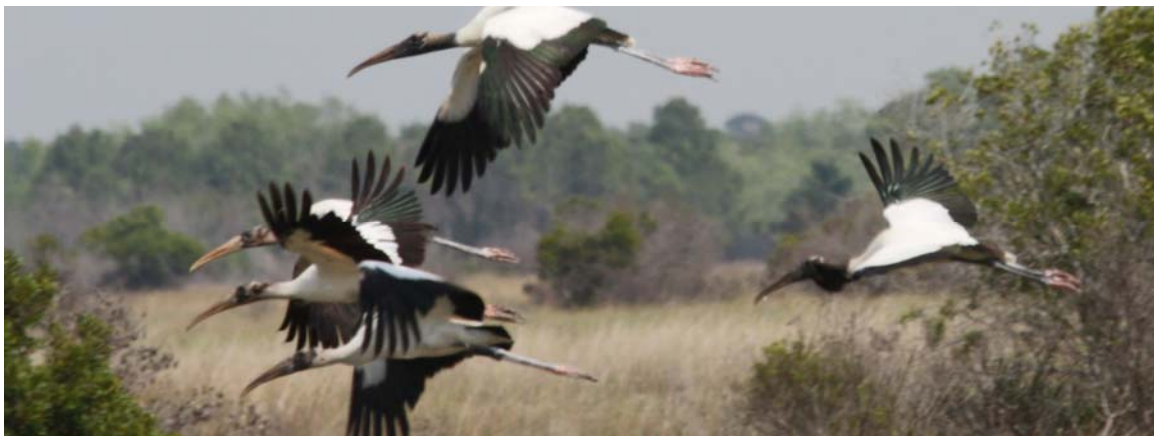
Maximum Group Size: 20

Time Begin: 7:15 am

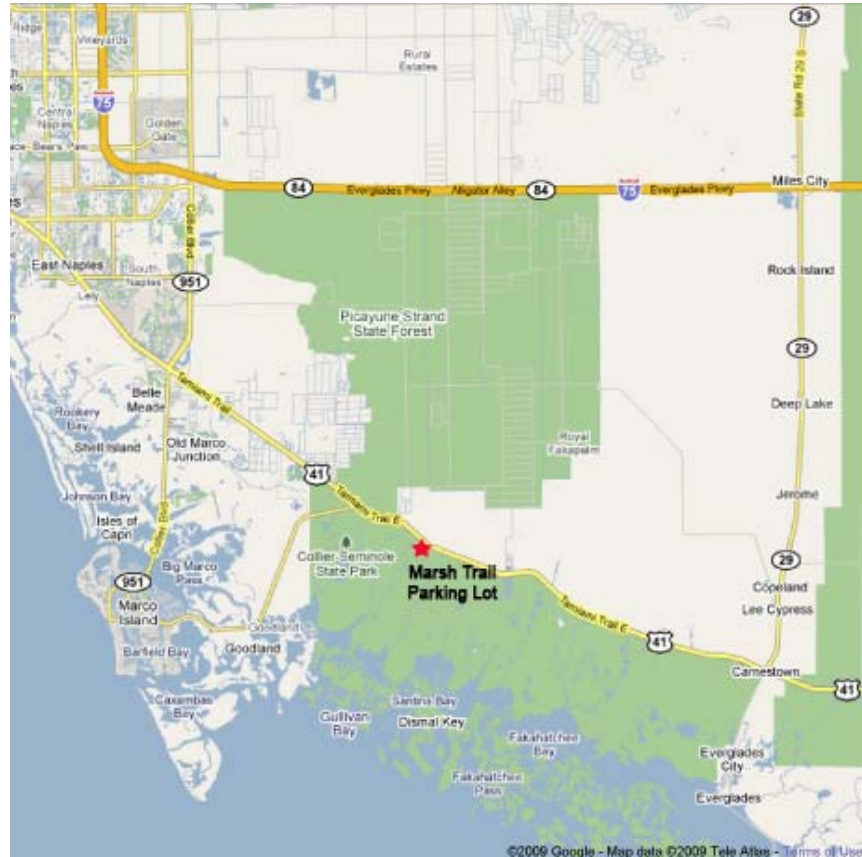
Time End: 11:30 am

Where to Meet: Meet by **7:00 am** at the new Marsh Trail trailhead parking lot on US 41, approximately **11 miles** from the intersection with Collier Blvd. (SR 951). (Tamiami Trail).

Directions to Meeting Place: From Naples: Take US 41 (Tamiami Trail) southeast through the intersection with Collier Blvd (CR 951) and travel an additional 11 miles. Continue past SR 92 (traffic signal) and past the entrance to Collier Seminole State Park. **The Marsh Trail parking** lot is marked and located on the right (south) side of US 41.



Map:



Trip Leaders: Matthew Martin, Wildlife Biologist, Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge and second leader.

Field Trip Cost: \$10 with Festival registration

Additional Information: There are no facilities on the refuge (the nearest being at Port of the Islands or Collier-Seminole State Park).

\*This trip entails considerable walking – approximately 2 miles round-trip.

What to Bring: Binoculars, camera, water, sunscreen, and insect repellent. The leader will have bird field guides and a spotting scope, although you may prefer to bring your own. We also suggest that you bring a small day or fanny pack to carry these items in so that your hands will be free while birding.

What to Wear: Clothing appropriate for the weather. Hiking boots or tennis shoes, long sleeved shirt and long pants if you are susceptible to insect bites or sun, and a hat.

Web Site: <http://www.fws.gov/refuges/profiles/index.cfm?id=41555>

Revised: 9/3/2009