

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge
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News Release



For Immediate Release

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Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge Unveils Silhouette Mural

Folkston, GA... After months of hard work and over two-hundred hours of combined volunteer time, the Swamp Scene Silhouette mural was unveiled on the outside wall of the Richard S. Bolt Visitor Center this week. The artists who designed and built the art installation are resident volunteers of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Barbara Kramer. Former residents of Charlton County, Tom and Barb took to the road two years ago, to fulfill their dream of traveling and volunteering on national wildlife refuges. Their travels took them to Crystal River NWR and Banks Lake NWR before returning to Charlton County and Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in the fall of 2017. Their creative and artistic talents were immediately identified and the vision for Swamp Scene Silhouette mural came to life.

The mural gives visitors an opportunity to see life-like recreations of animals they may encounter on boat tours, boardwalks, trails, and water trails throughout the refuge. Immediately after the unveiling, visitors were seen taking photos in front of the wall. This new feature provides a great photo opportunity on your next visit to the refuge. Approximately 85% of the wood used for the mural was repurposed and reused from other refuge projects and saved from ending up in the landfill.

The Suwannee Canal Recreation Area is the Main Entrance to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge and is the access point for the Suwannee Canal (day-use and overnight boating trails), the Swamp Island Drive, Richard S. Bolt Visitor Center, and the concession operation, Okefenokee Adventures.

For more information, please call the Richard S. Bolt Visitor Center at 912-496-7836 or Okefenokee Adventures at 912-496-7156. You can also visit our website at www.fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee.

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The Main Entrance (Suwannee Canal Recreation Area) to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge is the primary entrance managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and is located 11 miles southwest of Folkston, GA off Hwy 121/23. Entrance fees are \$5 per vehicle/\$1 per bicycle for a daily pass (good for 7 days). Annual passes are also available. The refuge is open daily and offers a variety of opportunities for the visiting public. Call 912-496-7836 or visit the refuge website at www.fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee for hours of operation, upcoming events, and entrance fee information.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov. Connect with our Facebook pages at www.facebook.com/okefenokeewildliferefuge or www.facebook.com/usfwssoutheast