

February 2017
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No. 1



News from the Coastal North Carolina National Wildlife Refuges Complex

Alligator River, Pea Island, Pocosin Lakes,
Roanoke River, Mackay Island, and Currituck

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner



Staff and family members joined together with volunteers in November to celebrate all the wonderful things our refuge volunteers did throughout year. Volunteers donated over 20,000 hours in 2016! Depending on the number of cumulative hours, volunteers received a certificate and/or pin. This year we also honored our youngest volunteer of 2016, seven-year-old Liam VanDrueten, who spent many hours helping with native garden clean-ups. Warren Davis was awarded a 10,500-hour pin. The evening was filled great food and praises for all our volunteers.

2016 Volunteers of the Year

Linda and LaMont Warren were honored as the 2016 Volunteers of the Year. This couple spends one day a week at the Pea Island Visitor Center interacting with visitors and sharing their love of the refuge with everyone who walks through the door. They also participate in the Sea Turtle Program during nesting season. The two were completely surprised when they saw over 15 family members and friends as they walked into Pamlico Jack's Restaurant. (It was difficult to hide that many people from them!) The Warrens were presented with the Volunteer-of-the-Year plaque and sweatshirts.



Credit: USFWS

Inside this Issue:

Hurricane Matthew Update	2	New Wildlife Refuge Society Website	6
Wings Over Water Festival 2016	3	Art Expo	7
Manager Mike Bryant Retires.....	4	Resident Volunteers	8
Lil' Cindy Lou Sea Turtle Release	5	Stabilize Migratory Bird Habitat	9
Support Your National Wildlife Refuges ..	5	VIPs Invade The Visitor Center.....	9
Furniture Ready for Sponsorships	6	Tram Tour for Special Residents.....	10
Wings Over Water 2017.....	6	School Clubs Back in Full Swing.....	10
		Winter through Spring Programming..	11

Hurricane Matthew Update

On October 7, 2016, Hurricane Matthew visited northeastern North Carolina.

The hurricane was not forecast to make a major impact on this portion of northeastern North Carolina, but it did. Across eastern and central parts of the state people lost their homes, two dozen people died, and property damage ended up in the hundreds of millions of dollars. Major highways and roads were closed due to flooding.

All eleven local refuges had varying impacts from Hurricane Matthew, mostly involving high water and downed trees. However, in most cases, damage did not significantly affect accessibility for the public to enjoy these wild places. Alligator River and Pea Island staff worked long, hard hours cutting trees, pumping water and doing their best to clear debris to allow for travel and access on the refuges. Volunteers and staff at Pocosin Lakes also worked on cleaning debris from the boardwalk in Columbia.

There were still problems. Even after all local efforts to make roads and observation areas accessible, rivers, canals and sound waters were still rising. Many parking areas and other facilities adjacent to creeks or canals were under water. This coincided with the upcoming *Wings Over Water Festival*, causing several trips to either be cancelled or moved. We thank everyone for being patient as we slowly cleared all the debris.



At Alligator River NWR, a breach in dike, looking north towards Perimeter Road, credit USFWS



In addition to the rain from Hurricane Matthew, flooding was caused by inland waterways flowing eastward after the storm. The boat launch site for the Milltail Creek Paddling Trail on Buffalo City Road was flooded for many weeks, credit USFWS.

Wings Over Water Festival 2016

The week of the October session of Wings Over Water brought gorgeous weather. Monday through Friday were wonderful days to be outdoors. Wings Over Water attendees had great days to bird, paddle, and take photos. Then late Friday evening a cold front blew in, putting three-to-four-foot waves on the sounds, causing the cancellation of Oregon Inlet and Portsmouth Island trips involving boats. But, what was bad for boating turned out to be great for birders who were pleased to see a new selection of birds that 'blew in' with the change of temperature and wind.



Volunteers and staff used multiple pieces of equipment to clear debris from the boardwalk at the Pocosin Lakes Visitor Center, credit USFWS.



Hundreds of large and small trees came down across the refuges including these on Creef Cut Trail, credit USFWS.



In addition to the boardwalk, the water had a lot of debris that needed to be removed, credit USFWS.

