

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Alligator River/Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge
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News Release

News Release: Wildlife/Wildlands Art EXPO Opening Reception Friday; Public Welcome

July 7, 2014

On Friday, July 11, from 5 - 8 pm, the summer Wildlife/Wildlands Art Expo's Opening Reception will be held at the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. Art work in this Expo will show through the end of September.

Friday's reception and show feature local artists Jonny Springfield (Photography), Francis Harris (Colored Pencil), Dan Waters (Photography), Julia Dillon (Arcylic/mixed media) and June Irmischer (mixed media).

The National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island, in partnership with the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society, hosts a series of Wildlife and Wildlands of Eastern North Carolina Art Expos each year. Refuge Manager Mike Bryant says he's proud to see the US Fish and Wildlife Service "stepping out of the box." Bryant explained, "These Art Expos are a great example of partnership between a federal agency and the local community. Everyone benefits. The Refuge's main goal is to attract a non-traditional audience to our facility, so we can show them who we are and what we do. And, through the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society, we're excited to be able to provide a means to economically benefit some of our local artists."

The receptions, Art Expos, and admission to the Visitor Center are free and open to the public. Artwork will be exhibited in the 100-seat auditorium of the new Visitor Center.

For each show, four to six artists are featured. All artwork must be habitat- or wildlife themed, two-dimensional in nature, and ready-to-hang. Mark your calendars now for other Opening Receptions scheduled October 10, 2014 and February 13, 2015. Artists are being scheduled for those shows at this time.

Artists interested in participating in one of these shows should send five images of their work or a link to their websites that displays examples of their work, along with the artist's biography to Tammy_Batschelet@fws.gov or call Tammy Batschelet at 252-473-1132 X 226 for more information.



Wildlife Photographer Jonny Springfield is one of 5 artists participating in the upcoming Wildlife/Wildlands Art Expos. In this photo, he captured a Brown Pelican as it snared dinner, a flounder. Other artists are Francis Harris (Colored Pencil), Dan Waters (Photography),

Julia Dillon (Acrylic/mixed media), and June Irmischer (mixed media). The Opening Reception will be held from 5 - 8pm this Friday at the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island. The reception, art show, and admission to the Visitor Center is free. The public is welcome.

Photo credit: Jonny Springfield