Common Name *Scientific Name*	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Trailing Arbutus *Epigaea repens*	X	X	X							
Butterwort *Pinguicula caerulea*	X	X	X	X						
Golden Club *Orontium aquaticum*		X	X							
Heartleaf *Hexastylis minor, H. Arifolia*		X	X							
Dogwood *Cornus florida*		X	X							
Yellow Pitcher Plant *Sarracenia flava*		X	X							
Pixie Moss *Pyxidanthera barbulata*		X	X							
Sundew *Drosera intermedia*		X	X	X						
Yellow Jessamine *Gelsemium sempervirens*		X	X	X						
Wild Lupine *Lupinus diffusus*		X	X	X						
Phlox *Phlox nivalis, P. drummondii*		X	X	X						
Toadflax *Linaria canadensis*		X	X	X						
Birdfoot Violet *Viola pedata*		X	X	X						
Primrose-leaved Violet *Viola primulifolia*		X	X	X						
Dwarf Huckleberry *Gaylussacia dumosa*		X	X	X	X					
Sheperd's Purse *Capsella bursa-pastoris*		X	X	X	X					
Yucca; Beargrass *Yucca filamentosa*		X	X	X	X	X				
Spurge Nettle *Cnidoscolus stimulosus*		X	X	X	X	X	X			
Pitcher Plant (Purple) *Sarracenia purpurea*			X	X						
Dwarf Iris *Iris verna*			X	X						
Dangleberry *Gaylussacia frondosa*			X	X						
Hawthorn *Crataegus marshallii*			X	X						
Staggerbush *Lyonia mariana*			X	X						
Dwarf Locust *Robinia nana*			X	X						
Crab Apple *Malus angustifolia*			X	X						
Black Cherry *Prunus serotina*			X	X						
Sweet Pitcher Plant *Sarracenia rubra*			X	X						
Swarf Dandelion *Krigia virginica*			X	X	X					
Fetterbush *Lyonia lucida*			X	X	X					
Daisy Fleabane *Erigeron philadelphicus*			X	X	X					
Venus' Looking Glass *Specularia perfoliata*			X	X	X					
Japanese Honeysuckle *Lonicera japonica*			X	X	X					
Sandwort *Arenaria caroliniana*			X	X	X					
Tulip Poplar *Liriodendron tulipfera*			X	X	X					
Storax *Styrax americana*			X	X	X					
Cinquefoil; five-finger *Pontentilla candensis*			X	X	X					
Prickley Pear *Opuntia compressa*			X	X	X					
Yellow Milkwort *Polygala lutea*			X	X	X	X	X			
Inkberry *Ilex glabra*				X	X					
Sandhill Milkweed *Asclepias humistrata*				X	X					
False Wild Indigo *Baptisia cinerea*				X	X					
Goat's Rue *Tephrosia virginiana*				X	X					
Spiny Locust *Robinia hispida*				X	X					
Purple Thistle *Carduus sp.*				X	X	X				
Pink Spiderwort *Tradescantia rosea*				X	X	X				
Cyrilla *Cyrilla racemiflora*				X	X	X				
Colic-root *Aletris farinosa*				X	X	X				
Spotted Wintergreen *Chimaphila maculata*				X	X	X				
Butterfly Weed *Asclepias tuberosa*				X	X	X	X			
Meadow Beauty *Rhexia alifanus*				X	X	X	X	X		
Hairy False-foxglove *Aureolaria pectinata*				X	X	X	X	X		
Bladderwort *Utricularia fibrosa*				X	X	X	X	X	X	
Bitterweed *Helenium amarum*				X	X	X	X	X	X	
Dayflower *Commelina erecta*				X	X	X	X	X	X	
Sweet Pepperbush *Clethra alnifolia*					X	X				
Sourwood *Oxydendrum arboreum*					X	X				
Sundew *Drosera rotndifolia*					X	X	X			
Sensitive Brier *Schrankia microphylla*					X	X	X	X		
White Water Lily *Nymphaea odorata*					X	X	X	X		
Water-Shield *Brasenia schreberi*					X	X	X	X	X	
St. Peter's Wort *Hypericum stans*					X	X	X	X	X	
Arrowhead *Sagittaria longirostra*					X	X	X	X	X	
Pipewort; Hatpin *Eriocaulon compressum*					X	X	X	X	X	
Indian-plantain *Cacalia lanceolata*					X	X	X	X	X	
Rattlebox *Crotalaria mucronata*						X	X	X		
Goldenrod *Solidago sp.*						X	X	X	X	
Cardinal Flower *Lobelia cardinalis*						X	X	X	X	
Rabbit Tobacco *Graphalium obtusifolium*							X	X	X	
Lobelia *Lobelia elongata*							X	X	X	
Blazing Star *Liatris spicata*							X	X	X	
Narrow-leaved sunflower *Helianthus angustifolius*							X	X	X	
Camphorweed *Heterotea subaxillaris*							X	X	X	
Dog-fennel *Eupatarium compositifolium*								X	X	
Gerardia *Agalinus setacea*								X	X	
Sea Myrtle *Baccharis halimifolia*								X	X	
Aster *Aster curtisii*								X	X	
Chaffhead *Carphephorus sp.*								X	X	
Pine Barrens Gentian *Gentiana autumnalis*								X	X	
Duckweed *Lemna perpusilla*								X	X	X