All-in-all, out of 95 scheduled programs, only nine had to be cancelled or moved due to Hurricane Matthew or the weekend cold front. Thanks to patience, resilience, and willingness to adapt, *Wings Over Water* participants and trip leaders all helped make the festival successful in spite of weather-produced difficulties. The keynote speaker was renowned birder, author of nature field guides, and artist, Kenn Kaufman. Kenn was also co-leader on a few birding trips. Those who were on Kenn's trips commented on how enjoyable they were. Kenn was kind enough to donate his drawing of a Tri-colored heron for a beautiful refuge t-shirt design.

WOW Encore, the weekend session in December, was a lot of fun for birders. And, there wasn't a hurricane or nor'easter with which we had to deal! There were 13 birding programs held over three days. Most trips saw around 70 species. On Saturday, December 10, the first *WOW Encore* Birder's Social was held in the auditorium of the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center. It was a nice, casual gathering of birders, with food and drink, offering everyone an opportunity to share their sightings. Over 160 birders participated in *WOW Encore*. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Refuge Complex Manager Mike Bryant Retires

Refuge Manager Mike Bryant announced his retirement on October 5, effective October 15, 2016. According to Visitor Services Manager Bonnie Strawser,

“Refuge staff were surprised and saddened with the news, but it was not totally unexpected, as Mike had dropped the ‘R’ word a few times over the last year or so. I had hoped he would outlast me, but it just didn’t happen. He will leave huge shoes to fill in eastern North Carolina. But, we’re happy he’ll still be around to be our friend, just not our boss!”

During his tenure on Alligator River, Mike worked under the leadership of three Refuge Supervisors in the Atlanta Regional Office. We asked each for a comment:

Bill Grabill hired Mike to come to Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. He says,

“The coastal N.C. refuges present real challenges for the manager; not only because of important natural resources and visitors, but also because of its history of political controversy. I selected Mike as project leader because I felt he possessed the skills and strength of character to stand firm when the refuges were under threat. He did not disappoint me. He was able to protect and enhance refuge resources while maintaining excellent community relations in an environment that could often be very very contentious. Mike proved to be one of the finest and most capable refuge managers that was my pleasure to work with.”

Pete Jerome followed Bill as Mike’s supervisor in Regional Office. Pete says,

“I enjoyed working with Mike because he is an exceptional leader - the courage of his convictions coupled with his selfless leadership - always ensured that we would put the mission of the Fish and Wildlife Service first on any issue. It didn’t matter if it was compatibility issues related to Bonner Bridge, wild horses at Currituck, threats to the red wolf program or a host of others - Mike always stuck to his guns - diplomatically of course.



Mike’s progressive leadership was most apparent in his approach to landscape conservation. Through partnerships with other conservation organizations, Mike and his staff provided real life, on the ground projects, to both mitigate impacts and adapt to conditions related to climate change. I miss working with Mike on these issues but wish him well in his retirement. I know he will continue to keep a watchful eye on our conservation responsibilities into the future.”

Elizabeth Souheaver followed Pete, and described Mike as,

“In October 2013, I was quite pleased to learn I would be working with Mike as his new supervisor. Prior to this time, I knew Mike as a colleague and had heard of his many leadership abilities. Much to my surprise and delight, I discovered first hand why he was consistently commended for his leadership. Early on Mike invited me directly into the mix of the challenges and obstacles facing conservation of North Carolina refuges resources within this complex. Challenges such as land protection, red wolf conservation and highway and bridge development threats. He showed me why this needed priority attention and why we needed new ways of doing business. So, working with Mike was a challenge - a good challenge. I share

the following for others to know how courageous and persistent he was in always sharing the difficult messages and seeking greater support for staff and natural resource conservation. His skills were principled in pursuing leading science and sharing the facts on issues. He told the whole message even if it was not always favorable to his position. His talents went then beyond finding the science to careful discernment and alternative development to progressive thinking. And his work involved many others. I was impressed with Mike’s ability to consistently deliver a professional rapport by patiently listening and showing great diplomacy even with his adversaries. And lastly, you could easily see where Mike stood in the name of high ethics, dedication to conservation and his support and care for Service staff. Mike is an exceptional person and leader and the Service/Refuge System is all the better for his many years of dedication. I have a high regard for Mike and look forward to learning of his work and success on future endeavors.”

