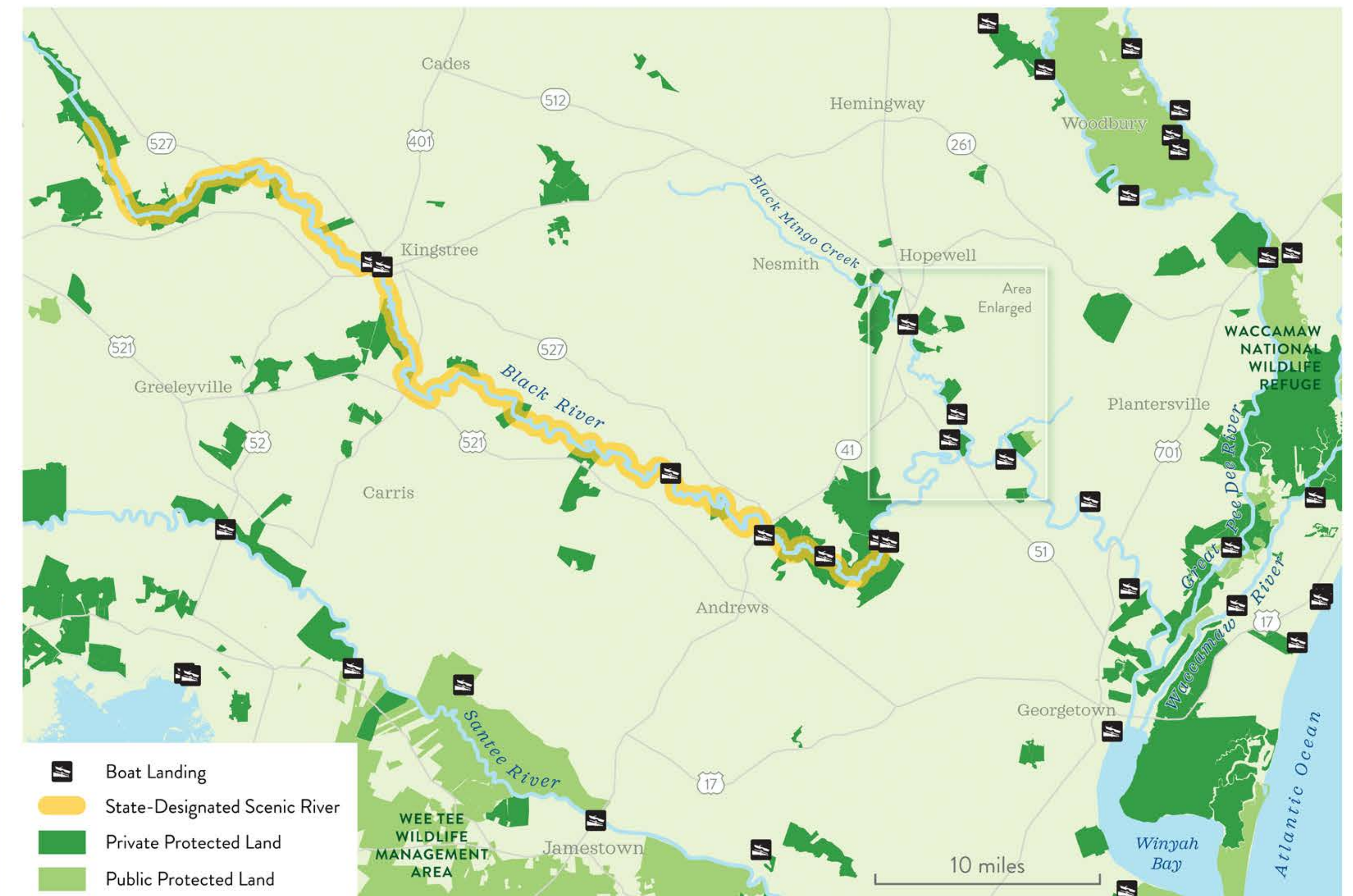
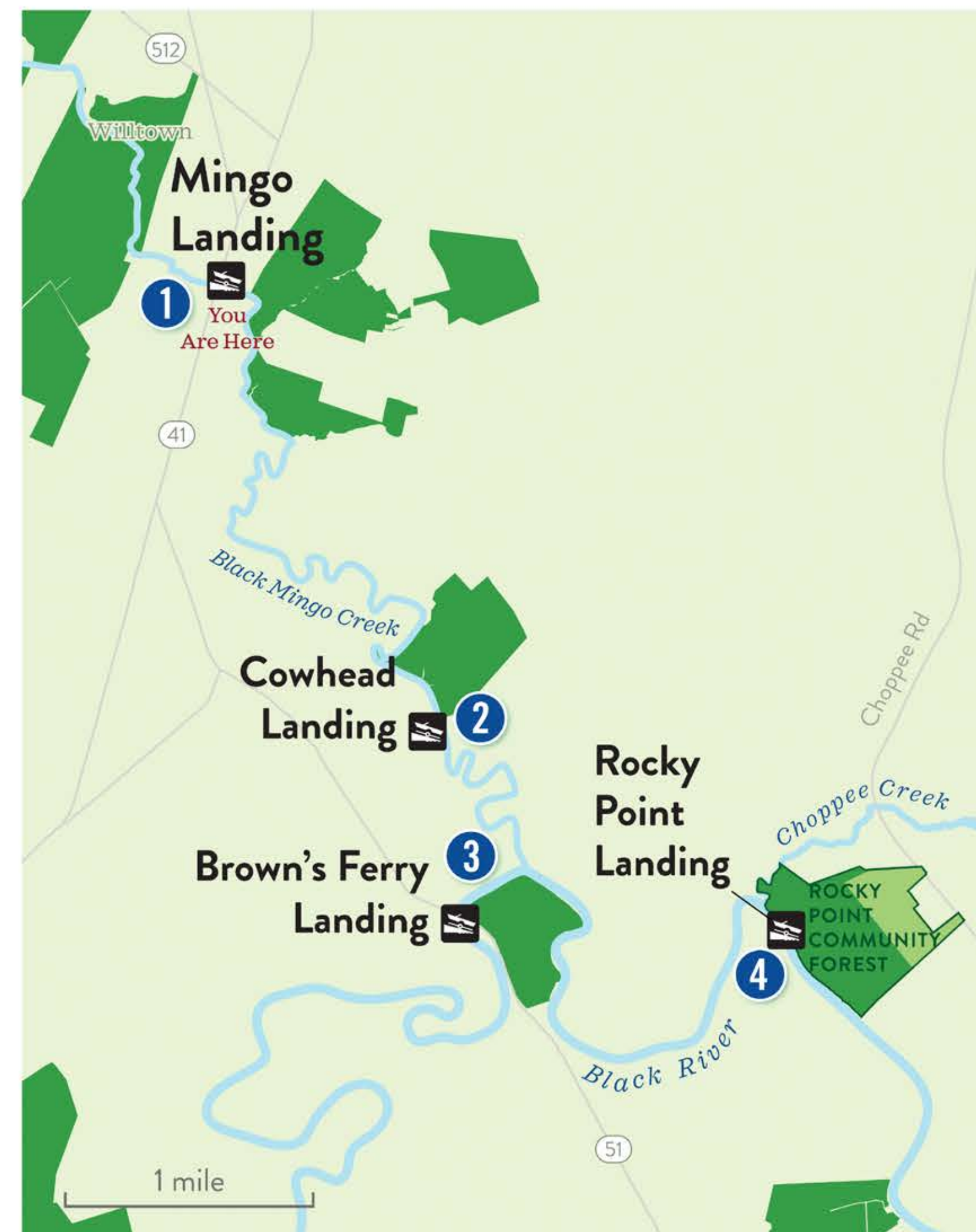


