



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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### PHOTOGRAPHERS CATCH UNUSUAL ANIMAL SCENES AT NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Amateur and professional wildlife photographers from many sections of the country find the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, near Charleston, South Carolina, one of the most interesting areas along the Atlantic Coast, according to a recent Fish and Wildlife Service report. Well-known camera artists visit particularly the Bull Island portion of the refuge, where special blinds have been placed at strategic points on the coastal island so the photographers can snap an unusual variety of wild animals "in season."

A veritable semitropical jungle land, with many small ponds, swamp areas, and upland game areas, Bull Island has wild turkeys, an abundance of migratory waterfowl, deer, fox squirrels, alligators, and moccasin snakes.

"Even amateurs who know little about wildlife photography have been able to catch excellent scenes of the animals on Bull Island," reports Andrew Dupre, manager of the Refuge. He added, however, that the uninitiated must realize that the wildlife photography is difficult because the animals are not always "available" for the camera artists.

Arrangements to take pictures on the wildlife sanctuary must be made with Manager Dupre, who can be reached by communicating with the Cape Romain Refuge

headquarters at McClellansville, South Carolina, some 35 miles from Charleston. Visitors can be accommodated overnight at Dominick House, a residence on Bull Island. Meals and lodging are available at a moderate fee.

Of interest to many visitors are the small island deer and the deer traps scattered about the area. Guests sometimes can see how the big-game animals are enticed to enter the traps without being injured, later to be transported to the mainland for restocking in depleted areas.

According to Patrolman William Hill, one of the most popular areas on the Island is Moccasin Pond, where waterfowl by the hundreds are literally within a few yards of the shore. Blinds have been erected here for photographers who wish to take pictures of various species of wild ducks and other water birds.

In the center of another pond lies an "island within the island" where on sunny days a huge alligator, said to be almost 14 feet long, comes to the surface to bask in the sun's warm rays.

"Name the kind of person--plain outdoorsman, waterfowl hunter, big-game enthusiast, forester, or photographer--and Bull Island will appeal to him," said Dupre.

"We like people to visit this coastal wildlife paradise," he continued, "because we wish to let them see how the Fish and Wildlife Service is helping to conserve the Nation's wildlife resources. Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge is one of 263 in a Nation-wide network of sanctuaries devoted to the protection and conservation of all forms of wildlife."

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