

Friday, Oct 13, 2023

Fri-CB Cross Bar Ranch

Address: Lockett Ave, Spring Hill

8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Limited to 8 vehicles. No tolls

Leaders: David Adams, (727) 723-5574, Christine Rowland, (917)459-2631

Bring water, snacks. Vehicles with AWD or 4WD are preferred since you will be driving dirt ranch roads.

THIS TRIP IS LIMITED TO 8 VEHICLES. IF YOU ARE RIDING WITH A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND, PLEASE TELL US WHO WHEN YOU REGISTER!

Restrooms are available at the starting buildings, but not out on the ranch.

This trip will be mostly driving, with stops to walk short distances. Cross Bar Ranch is a functioning ranch owned by Pinellas County Utilities for water resources, but is also being managed for birds. And, successfully, it has a colony of burrowing owls, as well as of Florida Scrub Jays! The drive will take you to both places, with several stops to look for birds around some of the ponds, in the oak hammock and hopefully a flock of turkeys in the fields. Tanagers, vireos, flycatchers, warblers and more will be along the way. Your leaders will stop whenever they see or hear something of interest, and there will be short walks into fields for better looks. The roads are mostly unpaved ranch roads, so cars that can handle that are suggested! Carpooling is fine if you are comfortable with it.

From Brandon Area: Take I-75 North. Continue 15 miles north.

Take Exit 275 to Rt 54.

At end of exit ramp turn Left/West onto FL 54 West. Continue a little over 5 miles west.

At US 41, red light, turn Right/North onto US 41. Continue a little over 11 miles north.

After you cross US 52, at 1.7 miles, watch for Lockett Ave on your Right. Look for storage sheds for sale at the corner.

Turn Right/East into Cross Bar Ranch and proceed through gate to buildings.

If the gate is locked, wait there for one of the staff to arrive and open it.

Vehicles with AWD or 4WD are preferred.

Alternate from central Tampa: Take Rt 41 north, about 17 miles from downtown Tampa, to US 52. Follow directions above.