# BLACK MINGO CREEK BLACK RIVER CONSERVATION AND RECREATION RESOURCES

## MINGO LANDING AT BLACK MINGO CREEK

**Mingo Landing** is located on the upper navigable reaches of Black Mingo Creek, a significant tributary to the Black River. The creek derives its name from mingo or minko, the Chickasaw word for chief. This area was a special hunting ground and a center of the eastern Chickasaw in colonial times. The tidal creek offers an ideal setting for nature exploration with minimal development, extensive forested wetlands, and with the adjacent high lands mostly used for agriculture and plantation pine. The waters are a favorite fishing site for bass and panfish. The creek below the bridge is a deep river with tidal influence that dwindles as you move upstream from the confluence with the Black River. The creek was navigable by colonial-era ships to the former thriving village of Willtown about a mile upstream from this site. Mingo Creek is a boater's paradise steeped in historic, scenic, and natural values.



## SUGGESTED WATER EXCURSIONS

### 1 Mingo Landing to Willtown (2 miles round trip)

Approximately 1 mile upstream from boat ramp to site of historic village on left

As exports to England dwindled after the American Revolution so did the village of Willtown. The decision by the state in 1811 to build the creek bridge at this site for the main north-south road about a mile downstream of Willtown accelerated the village's decline. Today, nature has reclaimed the site, and very little evidence is visible that a village existed.

### 2 Mingo Landing to Cowhead Landing (7.5 miles)

Paddle downstream to Cowhead Landing on the right (7.5 miles)

Mingo Creek winds past a handful of river homes situated along miles of forested wetlands, sloughs, and pine hummocks. Be on the lookout for rare and endangered species such as the swallow-tailed kite, wood stork, Atlantic sturgeon, and American alligator.

### 3 Mingo Landing to Brown's Ferry (11 miles)

### 4 Or to Rocky Point Landing (15 miles)\*

Paddle downstream to confluence with Black River (10.3 miles) and continue upstream on Black River 0.7 miles to Brown's Ferry on the left

Or downstream on Black River 4.7 miles to Rocky Point Landing on the left

Black Mingo Creek empties into a broad section of the Black River. Moving downstream toward Rocky Point Landing, the river passes historic Mossdale and Dunbar Plantations as it weaves through miles of former ricefields now young, wetland forests. There are several sloughs, along this stretch, that are ideal for a quick side trip and emersion into the tidal, freshwater system.



\* Paddling with the incoming or outgoing tide will save you time and energy

## PARTNERS

The Black River in Williamsburg and Georgetown Counties is one of the most popular canoe and kayak destinations in the state. This exceptional coastal-plain river is also at the heart of a thriving public-private land conservation initiative that strives to protect the expansive forested wetlands, tidal creeks, and unique species that define our region.

Join partners, including the Black Scenic River Advisory Council, Georgetown County, Open Space Institute, and many others to promote the scenic, recreational, and conservation values of this incredible natural resource.

