

# *News from the Everglades*

*A Weekly Update from Everglades Imagery*

February 22, 2005

## **The Experience**

This has been a frustrating week in several different ways. First, I struggled with some technical problems that I thought were going to bring this project to a screeching halt. However, after several days of equipment tests and a few experiments, along with the help of a number of people I finally am back on track and am no longer dealing with these problems.

While the equipment issue was frustrating, it came on top of some other frustrations. This project is the first time I have been focused on one task for an extended period of time without any breaks. After a month of photographing and a week of equipment problems I was beginning to feel burnt out. In order to get away from everything and try to clear my mind I headed back to Orlando to spend the holiday weekend at home.

It was nice to get away and spend some time relaxing. The comforts of home such as a normal size bed with good mattress and a full size shower were very welcome and thoroughly enjoyed. While it was nice to be away from things, when Monday came around I was ready to get back down here. As I continue to narrow my project and focus on specific aspects I am becoming more excited about everything. I hope the next few weeks will bring more encouraging experiences and good photographic opportunities.

## **The Photos**



*American White Pelican – Snake Bight, Everglades National Park*

I spent a spectacular morning at Snake Bight photographing American White Pelicans. This was one of the first images I took after I arrived. These two birds were joining the rest of the flock that were preening and sleeping on the flats.



*Anhinga – Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge*

While visiting Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge on my way home, I was not as pleased with the opportunities there but did find this Anhinga sunning itself. I loved the way the light was shining through her tail and wings.



*Roseate Spoonbill – Snake Bight, Everglades National Park*

While photographing a Reddish Egret at Snake Bight I looked up to see this Roseate Spoonbill flying over. I was able to grab a few quick frames before it flew by.



*Boat-tailed Grackle and Cypress at Sunrise – Loxahatchee NWR*

I still can't quite decide about this image. I was not very pleased with the image in camera but when I saw it full screen I was much more pleased with it. To me, the grackle sitting on the top of the tallest cypress makes the image but it may not be visible at this size.