

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Alligator River/Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge
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News Release

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Built with Stilts-Visit a National Wildlife Refuge

Credit: USFWS/Jessica Miller



The American Avocet is a stilt-legged bird that feeds in shallow water while wading or swimming. The avocet finds food by sight and quickly seizes it, or sweeps its long bill through the water, capturing prey by touch. Avocet chicks leave the nest within 24 hours after hatching. Even at just one day old avocets can walk, swim, and even dive to escape predators. The National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island is open Mon-Sat 9:00 am-4:00 pm & Sunday noon-4:00 pm; admission is FREE. Alligator River and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuges are open daylight hours year-round. Explore on your own! Or, for a list of exciting and educational guided programs (canoe trips, Red Wolf howlings, bear excursions, bird walks, tram trips and more) visit: <http://www.fws.gov/alligatorriver/spec.html>