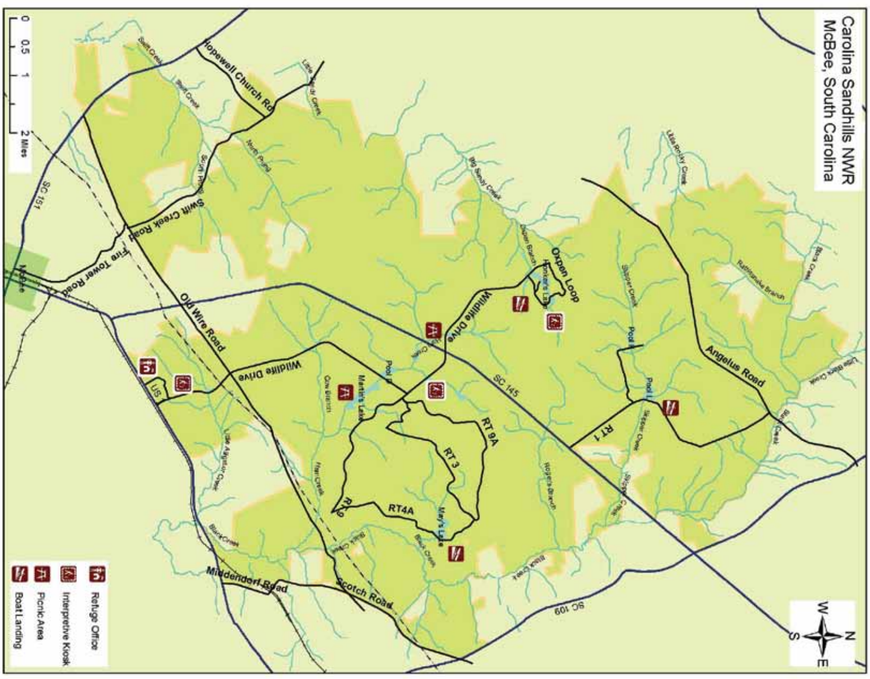


photo: USFWS A. Askins, Longleaf pine

The longleaf pine and wiregrass ecosystem, the characteristic habitat of Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge, once covered approximately 90 million acres in the Southeastern United States. This unique ecosystem, shaped by thousands of years of natural fires that burned every two to four years, has been reduced to fewer than three million scattered acres. The Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge encompasses more than 45,000 acres of this unique ecosystem.

Established in 1939, the refuge sits astride one of the most remarkable sections of longleaf pine range: the Sandhills. This geological formation, wedged between the Coastal Plain and Piedmont, consists of deep, porous sands. The uneven topography is responsible for a diverse group of plant communities that developed in the Sandhills. Botanists have identified more than 750 species of plants on the refuge. None of this remarkable diversity would exist without certain natural processes that drive the entire longleaf pine ecosystem, the most important of which is fire.

