

## **Big Cypress National Preserve – Trip to Red Cockaded Woodpecker Clusters and Big Cypress Fox Squirrel Monitoring Site**

Date: **Saturday**, January 16, 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: Join the preserve's wildlife biologist, Deborah Jansen, for a visit to Raccoon Point. This wild and diverse area of the preserve, not open to the general public, is home to a variety of wildlife including several groups of the endangered Red-Cockaded Woodpecker. Learn how preserve staff monitor this species and protect its habitat through prescribed fire. You may not only get a glimpse of the red-cockaded woodpecker and other old-growth pineland birds, but may also see tracks of Florida panthers or bears. Field trip participants may also have an opportunity to track (and hopefully view) one of the eight radio-collared Big Cypress Fox Squirrels currently being monitored in a Raccoon Point study area. These colorful denizens of the Big Cypress swamp are a Florida State listed threatened species and rarely observed in the wild.

Maximum Group Size: 10

Time Begin: 12:30 pm

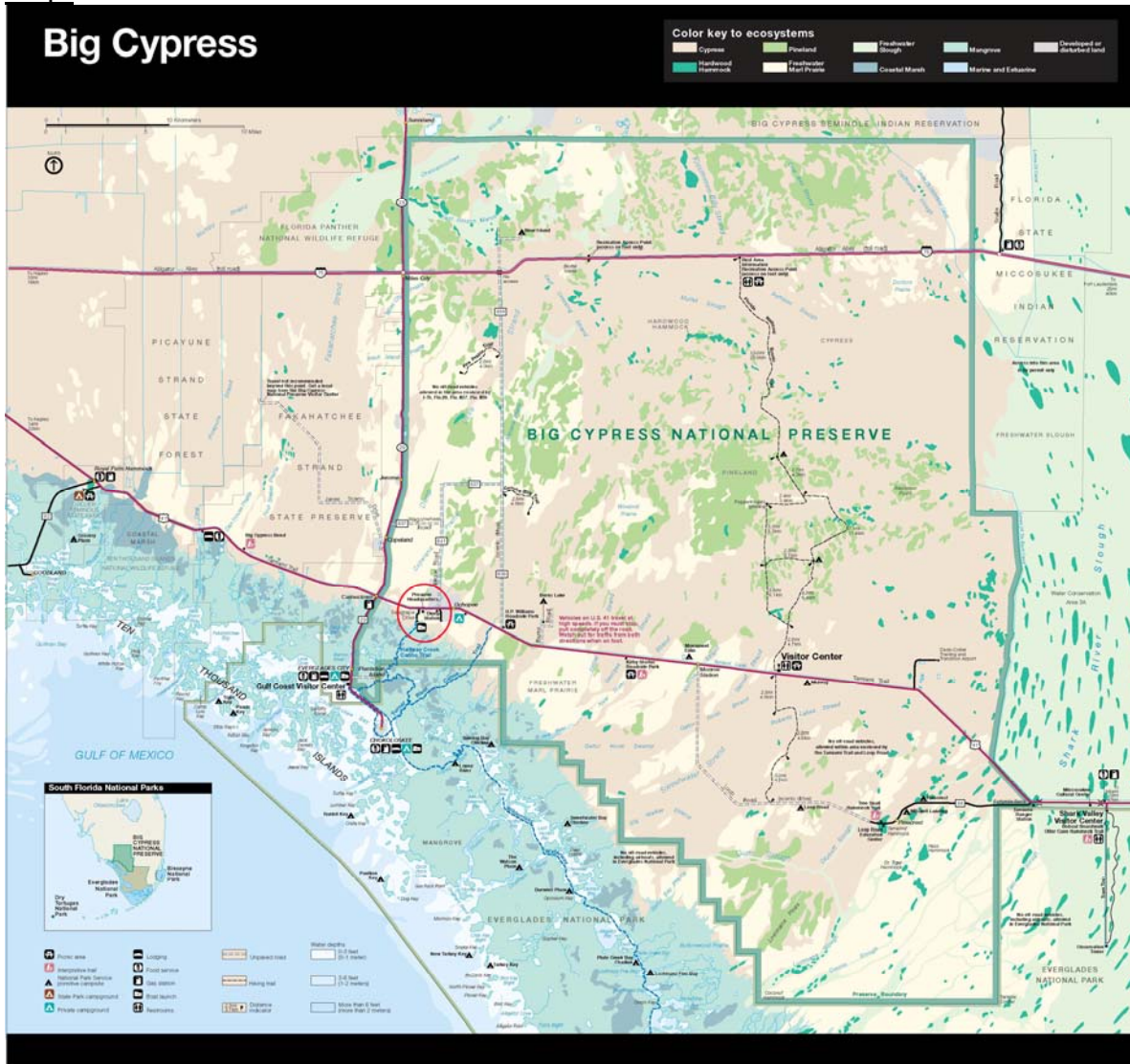
Time End: 7:00 pm

Where to Meet: meet by **12:15 pm** at the **Big Cypress National Preserve Headquarters Building**

Directions to Meeting Place: From the intersection of US 41 (Tamiami Trail East) and CR 951 (Collier Blvd): Drive east on US 41 for approximately **30 miles**. The Big Cypress Preserve Headquarters is on the right (south) side of the road, 3 miles from the intersection of US 41 and SR 29 - just past Wooten's Airboat Tours.



Map:



Trip Leader: Deborah Jansen, Wildlife Biologist, Big Cypress National Preserve

Field Trip Cost: \$10 with Festival registration

What to Bring: Water, snacks, field guide, camera, binoculars. We also suggest that you bring a small day or fanny pack to carry these items in so that your hands will be free.

What to Wear: Hiking boots that provide good ankle support and that can get wet. Dress for the weather.

Web: [www.nps.gov/bicy](http://www.nps.gov/bicy)

Revised: 9/3/2009