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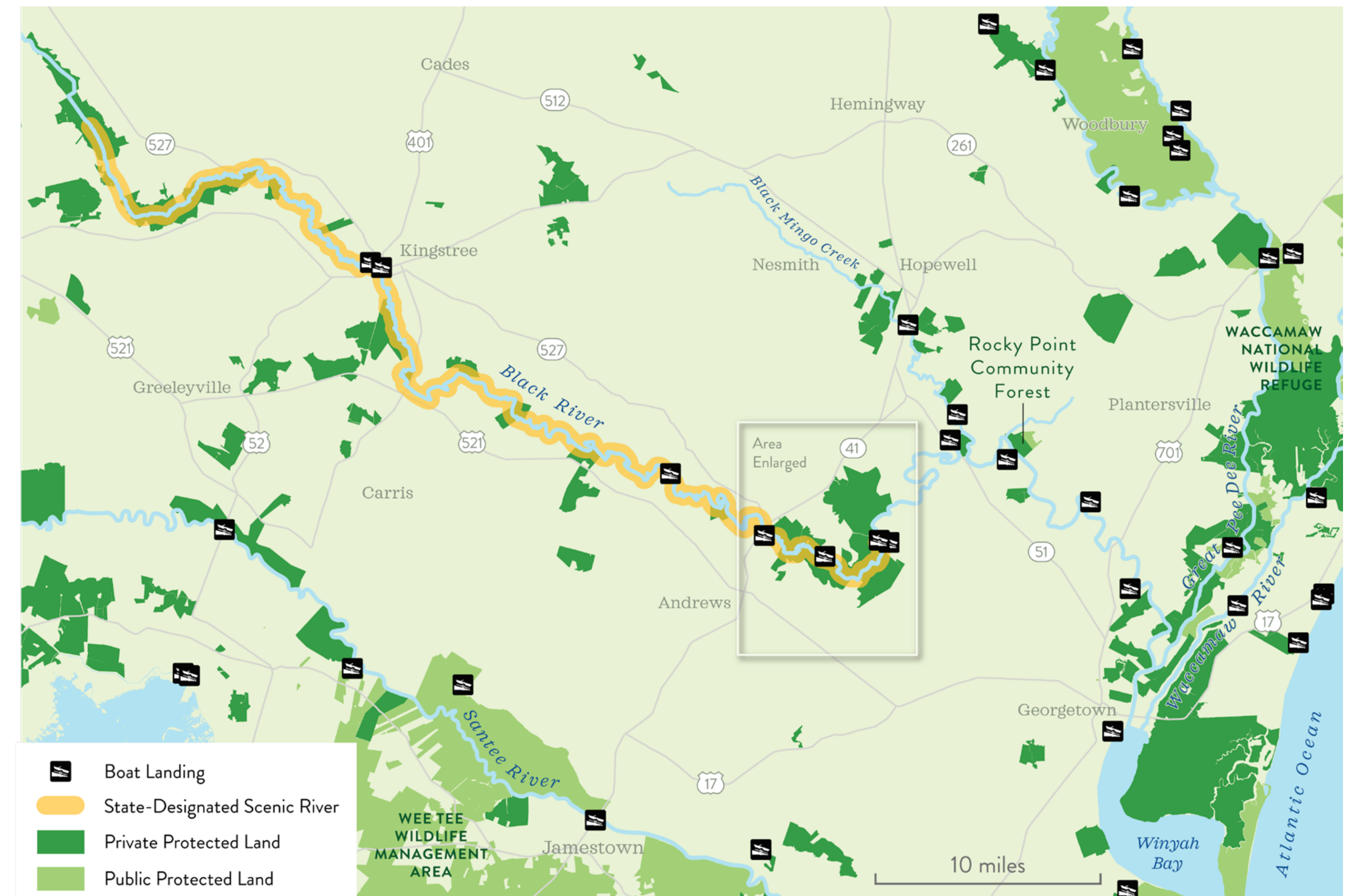
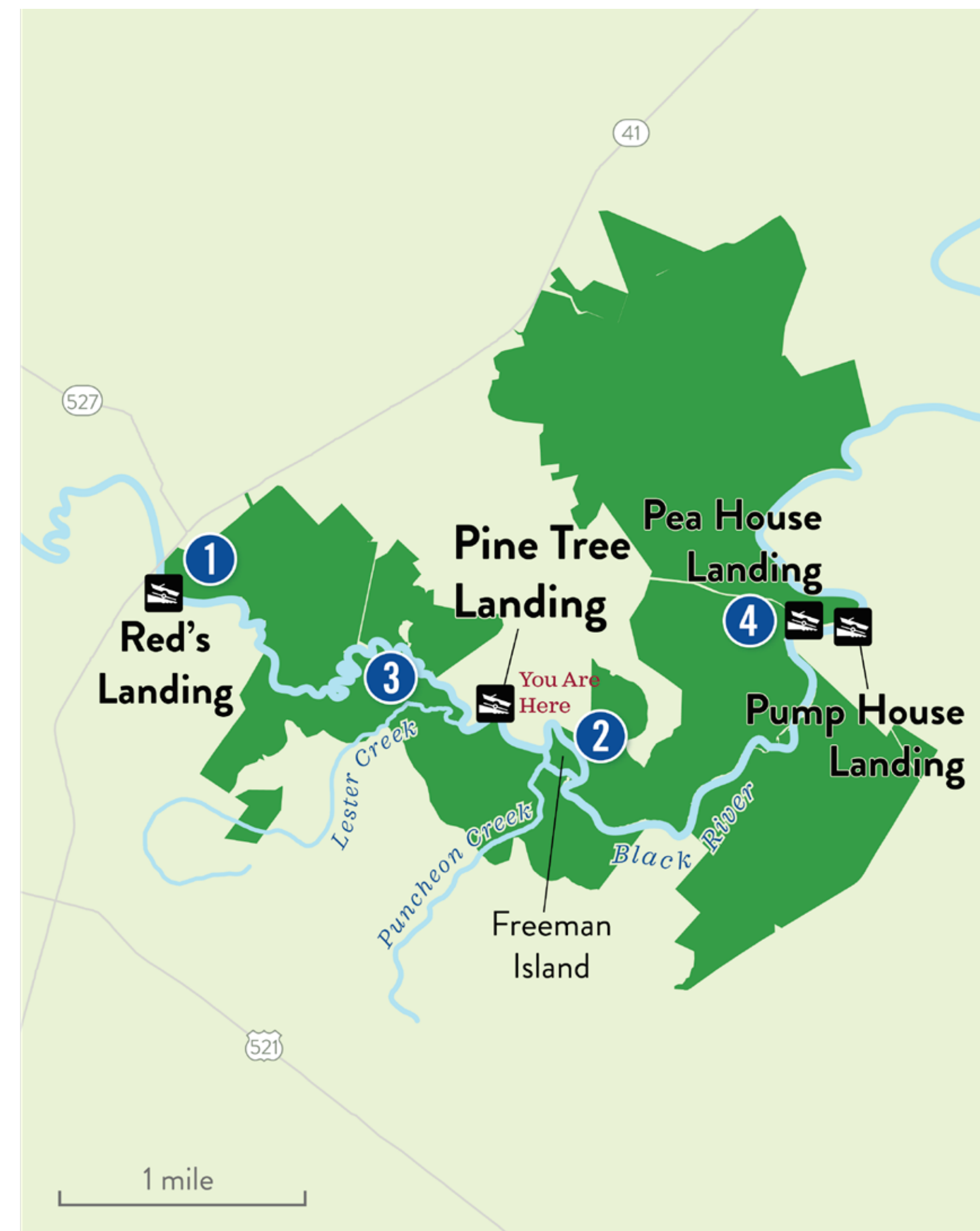
SCDNR Scenic Rivers Program: [www.dnr.sc.gov/water/river/](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/water/river/)