The refuge has several trails and areas that offer wildflower-viewing opportunities. Remember, the Sandhills longleaf pine community is very subtle. While the accompanying photographs show enlarged detail, many of these species are diminutive and require a leisurely pace and keen observation skills. Items that you may find helpful to bring with you on your excursion include a hand lens, notebook and pencil, camera, and wildflower guide. Please remember that all plants on the refuge are protected. Please take photographs and leave plants and flowers for others to enjoy.

Points of Interest

The refuge's paved Wildlife Drive along with more than 100 miles of sand, dirt and gravel roads provide access for wildlife observation and photography. These roads also provide access to a variety of public use facilities including observation towers, a photography blind, four designated hiking trails, and numerous fishing areas.

- Longleaf Pine Interpretive Trail—This 1/4 mile trail with interpretive signage focuses on the longleaf pine ecosystem and seasonally features dogwood, lupine, birdfoot violet and goat's rue.
- Woodland Pond Trail— 1 mile; passes through wetlands, upland pine and small open area.
- Tate's Trail—3 miles in length, this trail runs parallel to Martins Lake and Pool D, making a loop around Lake 12 before culminating in the Lake Bee Recreation Area. Look for pine barrens gentian and chaffhead during fall months.
- Tripod Trail and Photoblind – This 1/4 mile trail with interpretive signage leads to a photoblind on Martin's Lake, known for waterfowl viewing October through February.
- Lake Bee Area—Picnic shelters and tables, along with restrooms are available. Notable plants and animals found in this area include brown-headed nuthatches, several carnivorous plants and the rare pine barrens treefrog.
- Oxpen Area—Home to white tailed deer, turkey, hawks, waterfowl and small mammals. It is also a popular fishing area and home to a variety of wildflowers. The seepage bog near Oxpen Lake includes a large population of carnivorous plants. An observation tower provides a scenic view.

photo: USFWS, R. Askins, Oxpen seepage bog

Along woodland trails...

Trailing arbutus, Feb-Apr USFWS

Birdfoot violet, Mar-May ©Will Stuart

Goat's rue, Apr-May USFWS

Buckeye on Chaffhead, Sep-Oct ©Will Stuart

Prickly pear, Apr-Jun ©Will Stuart

Wild lupine, Mar-May USFWS

Pine barrens gentian, Sep-Oct ©Bill Alexander

Dwarf iris, Apr-May ©Will Stuart

Purple thistle, Jun-Aug ©Will Stuart

Sensitive briar, Jun-Sep ©Will Stuart

Milkweed, May-Jun ©Will Stuart

Yucca, Mar-Jul ©Will Stuart

In wetlands and ponds...

White water lily, Jun-Sep ©Will Stuart

American lotus, Jun-Sep ©Will Stuart

Bog buttons, Jun-Sep ©Will Stuart

Titi, May-Jul ©Will Stuart

Sundew, Mar-May USFWS

Yellow trumpet pitcher, Mar-Apr USFWS

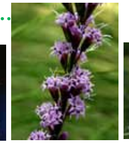
Purple pitcher plant flower, Apr-May ©Will Stuart

Hatpins, Jun-Oct ©Will Stuart

In fields and bogs...

Meadow beauty, May-Sep ©Will Stuart

Lobelia, Aug-Sep ©Will Stuart



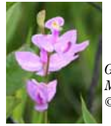
Blazing star, Aug-Oct ©Will Stuart

Mountain mint, Jul-Sep ©Will Stuart

Rose pogonia, May-Sep Doug DeNeve

Orange milkwort, Apr-Aug ©Will Stuart

Fly poison, May-Aug ©Will Stuart



Grass pink, Mar-Apr ©Will Stuart

Barbara's buttons, Aug-Sep ©Will Stuart

Yellow fringed orchild, Jun-Sep ©Will Stuart

Gerardia, Sep-Oct ©Will Stuart

Scutellaria, Jun-Sep ©Will Stuart

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Carolina Sandhills *National Wildlife Refuge-* Common Flowering Plants

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