

# 1.5 NATURAL AREAS

Site reviews of parks with natural lands were conducted on City/County parks in September 2019. The review included Freedom Park, which had no specifically-designated natural areas, but the stormwater ponds and how they were maintained provided some insight to the overall ideas generated across all parks with natural resource components. South Lowndes Park, which is one of the parks that has a fringe of natural lands, was also examined, as were a series of parks referenced as boat ramps. These included Madison Highway (also known as State Line), Nankin, Knights Ferry, Little River, and Alapaha River boat ramps. Additionally, Oris Blackburn Park, Langdale Park, Chitty Park, Payton Park, Taylor Cowart Park were evaluated based on a site review, while Bray Park was evaluated from afar.

The photos below depict representative environmental conditions of the parks with natural lands. **Figure 1.12** depicts the scenic views of the Withlacoochee River at the Knights Ferry boat ramp. The river is navigable, provides unique wetland and aquatic habitat, and, across much of its extent, it is buffered by low intensity land uses.

**FIGURE 1.12 - SCENIC VIEWS OF THE WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER AT THE KNIGHTS FERRY BOAT RAMP**

