

GPS Locations for Fishing Reefs in the Harris Chain of Lakes

A Cooperative Project by

**The Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council
Lake County Water Authority
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Florida LAKEWATCH**

**Materials Donated by
Dura-Stress Inc. of Leesburg
Florida Building Materials of Apopka
Hendricks Construction**

Lake Harris

Public fishing pier at Hickory Point Recreational Facility

Reefs located 20 feet from pier and 20 to 30 feet apart. Three reefs were located between the pier and shore, and 11 reefs were located inside the area between the two piers arms and the main pier. No reefs were sited outside of pier so navigation was not obscured.

Reef 1 N 28° 44.602'
W 081° 46.114'
Reef 2 N 28° 44.604'
W 081° 46.115'
Reef 3 N 28° 44.608'
W 081° 46.125'
Reef 4 N 28° 44.596'
W 081° 46.130'
Reef 5 N 28° 44.597'
W 081° 46.121'
Reef 6 N 28° 44.598'
W 081° 46.122'
Reef 7 N 28° 44.581'
W 081° 46.130'
Reef 8 N 28° 44.578'
W 081° 46.136'
Reef 9 N 28° 44.576'
W 081° 46.124'
Reef 10 N 28° 44.582'
W 081° 46.123'

Lake Harris

Public fishing pier at Hickory Point Recreational Facility (cont.)

Reef 11 N 28° 44.537'
W 081° 46.120'
Reef 12 N 28° 44.590'
W 081° 46.120'
Reef 13 N 28° 44.589'
W 081° 46.129'
Reef 14 N 28° 44.592'
W 081° 46.134'

Public fishing pier at Singletary Park

Reefs located 20 feet off middle of pier and off of both pier Ts.

Reef 1 N 28° 47.170'
W 081° 53.189'
Reef 2 N 28° 47.166'
W 081° 53.185'
Reef 3 N 28° 47.156'
W 081° 53.186'

Little Lake Harris

Six public fishing piers located in Griffin Stormwater Park

Reefs located 20 feet off end of piers. Reef numbers begin with northern most pier and increase heading south.

Reef 1 N 28° 43.196'
W 081° 46.167'
Reef 2 N 28° 43.121'
W 081° 46.172'
Reef 3 N 28° 43.106'
W 081° 46.175'
Reef 4 N 28° 43.084'
W 081° 46.178'
Reef 5 N 28° 42.968'
W 081° 46.192'
Reef 6 N 28° 42.922'
W 081° 46.189'

Lake Dora

Public fishing pier located in Palm Island Park

Reefs located 20 feet off of pier. Reef numbers begin closest to shore and increase heading to island.

- Reef 1 N 28° 47.575'
W 081° 38.600'
- Reef 2 N 28° 47.584'
W 081° 38.593'
- Reef 3 N 28° 47.606'
W 081° 38.585'
- Reef 4 N 28° 47.571'
W 081° 38.607'
- Reef 5 N 28° 47.570'
W 081° 38.614'
- Reef 6 N 28° 47.572'
W 081° 38.629'

Lake Eustis

Public fishing pier located at the mouth of the Dora Canal

Reefs located 20 feet off of pier. Three reefs located in front of pier, one reef at the western corner, and two reefs between the pier and shore. No reefs were placed along the Eastern or Dora Canal side of pier so navigation would not be hindered. Reef numbers begin at reef closest to pier and shore then increase in clockwise direction.

- Reef 1 N 28° 48.690'
W 081° 44.553'
- Reef 2 N 28° 48.689'
W 081° 44.561'
- Reef 3 N 28° 48.695'
W 081° 44.551'
- Reef 4 N 28° 48.697'
W 081° 44.556'
- Reef 5 N 28° 48.700'
W 081° 44.565'
- Reef 6 N 28° 48.698'
W 081° 44.573'

Lake Eustis

Public fishing pier located in Municipal Park

Reefs located 20 feet in front of pier with numbers increasing east to west.

Reef 1 N 28° 51.125'
W 081° 41.422'
Reef 2 N 28° 51.125'
W 081° 41.428'
Reef 3 N 28° 51.119'
W 081° 41.436'

Lake Griffin

Reefs located 0.06 to 0.14 miles south to east of Picciola Point. Reefs were deployed on sand bottom in water depths from 11 to 14 feet and were spaced from 0.05 to 0.06 miles apart. Reef numbers increase from south to east.

Reef 1 N 28° 50.059'
W 081° 51.824'
Reef 2 N 28° 50.024'
W 081° 51.778'
Reef 3 N 28° 50.046'
W 081° 51.732'
Reef 4 N 28° 50.095'
W 081° 51.737'
Reef 5 N 28° 50.131'
W 081° 51.725'
Reef 6 N 28° 50.175'
W 081° 51.703'

THE PROJECT

Fish-Habitat Augmentation Utilizing Artificial Reefs

A fish-habitat augmentation program recommended by the Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council was initiated at the Harris Chain of Lakes in 2010 to help improve fishing opportunities. Forty-four artificial reefs were constructed between June and November in the following systems: Lake Harris, Little Lake Harris, Lake Dora, Lake Eustis, and Lake Griffin. Site selection was determined from input from The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council, the Lake County Water authority and the University of Florida's Florida LAKEWATCH program. Sites were selected based on the criteria of a minimum water depth of eight feet so that the two-foot tall reefs would not interfere with navigation. Also, no more than a few inches of muck could be present over sand bottom so that the reef material would not sink into the bottom substrate.

Reefs were initially placed around public fishing piers to enhance fishing opportunities for bank-bound anglers. Site examination of the sixteen public fishing piers in the Harris Chain of Lakes revealed eleven sites met criteria for habitat augmentation utilizing artificial reefs. Piers at Lake Harris that had reef deployment were the Hickory Point Recreational Facility and Singletary Park. The pier at Venation Gardens Park in Lake Harris had a layer of four feet of muck so reefs could not be utilized at this site. Griffin Stormwater Park at Little Lake Harris had six public piers where the reefs were deployed. Two other piers within Griffin Stormwater Park had muck layers of four feet so reefs were not established. The fishing pier at Lake Dora's Palm Island Park received six reefs. Reefs were located at the mouth of the Dora Canal off the public fishing pier and the Municipal Park public fishing pier at Lake Eustis. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission had already placed reef material at the Eustis City Park pier so no additional material was added. The Herlong Park public fishing pier at Lake Griffin had a combination of too much muck coupled being too close to a navigational canal so no reefs were constructed. Offshore reefs were deployed off Picciola Island Point in Lake Griffin to augment habitat for boat anglers.

The first six reefs constructed at Hickory Point Pier in Lake Harris were made of 3500 pounds of concrete rubble per reef which was donated by Dura-Stress Inc. of Leesburg, Florida. Material was deployed onto gravity conveyors to load and unload the rubble on a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission pontoon boat. The 50 cubic feet rubble reefs were then supplemented with 25 cubic feet (forty five concrete blocks) of double corner regular concrete blocks (six inches by six inches by eighteen inches) donated by Florida Building Materials of Apopka, Florida to provide additional reef surface-relief. All remaining reefs were constructed with 50 cubic feet (90 blocks) of concrete blocks donated by Florida Building Materials of Apopka Florida. Reefs at all sites were placed in a five by five foot array with two feet of vertical relief.

All the current public fishing piers with suitable bottom types in the Harris Chain of Lakes now have artificial reefs deployed around the public fishing piers. If additional funding for habitat augmentation becomes available, there are many off-shore sites where artificial reefs should be located to enhance fish habitat. Suitable sites have already been identified for lakes Dora, Eustis, and Griffin that meet criteria for reef deployment.