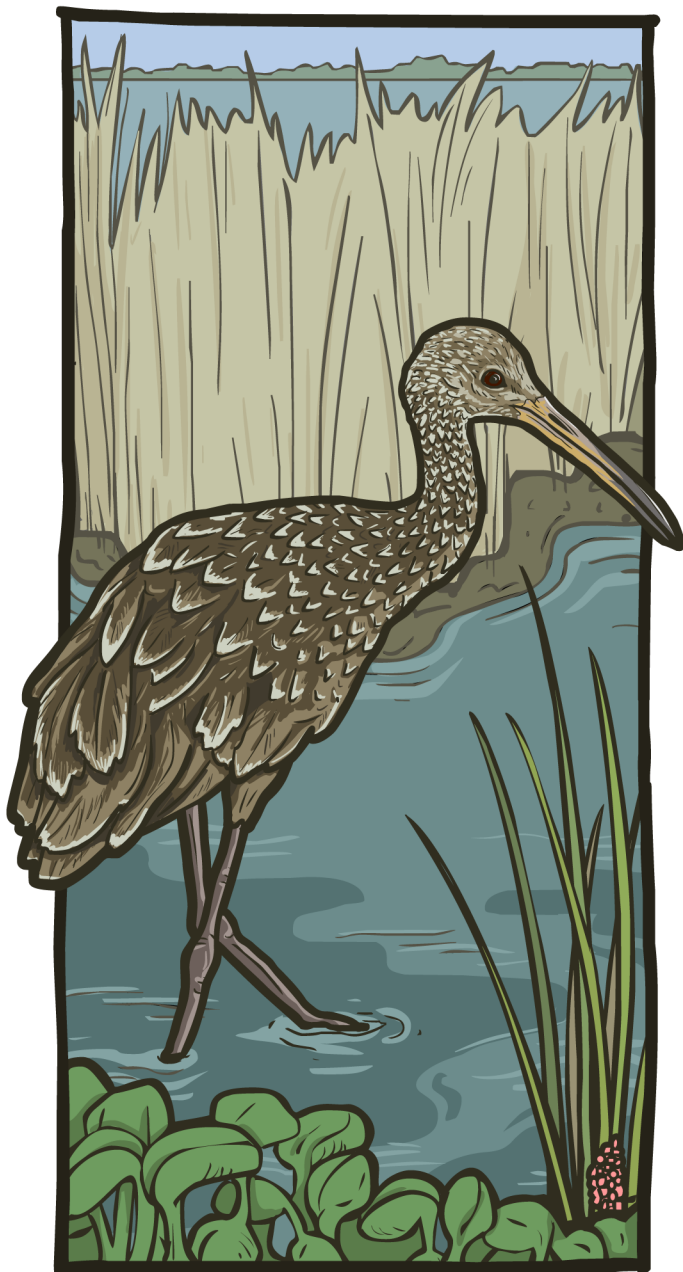


Limpkin

(*Aramus guarauna*)



Limpkin

Instant ID

- A medium-sized wading bird which appears to walk with a limp
- Its brown feathers have lots of white spotting near the head and less toward the tail
- Has a long black and yellow bill which has a tweezer-like gap and curves down and to the right

Native Niches

- Rivers, swamps, lakes and other bodies of freshwater in Florida are home to the most northern breeding population
- Found south to Argentina where populations of apple-snails are abundant and disturbance is limited

Favorite Foods

- Bill is specially adapted to eat apple-snails
- Also eats freshwater mussels



Limpkin

(*Aramus guarauna*)



Limpkin

Critter Characteristics

- Unique call has given it the nicknames wailing bird and crying bird
- Related to cranes, even though it looks like an ibis
- Eats native and invasive snails
- Left Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park when Florida apple-snails disappeared

Population Protection

- Although doing well in other portions of its range, it is a protected species in Florida
- As an animal adapted to eating a limited type of food, it can be hardest hit by environmental changes
- Populations were most damaged by over hunting and wetland conversion
- Now spotted at Wakulla Springs thanks to the reintroduction of Florida apple-snails

