



## **Bear Creek Educational Forest – Sunday, May 23, 2010**

**Meet at 8:00 a.m. in Civic Center parking lot.** Carpool caravan will depart for the Forest at **8:15 a.m.**

Or arrive on your own--

**Start time at field trip location: 9:00 a.m..** Meet at Bear Creek Environmental Forest, Lake Talquin State Forest, west of Tallahassee and south of Quincy. Phone: 850/ 488-1871 (see map below).

**End Time:** 12 noon

**Degree of Difficulty:** Easy      **Handicap access:** Yes

**Guide:** Michael Jenkins, Plant Conservation Program Biologist. Contact info: jenkins1@doacs.state.fl.us.

**Co-leader:** Mark Tancig, botanist.

### **Description: Bear Creek Environmental Center**

Bear Creek is a tributary of the Ochlockonee River and runs through steep-sided upland hardwood forest, dominated by Beech, Magnolia, and tree species that are in their southern range distribution and more typical of the hardwood forests from “up north”. Species that can be found there include Basswood, Sourwood, Mountain Laurel, Little Brown Jug, and Christmas Fern. Creek banks are lined with Florida Anise and there is a healthy population of Florida Flame Azalea there, too. The Living Forest Trail is a paved trail with “Talking Trees”, where taped interviews and interpretive monologues describing the natural and cultural history of trees can be heard with the push of the button. It is a favorite among children.

**Park entrance fee:** \$5 per car

**DON'T FORGET:** Water, sun screen, hat. Light, long-sleeved shirt and pants, and insect repellent are recommended to protect against biting insects, such as chiggers, ticks, and mosquitoes.

**Nearest Restrooms:** There are full, handicapped accessible bathrooms at the educational center/parking lot, at the start of Living Forest trail.

Nearest gas stations: I-10 and on State Road 20 intersections with County Road 267.

Cell phone reception: No

**Contact number** for the day of the event: 850-766-5716 (Michael Jenkins' cell phone).

**Park Entrance:** From Interstate 10, exit onto Highway 267. Go south on Highway 267 for 4.8 miles. The entrance will be on your left. From Highway 20, turn north onto Highway 267. Follow Highway 267 for 7.5 miles. The entrance will be on your right

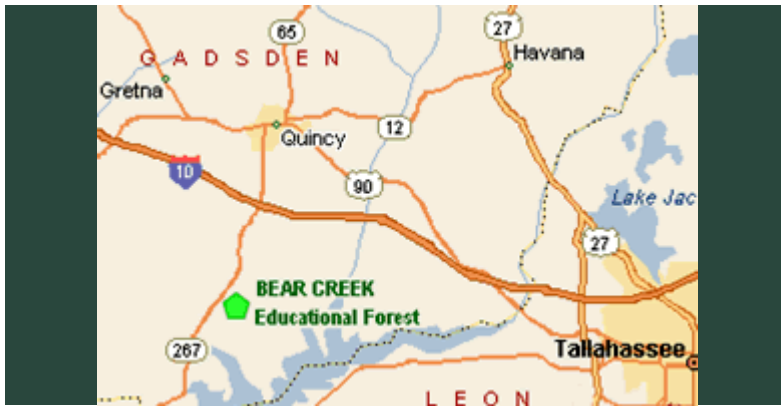
**GPS:** -84.624314 30.475196 (Decimal Degrees, HARN 1983 DATUM), this is off of the parking

lot at the Bear Creek Educational Center.

Map: [http://www.fl-dof.com/state\\_forests/lake\\_talquin/bear\\_creek\\_educ.html](http://www.fl-dof.com/state_forests/lake_talquin/bear_creek_educ.html)

## Directions

Bear Creek Educational Forest is located in Gadsden County, south of Quincy.



From Interstate 10, exit onto Highway 267. Go south on Highway 267 for 4.8 miles. The entrance will be on your left.

From Highway 20, turn north onto Highway 267. Follow Highway 267 for 7.5 miles. The entrance will be on your right.