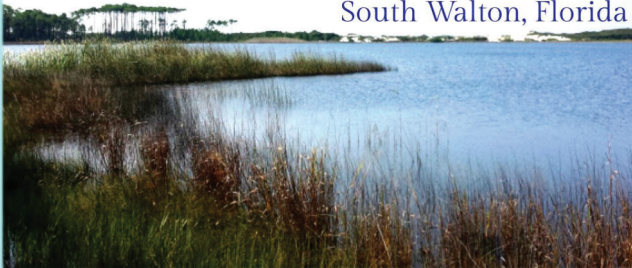


Coastal Dune Lakes

South Walton, Florida



Globally Rare

Existing in few places on Earth, 15 of these rare lakes are found along the white-sand beaches of South Walton County, FL.

- | | | |
|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| ★ Fuller | ★ Oyster | ★ Western |
| ★ Morris | ★ Draper | ★ Eastern |
| ★ Campbell | ★ Big Redfish | ★ Deer |
| ★ Stallworth | ★ Little Redfish | ★ Camp Creek |
| ★ Allen | ★ Alligator | ★ Powell |

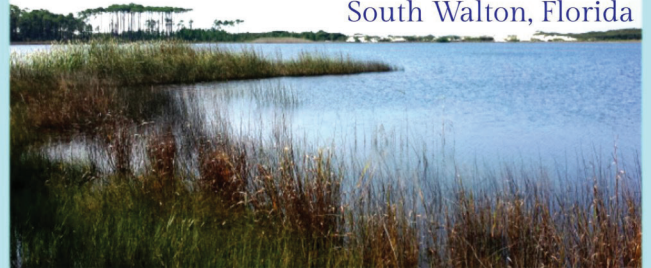


Unique Ecosystems

Lakes create an opening, called an outfall, to the Gulf of Mexico during periods of high water levels causing fresh and salt water to mix, creating a temporary estuary.

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Lakes create an opening, called an outfall, to the Gulf of Mexico during periods of high water levels causing fresh and salt water to mix, creating a temporary estuary.

What makes these lakes unique?

- ★ Temporary estuaries and nursery grounds are formed when the lake's outfall opens, allowing fresh and saltwater to mix.
- ★ Pine needles and cypress needles that fall from trees in upland forest areas release tannins. These tannins stain the lake's water brown.
- ★ Each lake is different due to variable salt content, dependent upon the number of outfall openings.
- ★ Conservation efforts are needed to protect the health and longevity of these special ecosystems.



How can you help these ecosystems?

- ★ Stay on the marked trails and boardwalks, and avoid walking across dunes and trampling vegetation.
- ★ Be respectful of the lakes and their natural processes; do not dig in or around the lake outfalls.
- ★ The health and beauty of these lakes is very important; please be respectful and properly dispose of all trash.

**For more information about the
Coastal Dune Lakes of South Walton County, visit:**

www.basinalliance.org
<http://walton.ifas.ufl.edu>
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