And, how does Mike Bryant feel about retiring? Mike wrote,

“I’ve enjoyed working with all of you. Over the 20+ years that I’ve been here, you, and others that have retired, or passed away, accomplished a tremendous amount of good work and wherever I look on our refuges I see lasting improvements. I credit all of you with the good things that have happened in my time here - it’s an enduring legacy for each and all of you. It’s been my good fortune to work for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on refuges and with you. Thirty-seven plus years ago a refuge manager took a chance on me - I’m thankful.”

We’re planning a farewell celebration/roast for Mike on March 11. Please contact Kathy McMahan 252/473 1132 x 225 or Kathleen_mcmahan@fws.gov for details. We’d love to have his friends and family come to help us honor him!

Lil’ Cindy Lou Who Sea Turtle Release

Lil’ Cindy Lou Who is a Loggerhead sea turtle found this summer on Pea Island by Turtle Patrol Volunteer Anne Brown. Refuge Biologist Kris Fair, Interns Sidney Burleson and Kaitlyn Yates, and National Park Service Biologist Amber Rhodes used teamwork to remove the turtle from the beach and into a vehicle. The turtle was taken to the Sea Turtle Assistance and Rehabilitation (STAR) Center at the North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island for rehabilitation.

The STAR Center is a 3,000 square-foot expansion, allowing Aquarium staff and volunteers to maintain an excellent level of care for sick and injured turtles. The facility houses eight tanks and has floor space for portable tanks which can hold up to 25 small turtles. The turtles are fed depending on their individual needs, with some eating live blue crabs or sea grass. Visitors to the Center have the opportunity to see turtle patients through viewing windows and hear their recovery stories from the people who help them every day. Cindy Lou was cleared for release and was taken out to the Gulf Stream by the U.S. Coast Guard on January 21.

Thanks to everyone who helped in this success story!



Lil’ Cindy Lou Who in her aquarium prior to taking her boat ride back to the ocean, credit North Carolina Aquarium.



Teamwork! USFWS and NPS working together to help an injured Loggerhead at Pea Island, credit National Park Service.

Support Your National Wildlife Refuges Donate to Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society

Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society exists to support interpretive, educational and volunteer programs of eastern NC national wildlife refuges with a focus on Alligator River and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuges and the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island. Your contributions to the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society help make it possible to provide this support.

Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society supports local K-12 schools by assisting with educational programs and funding transportation grants for students and teachers to visit the refuges and the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center.

Donated funds also help maintain refuge land and water trails, provide

refuge visitor services staff, assist with the annual Wings Over Water Wildlife Festival, and support dozens of refuge projects and programs.

Please support your national wildlife refuges by donating \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100 or more. Send check or money order to, Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society, P.O. Box 1808, Manteo, NC 27954. Or, use your credit card. Call 252/216 9464

<http://www.coastalwildliferefuge.com/donate.html>

Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Tax ID #56-1649348. Your contribution may be deductible as a charitable contribution on your federal taxes.

We’ll send you a receipt for each contribution, as well as an annual Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society membership card to use for savings in local refuge gift shops.

New Recycled Lumber Deck Furniture – Ready for SPONSORSHIPS!



Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society has purchased extraordinarily functional, durable, and attractive furniture for the back deck of the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center. This furniture awaits personalized plaques to recognize, honor or preserve the memory of some person or group in your life. We have 27 individual pieces; at least one of each is available for sponsorship.

Each piece will have a beautiful aluminum plaque with your personalized message of honor or memorial. The cost of sponsorship covers both the costs of the furniture and the plaque. Please call (252/473 1132 x 224) or email Steven_Brumfield@fws.gov today to claim your piece and learn the details of sponsorship.

Examples of personal messages from currently sponsored pieces:

Child Chair: In Honor of my grands: Kory, Mya, Laney, Waylon, Heidi, Jolene, and Kanan - who love this place and all things wild!

Adult Chair: In Memory of Army Corporal Patrick Glennon, Missing in Action in North Korea, November 1, 1950

Large Table: Contributed by Anonymous Former Refuge Volunteer

Sponsorship Fees/Contributions:

- Child Chair \$325
- Adult Chair \$400
- Large Table \$500
- Small Table \$200
- Trash or Recycle Bins \$600

Examples of deck furniture and sponsorships fees. The sponsorship fee for the trash bin pictured above is \$600, and there will be two of them: one for trash and one for recyclables. Each bin with have two plaques: one for "Trash only" or "Recyclables (glass/plastic/metal) and one for honor or memorial).