# EXPLORING “THE NARROWS”

## BLACK RIVER CONSERVATION AND RECREATION RESOURCES

### PINE TREE LANDING IN THE HEART OF “THE NARROWS”

**Pine Tree Landing** along “the narrows” of the Black Scenic River offers access to a boater’s paradise. This state-designated scenic section of the Black River, with its wide floodplain forest, hidden creeks, and quiet waters feels like a forgotten place, and the remnant 1,000-year-old bald cypress trees are a reminder that being forgotten is sometimes the best thing that can happen to a place. Pine Tree Landing gives boaters access to a stretch of the scenic river which is largely in conservation ownership and management. The tidally-influenced, forested wetlands have a higher-than-expected diversity of species. One of the most striking and important species encountered is the bald cypress tree. A handful of ancient cypress trees, brimming with both aesthetic and scientific value, can be found upstream of Pine Tree Landing.



### SUGGESTED WATER EXCURSIONS

#### 1 Red’s Landing to Pine Tree Landing

5.5 miles upstream from boat ramp to Red’s Landing (recommend starting at Red’s Landing and taking out at Pine Tree Landing)

This sinuous section of the narrows winds through deep floodplain forest and towering bald cypress. For most of this section of river, both banks are held in conservation ownership. Already the site of several ancient bald cypress trees, management of this forest will allow it to return to old-growth condition. This excursion is best experienced following the downstream flow of the river by starting at Red’s Landing and ending at Pine Tree Landing.

