



# Big Cypress National Preserve



Manatee

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*(Trichechus manatus latirostris)*

Manatees are often found in the warm, shallow canals of Big Cypress where they graze on aquatic vegetation. Manatees have strong flat tails that they use as propellers, navigating them through the water, and their short front flippers also help them to steer. These large, gentle creatures usually weigh between 1,500-1,800 lbs. and are related to the elephant.

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