Plaque: Constructed out of cast aluminum, this handsome outdoor plaque provides a simple yet eye-catching display. Raised double border and recessed area for an engraving plate. Includes four steel screws and a flat back for quick and easy wall mounting. 4" high x 6" wide

Child Chair:

The children in these chairs are (left to right) Heidi, Waylon, and Jolene Burkhart. One of the child chairs will bear their names (among four other grands)! There's still one child chair up for "adoption."

Don't you want to honor a child in your life??



Wings Over Water 2017

It's not too soon to plan your fall vacation! Dates for *Wings Over Water 2017* are October 17-22 and Encore December 8-10. There will be over 90 birding, paddling, natural history, art, and photography programs during October. The keynote speaker will be Noah Strycker, the world 'Big Year' birding record-holder with 6,042 species. On-line registration opens first week of May. Call 252/216 9464. www.wingsoverwater.org

New Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society Website

After many years of occasional updates and changes, the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society has a new website! Check it out! <http://www.coastalwildlifereserve.com/home.html>

Management Actions to Stabilize Migratory Bird Habitat in Progress on Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge

In the next few weeks, if you're visiting Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge, or even driving through, you'll likely see some visible changes to the landscape. Pea Island Managers have scheduled routine mowing for the dikes around the three impoundments to manage growth of vegetation of larger shrubs and trees whose root systems could damage the infrastructure of the dike.

Assistant Refuge Manager Art Beyer describes the mowing operation, "It may look different in some areas for a short while. But managing the vegetation on



Warbler; credit Lemons

Art Expo

Thanks to all who joined staff and artists at the Art Expo Reception held Friday, January 13.

Wildlife Wildlands ART Expo

The National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island hosts a series of Wildlife and Wildlands of Eastern North Carolina Art Expos.

Artists for this show include:

Nancy Haddock-Photography

Neil Jernigan-Photography

Rheta Russell-Photography

Artists interested in participating in future shows should send five images of their work or a link to their website that displays examples of their work, along with their biography to mary_grindlay@fws.gov or call Mary Grindlay at 252-473-1132 X 226 for more information.



Credit Neil Jernigan



Credit Nancy Haddock



Credit Rheta Russell

the dikes will help us maintain their integrity which helps us not only improve critical habitat but also protect it. If the dikes are compromised, we could lose the ponds. Lots of migratory birds, including ducks, geese, swans, shorebirds, wading birds, and a variety of song birds use these wetland areas, areas which are critical to providing a refuge and

breeding ground to migratory birds, a main purpose of the Refuge."

During past dike mowing operations, some visitors have questioned the management action as "destructive to song bird habitat." In response to this concern, Refuge Wildlife Biologist Becky Harrison assures us there is plenty of suitable song bird habitat that is not associated with the dikes and will not be disturbed.

"When planning management actions, we look at impacts on all wildlife species. In the case of this action, the benefit to migratory birds far outweighs the temporary loss of aesthetics."

The dike mowing operation is expected to be completed in a couple of weeks. If you have additional questions, please contact Art Beyer at arthur_beyer@fws.gov or 252/473 1132 x 235.



Rick and Noel Jenks, Resident Volunteers, Pea Island NWR, January - May 2017

Mary Caldarelli, Resident Volunteer, Alligator River NWR, January - May 2017

Resident Volunteers

Mary tells us, "Over the years I've been a butcher, a baker, and a candle stick maker. I spent the past two decades, first as a college science instructor at a large community college and then as a freelance writer. I fell into writing nine years ago after I spent a year traveling around the country in a small RV with my dog. In other words, it was a mobile midlife crisis. Since my current profession is portable, I decided this spring to hit the road as a volunteer camper. As the saying goes – 'Life begins at the end of your comfort zone.'"

Rick and Noël are coming to Alligator River from life on the road. After having lived in Marietta, Georgia for 41 years, they have spent the last year and a half traveling the country in a motor home. They are outdoor people and are looking forward to experiencing all that this area has to offer. Before retiring, Noël was a high school Latin teacher and Rick worked as a computer technician in the Marietta City school system. The Jenks have three married children, five grandchildren, and one very old dog, and are looking forward to meeting and working with everyone here at Alligator River.