#### 2 Pine Tree Landing around Freeman Island

2.5 miles from boat ramp downstream around Freeman Island and back

This excursion offers an easy out-and-back option for a quick trip for novice boaters. The trip explores a classic coastal plain oxbow lake that forms Freeman Island. This trip is suggested as an out-and-back from Pine Tree Landing.

#### 3 Pine Tree Landing to Lester Creek

0.3 miles upstream on Black River on the left side of river, 1 mile upstream. Excursion is approximately 2.6 miles round trip.

There are several small sloughs and creeks that are ideal for a quick side trip along the Black Scenic River. Lester Creek is one of the best small creeks to explore offering an intimate experience with the blackwater swamp and its many inhabitants.

#### 4 Pine Tree Landing to Pea House Landing

5.5 miles downstream from boat ramp to Pea House Landing on the left (11 miles)

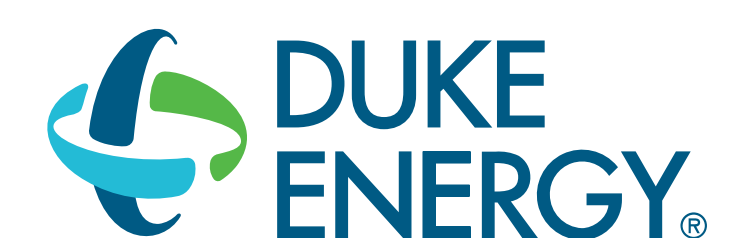
This section of river captures the last several miles of the State scenic designation as it transitions from a narrow ribbon to a wider and deeper waterbody stretching ever closer to its confluence with the Pee Dee River and Atlantic Ocean. Be on the lookout for rare and endangered species such as the swallow-tailed kite, wood stork, Atlantic sturgeon, and American alligator.

