

News Release

National Wildlife Refuge System



Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge

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Friends of Carolina Sandhills Refuge Annual Birding Boot Camp

McBee, SC... Grab your binoculars and head to the refuge! Hosted by the refuge Friends Group, the annual Birding Boot Camp will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2015. The camp will begin at 8:30 am and will be led by Dr. William Alexander, retired biology chair of the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics. Whether you are a novice observer or an avid birder, this camp offers a fantastic opportunity to get outdoors, develop your birding skills, and experience the refuge and its birds firsthand.

Participants should meet at the Refuge Headquarters no later than 8:30 am. The camp will begin with a classroom presentation on birding basics. Participants will then move outdoors to explore refuge habitats and put their birding skills to the test! Be sure to bring binoculars, a field guide (if available), snacks, and plenty of water. Please be prepared for variable field conditions by wearing long pants and appropriate footwear.

The camp is free of charge, but **pre-registration is required**. To register, or for more information, please call (834) 335-8350 or email patricia_mccoy@fws.gov. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to providing access to this event for all participants. Persons needing reasonable accommodations in order to attend and participate should contact the refuge at the provided phone number or email. In order to allow sufficient time to process requests, please contact us for assistance by close of business April 29, 2015.

The Friends of Carolina Sandhills NWR is a group of citizens dedicated to supporting the role of the refuge in protecting and preserving the longleaf/wiregrass ecosystem, promoting public enjoyment and responsible use of the refuge, and educating the public concerning wise use of its resources. Located in Chesterfield County, Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge is a 46,000-acre wildlife refuge dominated by rolling sand hills and longleaf pine. This ecosystem supports more than 190 species of birds, 42 species of mammals, 41 species of reptiles, 25 species of amphibians, and over 750 plant species.

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