Nancy and Ernie retired from Target February, 2016. Ernie also is retired from the Raleigh Police Department after 20 years of service. Nancy previously worked at the Central New York Girl Scout Council Shop, as well as volunteering as a troop leader, Service Unit Manager, and adult trainer. Since retiring, they have traveled the northern east coast as far as Maine to begin their dream of seeing as much of this wonderful country as possible, as well as spending time with family and friends. This is the beginning of their life of full time Resident Volunteers. Nancy and Ernie enjoy watching wildlife and helping visitors learn about the National Wildlife Refuge System as they learn to love and conserve our wildlife and lands.

This past summer, Tom completed his 50th year of backpacking and hiking in the White Mountains of New Hampshire by volunteering with the U.S. Forest Service in the White Mountain National Forest as a Trailhead Steward. This began his retirement career of volunteerism. Trained as a geologist and conducting research in Antarctica, he has pursued many other careers throughout his life. From being a Lieutenant on a Rescue Company to teaching Occupational Safety and Health at Keene State College and the OSHA Training Institute in New Hampshire, his interests have been wide and varied. Tom is coming to Pea Island NWR from a volunteer position with Savannah Refuge as a Visitor Center



Katherine Brantley, Red Wolf Caretaker/ General Intern, January - April 2017



Tom Bulcock, Resident Volunteer, Pea Island NWR, November 2016 - April 2017



Nancy and Ernie Mizelle, Resident Volunteers, Alligator River NWR, November 2016 - February 2017

Host. He looks forward to working with everyone at Alligator and Pea Island Refuges and interacting with the many visitors that enjoy the Refuges. In particular, he's looking forward to spending the next few months on the beach at Bodie Island, with his two cats Zippy and BC (Yep- pets are allowed for RVs, as long as they obey regulations!).

Katherine is serving as the Red Wolf Caretaker at Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. When she was younger, Katherine and her family spent over a year visiting twenty countries around the world. This trip sparked her passion for travel, animals, and the environment. She has spent several years working as a veterinary assistant at an animal hospital, but is now focusing her career on exotic wildlife and endangered species. As a native of North Carolina, the plight of the red wolves hits close to home. In May of 2015, Katherine received a B.S. in Animal Science and Marine Biology from Cornell University. Shortly after, she began a research assistantship in Madagascar studying the critically endangered greater bamboo lemur. During her seven months of fieldwork, Katherine and a team of local guides tracked radio-collared lemurs, collecting behavioral, population dynamics, and habitat usage data. After her internship with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Katherine plans to obtain a Master's degree in Conservation and Wildlife Biology.

VIPs Invade The National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center



For a number of years, participants in the annual North Carolina Lions Visually Impaired Persons (VIP) Fishing Tournament have been spending a morning away from the fishing piers to get a close-up experience with wildlife in a safe setting. This three-day event attracts more than 375 visually impaired persons, 130 sighted guests, and 300 volunteers to the Outer Banks each year for a fishing tournament and educational, recreational, and personal growth opportunities. Those choosing to visit the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center are treated to individualized programs designed to give the participants an opportunity to touch a variety of critters and critter parts. They also are able to experience the exhibit hall with their guides and refuge volunteers. This year they were able to enjoy the warm weather on the back deck of the Visitor Center on recently-acquired deck furniture. (See article for more information about the furniture.) The visit by these VIPs has become such a highlight of the year, that one resident volunteer changes her schedule around in order to be a part of the program. The North Carolina Lions VIP Fishing Tournament is sponsored by the First Flight, Manteo, Nags Head, Columbia, Wanchese, Lower Currituck, and Plymouth Lions clubs.



Top left: The black bear is a big hit with many visitors since it is one that can be touched.

Top right: VIPs enjoyed being able to touch many of the items in the exhibit hall, as well as being able to hear the Red Wolves howl.

Bottom right: After a morning of learning, many of the VIPs enjoyed the beautiful weather on the back deck.

All credit USFWS

Special Tram Tour for Special Area Residents

In October, two groups combined to enjoy a tram tour at the Alligator River Refuge. The Coastal Environmental Educators Network (CEEN) is a network of area non-formal educators who meet once a month to share ideas and calendars to maximize the efforts of various agencies and non-profits. Monarch Beach Club is a nonprofit organization that is committed to supporting, educating, and empowering people with developmental and intellectual disabilities, mental illness, and substance use disorders to choose and achieve what is important to them.