### PARTNERS

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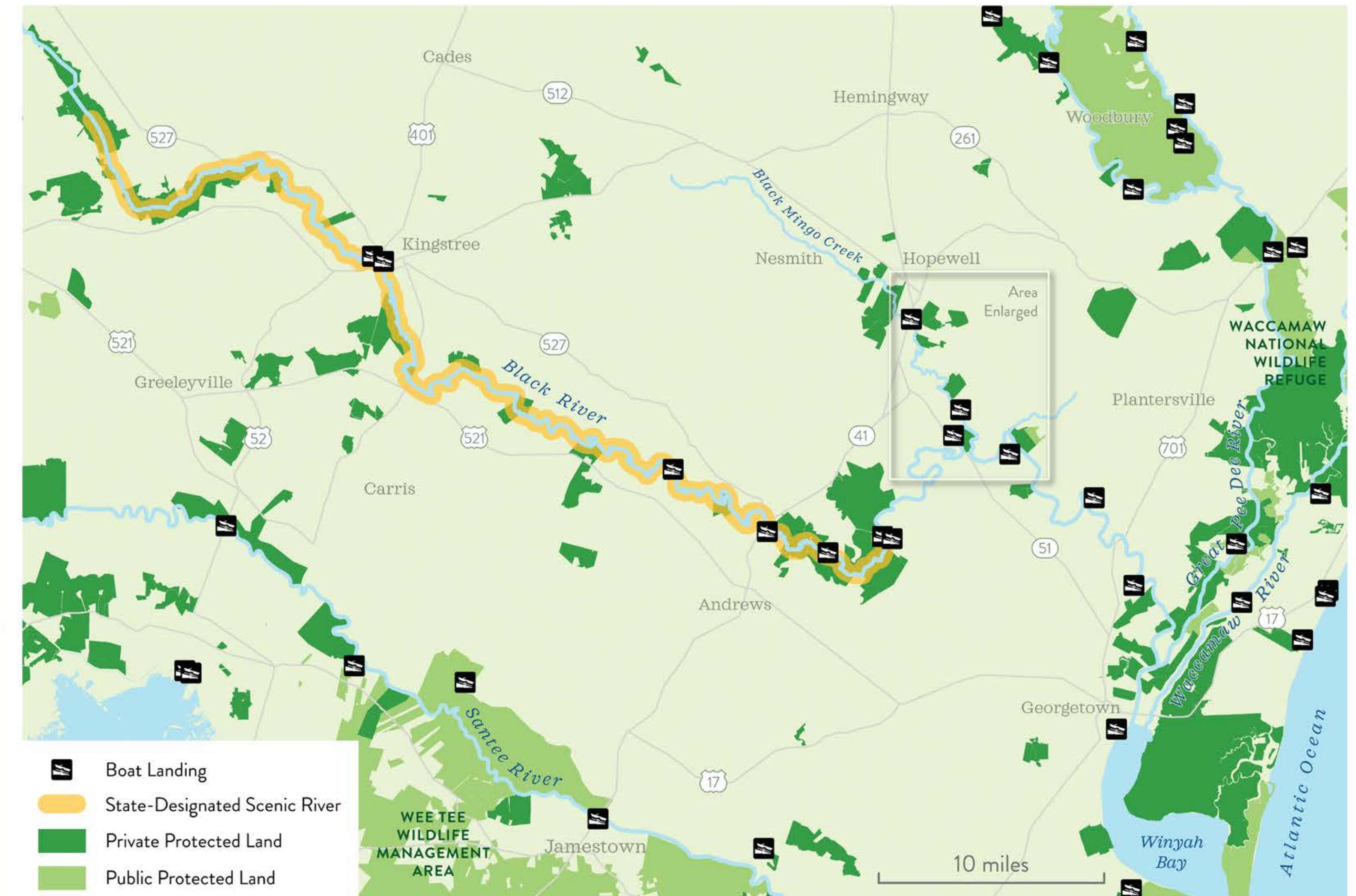
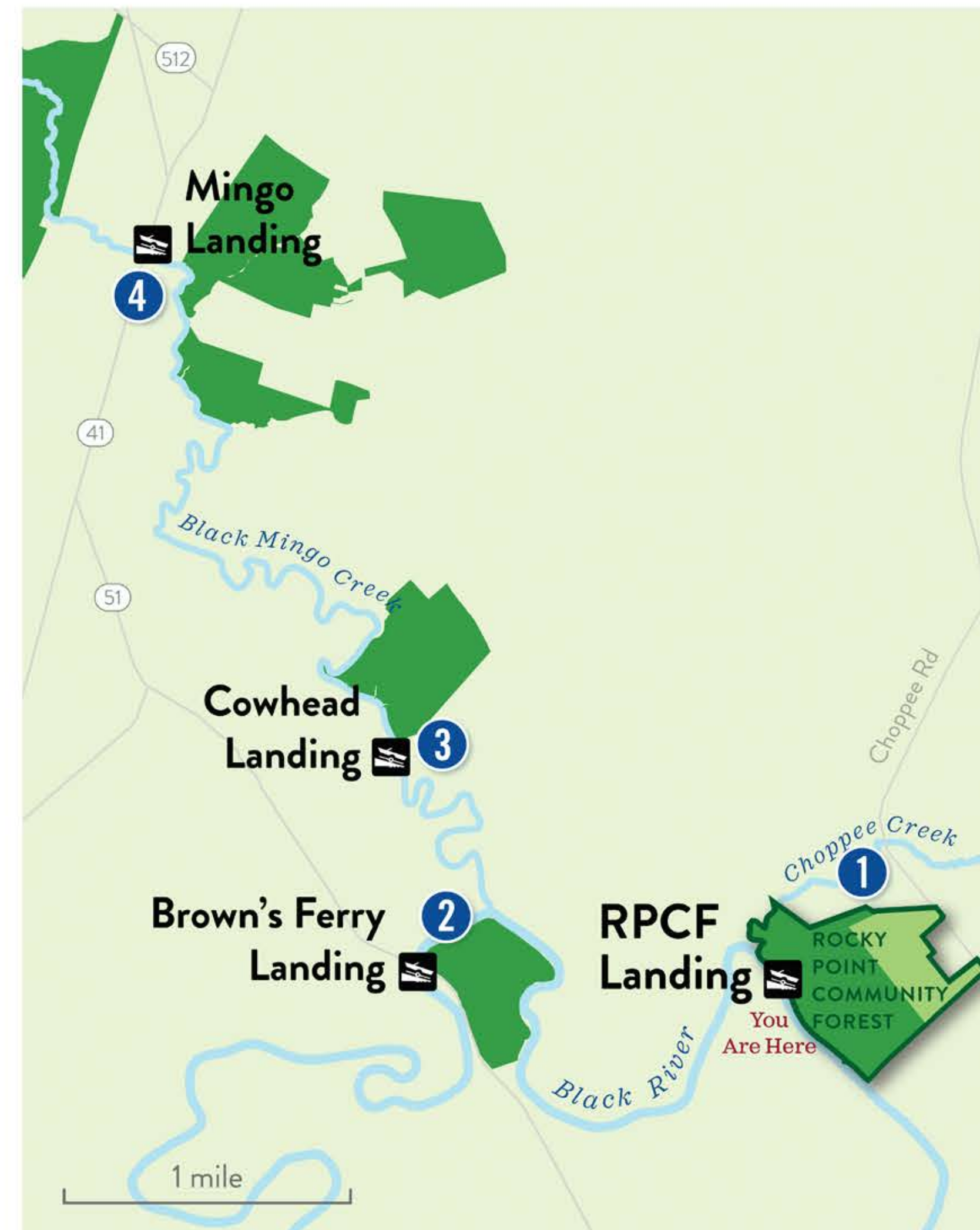
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# ROCKY POINT COMMUNITY FOREST BLACK RIVER CONSERVATION AND RECREATION RESOURCES

