

Stewards of the White Oak River Basin

Weetok Trail winds through some of the most beautiful woods in Croatan National Forest. Congratulations and thanks to the people who chose the location and made this trail!

The section we did today was from the Highway 58 to Haywood Landing. The entrance to the trail is on the right immediately upon turning off Highway 58 onto Long Point Road (FR 120). Within minutes, you enter woods that you simply don't see from any road in Croatan. You do get a hint of similar woods by traveling along Holston Creek Road (FR 203) on the other side of Highway 58. If you like what you see on Holston Creek Road, you will really like this section of the Weetok Trail.

Large diameter oaks and pines make a canopy that reduces brushy undergrowth. Holston Creek has cut a deep valley through the otherwise flat



Stewards of the White Oak River Basin

2004-02-01 WEETOK TRAIL 1

PAGE 2 OF 3

terrain, leaving interesting topography along its floodplain and steep tributaries. With the open woods and sometimes steep relief you might get the impression you are somewhere in the Piedmont.

A fire break line, made by a bulldozer pulling a plow, forms the entire trail for this section. Our initial impression was that this might be a negative thing for aesthetics, but our concerns were unfounded. The fire break line is old and after the initial section, we hardly noticed it at all. That it made for smooth walking is the reason we hardly noticed it. The trail is very easy to walk. There are only a few sections where it traverses drainage features that are either wet or steep.

We highly recommend this section of the trail to anyone who is up for a three mile walk. There is at least one opportunity cut it short by beginning or ending in a field off Loopy Road (FR157).

On this section, we observed limited littering. We picked up a few beer cans, shotgun shells, some soft drink bottles, and several candy wrappers. We find it hard to believe that anyone who would use this trail would not appreciate it enough to keep it litter free.

As soon as we emerged onto Haywood Landing Road, litter was much more prevalent. In the 500 or so feet from the trail crossing to the Haywood Landing parking lot, we could have filled a bag. We picked up what we could carry and deposited it into the cans at the landing.

We recorded some GPS points for the convenience of anyone using this trail for the first time. There are not enough points to use them to navigate, but if you ever got off the trail (we can't imagine how on this section) or wanted to reach it from Loopy Road, they might be helpful.

Stewards of the White Oak River Basin

LOCATION	NORTH	WEST
Beginning of the trail.	34d 49.304'	77d 8.997'
Point 1 - This point is near Loopy Road. After this, the trail moves well away from the road. This is at a field which may be accessible off Loopy Road.	34d 49.402'	77d 9.393'
Point 2 - This is another Point close to Loopy Road. There appears to be a trail leading to Loopy Road, but we did not follow it to confirm.	34d 49.331'	77d 9.700'
Point 3 - This is another point where the trail is closer to Loopy Road.	34d 49.311'	77d 10.548'
Point 4 - Trail intersection with Loopy Road.	34d 49.162'	77d 10.932'
Haywood Landing Parking Lot	34d 49.169'	77d 11.103'

JLE