

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT
THE WITHLACOOCHEE AND LITTLE RIVER WATER TRAIL (WLRWT)
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOWNDES, GEORGIA DRAFT of May 12, 2019

WHEREAS, the Little and Withlacoochee Rivers form the western boundary of Lowndes County and the Withlacoochee River runs through the northern half of the county; and

WHEREAS, the Little River and the Withlacoochee River are described in various guidebooks as “Intimate, shaded in its northern reaches) mysterious in its beauty”, with abundant wildlife, limestone shoals, and sandbars; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Lowndes County value the natural resources and outdoor recreation opportunities afforded by the Little and Withlacoochee Rivers and their watersheds such as fishing, swimming, boating, and birding; and

WHEREAS, Lowndes County has convenient boating and fishing access at two Little River public landings at Folsom Bridge (GA 122) and Troupeville (GA 133), and nine Withlacoochee River landings at Hagan Bridge (GA 122), Franklinville, Staten Road, Langdale Park Boat Ramp, Sugar Creek Landing off of Gornto Road, US 84, Knights Ferry Boat Ramp, Nankin Boat Ramp, and State Line Boat Ramp (GA 31); and

WHEREAS, those eleven WLRWT landings in Lowndes County are more than half of the nineteen WLRWT landings in Georgia, and almost half of all twenty-four landings on the WLRWT in Georgia and Florida; and

WHEREAS, half of the County is in the Withlacoochee or Little River Watersheds, with the divide between the Alapaha and Withlacoochee River watersheds running roughly down Bemiss Road in the north part of the county and I-75 in the south part; and

WHEREAS, the citizens value the Withlacoochee and Little Rivers for water quality and habitat protection; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the County will greatly benefit from the recreational and natural experiences provided by a water trail or blueway; and

WHEREAS, the Little and Withlacoochee River watersheds also include creeks, lakes, ponds, swamps, and wetlands that can be included in maps, brochures, and guides for the Withlacoochee and Little River Water Trail, many of them within Lowndes County, including Franks Creek, Twin Creek, Hutchinson’s Mill Creek, Cat Creek, Cherry Creek, Three Mile Branch, Stillhouse Creek, Two Mile Branch, One Mile Branch, Sugar Creek, Hightower Creek, Tiger Creek, Redland Creek, Clyatt Mill Creek, Bevel Creek, and Jumping Gully Creek; and

WHEREAS, many parks in Lowndes County are in the Little River watershed, including North Lowndes Park in Hahira, Snake Nation Park, and Troupeville Landing (GA 133), and many more parks are in the Withlacoochee River watershed, including Langdale Park (US 84), Knights Ferry Boat Ramp, Nankin Boat Ramp, and State Line Boat Ramp (GA 31) on the Withlacoochee River, Freedom Park on Cherry Creek, McKey Park on Two Mile Branch, Drexel Park, Vallotton Youth Complex, and the Senior Center on One Mile Branch, Bland Park on Sugar Creek, John W. Saunders Memorial Park with historic Barber Spring near Browns Canal, and Clyattville Community Park and Otis Blackburn Community Park near Clyatt Mill Creek; and