## ROCKY POINT COMMUNITY FOREST

The 650-acre **Rocky Point Community Forest (RPCF)** sits in the crook of the Black River and Choppee Creek, protecting 1.8 miles of river and creekfront and over 130 acres of wetlands. The tides of the Atlantic Ocean and Winyah Bay can be felt about 40 miles up the Black River. Being 20 miles upstream from the confluence of the Black and the Pee Dee Rivers, the tidal range here at Rocky Point is approximately 2.5 feet. The freshwater tidal characteristics of this section of the river not only make it ecologically outstanding today but also allowed for the historically important rice cultivation that played such a formative role in the growth of this region in the late 1700s and 1800s.



## SUGGESTED WATER EXCURSIONS

### 1 Choppee Creek

Two miles from the boat ramp to the Choppee Road bridge over Choppee Creek, paddle upstream just under 1/4 mile to the mouth of Choppee Creek

Choppee Creek is a small black-water creek that winds through freshwater wetlands and bluff forest. This is an excellent paddle trip for novice kayakers providing an intimate experience with a black-water creek. As the creek narrows, be on the lookout for low-hanging branches and snags. We recommend this as an "out-and-back" trip.

### 2 RPCF Landing to Brown's Ferry Landing\*

5.4 miles from boat ramp to Brown's Ferry Landing

This broad section of the Black River passes historic Dunbar and Mossdale Plantations as it weaves through miles of former ricefields now young, wetland forests. There are several sloughs that are ideal for a quick side trip and emersion into the tidal, freshwater system. This trip can be done as an out-and-back or one-way excursion.

### 3 RPCF Landing to Cowhead Landing (7.4 miles)

### 4 Or to Mingo Landing (15 miles)\*

Paddle upstream 4.7 miles to the mouth of Black Mingo Creek; Cowhead Landing on the left (2.7 miles) or Mingo Landing on the right (10.3 miles)

Black Mingo Creek, an ideal paddle destination, winds past a handful of river homes situated along miles of forested wetlands, sloughs, and pine hummocks. Be on the lookout for rare and endangered species such as the swallow-tailed kite, wood stork, Atlantic sturgeon, and American alligator.



\* Paddling with the incoming or outgoing tide will save you time and energy

## PARTNERS

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Join partners, including SCDNR's Scenic Rivers Program, Rocky Point Community Forest Steering Committee, Georgetown County, and many others to promote the scenic, recreational, and conservation values of this incredible natural resource.

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