The tram was packed with members from both groups who enjoyed not only seeing a variety of wildlife and learning about the management on the refuge but also about each others' missions.



Credit USFWS

School Clubs Back in Full Swing



It's not just the students who get excited during the monthly club meetings! Here the teacher and her assistant get into the action during a program about alligators, credit USFWS. (Please excuse the quality of the photo. It's hard to keep kindergarteners still!)



Sometimes we don't have to look too far to find wildlife at the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center! This Green Anole decided to make an appearance in the classroom one morning. After some quick action by two staff members, it was released outside. The Anoles are one of the highlights during nature walks with the Preschool Young Naturalist Program.

The new school year has begun! In recent years, Refuge staff/ volunteers have been visiting four Dare County elementary schools each month for the Kindergarten Young Naturalist Club and Manteo Middle School each month for the Sixth-grade Young Naturalist Club. This year we are thrilled to once again have First Flight Middle School join us. The Kindergarten Club reaches all kindergarten students in the school each month. The Sixth-grade Club is limited to 25 students who meet during the enrichment period at the schools.

2017 Winter - Spring Guided Interpretive Programs Alligator River and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuges

Saturday Tram Tours

February 11 - March 11 - April 8 - May 13
9 am - noon all dates

Join us for a trip around the refuge and learn about the wild lands and wildlife. Bring your binoculars and camera! Drinking water is also recommended. Snacks are permitted. Tram seating is limited. To guarantee your tram seats, you may register ahead of time. Cost: \$10 per person age 13 and up. Children 12 free with one or more paying adults. The program will occur except with lightning, inclement weather, or impassable road conditions. Dress for the weather! During the fall and winter months, it can be very cold. Dress in layers. Bring a blanket and a cushion. Yes, we do see plenty of wildlife in the colder months since we go into a closed area where migratory waterfowl are resting. Raptors are also often seen in colder months.

Call 252/216 9464 for reservations.

Co-sponsored by the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society.
Meet at Creef Cut Trail parking lot
(Milltail Road and Highway 64 west of Manns Harbor).

Free Saturday Red Wolf Howling

April 8: 7 - 8:30 pm
May 13: 7:30 - 9 pm

No reservations required.

Refuge staff and volunteers offer you the experience of a lifetime! Come and learn about the endangered red wolf during a short presentation and journey to the heart of the refuge for an adventurous attempt to hear our captive red wolves produce their haunting sounds. The program will occur except with lightning, inclement weather, or impassable road conditions.

Please do not bring pets to this program.

Meet at Creef Cut Wildlife Trail parking lot
(Milltail Road and Highway 64 west of Manns Harbor).

School and Group Programs

Refuge-led learning programs are offered free of charge to preschool through college classes, including topics such as Turtles, Black Bears, Red Wolves, Tracking, Birds, Wildlife Photography, and more. Visits can be two to four hours.

Arrangements for programming must be made several weeks in advance by calling Cindy Heffley at 252/475 4180.

Scavenger hunt materials are available at the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island and at Pea Island Visitor Center to provide a great educator-lead learning experience. Groups not requesting a guided program are asked to contact prior to your visit to avoid overcrowding of the facility.

Free Preschool Young Naturalist Program

Fridays 10 - 11 am
Year-round
National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center Roanoke Island
100 Conservation Way

"Miss Cindy" offers a special treat each week especially designed for preschoolers - but all are welcome. Each week, we read a book about wildlife or habitat, have an activity related to the topic, and then explore our Nature Trail out the back door.

Call 252/475 4180 for more information.

Free Pea Island Bird Walk

Fridays 8-9:30 am
Year-round

Visit us online!

http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Alligator_River/ <http://www.facebook.com/USFWS.NC> <http://www.facebook.com/alligatorriver/>

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to providing access to programs for all participants. Please direct all requests for sign language interpreting services, close captioning, or other accommodation needs by calling 252/216 9464, TTY 800/877 8339, at least two weeks prior to the program.



We never know what we will see during the monthly Alligator River Refuge Tram Tours. Each tour includes a stop to search a dike for tracks and scat. Recently we were treated to a snapping turtle's tracks left behind in a muddy area. Snapping turtles drag their tail while walking, credit USFWS.

Wings

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