

Rookery Bay Reserve Kayak Adventure Trip - Morning

Date: **Friday**, January 13, 2012

Focus: **Specialty/Kayaking** – This field trip will focus on the activity, incorporating education on the wildlife, habitat and ecology of the area visited and is NOT primarily a birding field trip.

Field Trip Description: Paddle along pristine mangrove creeks and bays to meet some amazing estuarine inhabitants. Watch ospreys dive for their meals, mangrove tree crabs scurry about, or maybe even catch a glimpse of some wild dolphins. We'll slowly paddle into Rookery Bay to visit the islands that give the Reserve its name. Kayaks, paddles, and life vests provided. Basic paddling/canoeing experience required.

Maximum Group Size: 10

Time Begin: 10:00 am

Time End: 12:00 pm

Where to Meet: Meet by **9:45 am** at the **Shell Island Road Kayak Launch**.

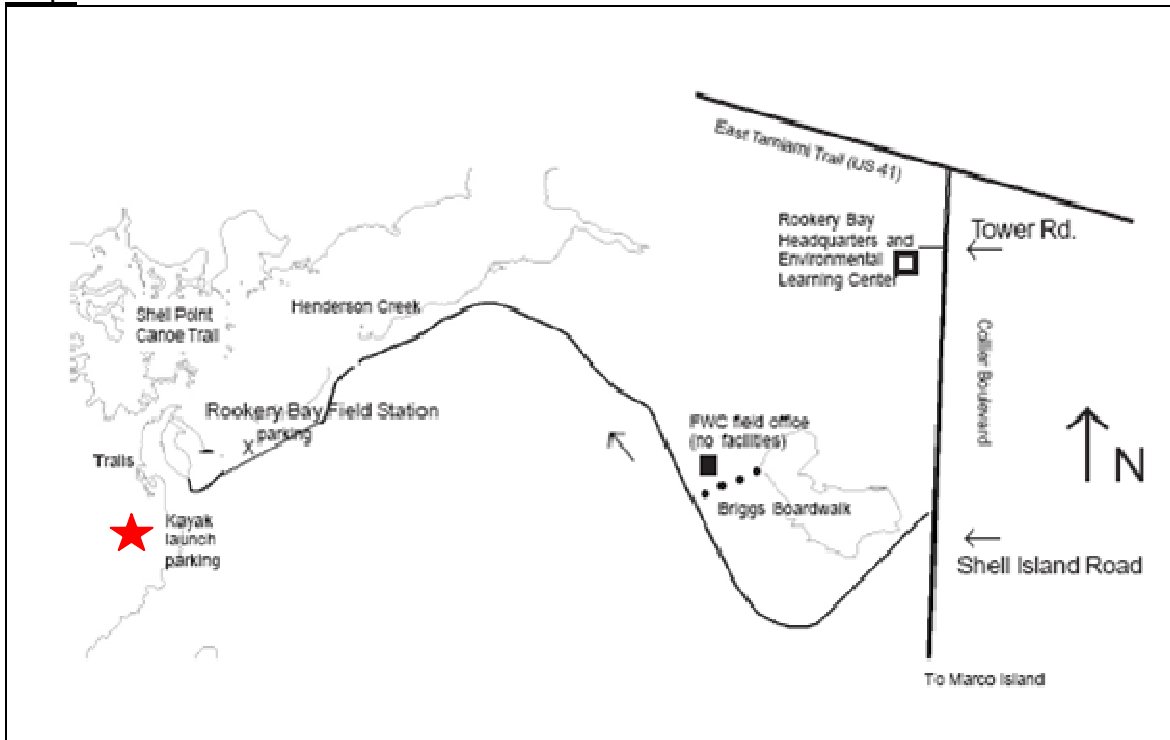
Directions to Meeting Place: The kayak launch is located at the far end of Shell Island Road. The maximum speed is 25 MPH – please drive slowly, watch for wildlife and allow extra driving time.

From Marco Island: Take SR951 (Collier Blvd.) north towards Naples. Turn LEFT onto Shell Island Road just after passing the main entrance to Fiddler's Creek development (on right side of road). Then follow Shell Island Road approximately 3.5 miles to the **end of the road**. A gravel parking area is available.

From Naples: Travel east on US41 (Tamiami Trail). Turn right onto SR951 (Collier Blvd.) and travel south towards Marco Island. Turn RIGHT after about 3 miles onto Shell Island Road. Then follow Shell Island Road approximately 3.5 miles to the **end of the road**. A gravel parking area is available.

From 1-75: Take exit 101 and travel south on SR951 (Collier Blvd.) for 6 miles towards Marco Island. Cross US41 (Tamiami Trail) and continue south on Collier Blvd. for another 3 miles. Then turn RIGHT onto Shell Island Road (watch for the brown Rookery Bay Field Station sign) and continue approximately 3.5 miles to the **end of the road**. A gravel parking area is available.

Map:



Trip Leader: Rookery Bay Education Naturalist

Field Trip Cost: \$50

Parking: A gravel parking area is located at the launch site.

Additional Information: There are **NO** restroom facilities at launch site. Kayak participants must be at least 12 years of age and under 250 lbs.

What to Bring: A **waterproof** gear bag if you have one. Water, snacks, a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen. Cameras and binoculars can be helpful, but please **don't bring anything that can't get wet.**

What to Wear: Comfortable clothing appropriate for the weather. It is likely to be cooler on the water than on land and wearing layers is a good strategy for changing temperatures. If you are susceptible to the sun, a long sleeved shirt, long pants and a hat are advised. Wear **close-toed shoes** (old tennis shoes work well) that you don't mind getting wet and bring along an extra pair of dry shoes and socks for the trip home.

Web: <http://www.rookerybay.org>

Revised: October 20, 2011

