

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Team Rubicon  
Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company**

## **News Release**

### *Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge*

P.O. Box 62

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Team Effort Planned In June Benefits Chincoteague Ponies and Honors Longtime "Saltwater Cowboy".**

Starting June 1, staff at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge will begin construction of a new South Pony Corral on Beach Road next to the Woodland Trail parking area. The new corral will upgrade facilities needed for Chincoteague Pony roundups as well as honor longtime refuge employee and Saltwater Cowboy, Grover Elmer "Drizzle" Wilgus, Jr., who passed away on June 11, 2014.

On June 10, 11, and 12, Team Rubicon will join the effort. During this period, it might be necessary to close Woodland Trail to accommodate the construction.

Later in June, the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company, who own and manage the Ponies, will complete the construction.

"It's always great when the stars align allowing us to combine so many positive outcomes in one effort. In this project, we are able to clear pine trees at the site killed by Southern pine beetle, which posed a safety risk, utilize the skills of Team Rubicon and upgrade facilities for the Saltwater Cowboys and Chincoteague Ponies.", said Refuge Manager, Kevin Sloan.

Team Rubicon unites the skills and experiences of military veterans with first responders to rapidly deploy emergency response teams. The disaster response organization offers veterans the opportunity to continue their service by helping those affected by disasters while regaining a sense of purpose, community and identity.

For more about Team Rubicon, visit [www.teamrubiconusa.org](http://www.teamrubiconusa.org). Also see us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov).

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