

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex 2020 Photography Contest

This contest is open to all visitors to any of the five open Refuges in the Complex (Savannah, Pinckney Island, Harris Neck, Wassaw, and Blackbeard Island National Wildlife Refuges). Images may be entered into three categories: Landscape, Wildlife, and People in Action.

Participants may only enter one photograph for each category in their tier, no entry fee is required.

Tiers (who can participate)

The contest is divided into three Tiers which are defined as follows:

Tier 1: Includes any adult who has won a Best of Show, Top of Tier, First, Second or Third place prize in any previous Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex Photography Contest or any participant who describes themselves, or is generally recognized, as a professional photographer or workshop leader.

Tier 2: Includes any adult who has never won a Best of Show, Top of Tier, First, Second or Third Place prize in any previous Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex Photography Contest, and who does not describe themselves, or is not generally recognized, as a professional photographer or workshop leader.

Youth Tier: Includes all participants under the age of 16 by the submission deadline.

Note: A participant who has entered in Tier One may not enter in Tier Two in subsequent years. While any participant may choose to enter in Tier One, the Contest Committee may require a particular participant to enter in Tier One.

Categories (what can be submitted)

Landscapes: Images of landscape, scenery, sky, and water on one of the Refuges.

Wildlife: Images of wild mammals, reptiles, birds, fish, and insects on one of the Refuges.

People In Action: Images of people engaging in wildlife-dependent recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, environmental education, interpretation, photography, and/or wildlife observation on one of the Refuges.

In all categories, domestic pets and barnyard animals are not allowed. **All images must be taken from publicly accessible areas of the seven Refuges in the Complex** (Pinckney Island, Savannah, Wassaw, Harris Neck, and Blackbeard Island National Wildlife Refuges). Participants must obey all posted closures and regulations to obtain their photographs.

Rules and Restrictions

Copyright Ownership: Images must be the original work of the person submitting them.

Permitted

- Bird bands, ear tags and radio collars on wildlife.
- Post-processing correction to eliminate elements not part of the original scene such as sensor spots, dust, stray hairs, etc.
- High Dynamic Range (HDR) images.
- Panoramic images composed of multiple exposures stitched together.
- Black and White images, whether captured in camera or converted in post processing.
- Infrared images.

Not Permitted

- An image that has been creatively processed to the extent that the emphasis is no longer on the original nature subject may be disqualified.
- Borders, visible watermarks, copyright notices and photographer's names or any other added text is not permitted.
- Living creatures in all categories must be photographed in their natural or adopted habitat and specifically may not be moved to another setting or background.
- Images where any living creature appears to be stressed or harassed by humans in any way will be disqualified.
- Domestic pets and barnyard animals are not allowed. Images not conforming to these rules may be disqualified. If time permits, another image may be submitted.
- Night photography is not allowed. All photos submitted must have been taken during refuge hours; from sunrise to sunset.

Submission Guidelines

- Participants may only submit 1 image per category.
- Participants may only compete in 1 tier.
- Images are to be **submitted in JPEG format** by email to Sav.Photo.Contest@gmail.com.
- Photographs should be between 1,000 pixels and 3,000 pixels on the **long side**.
- All image shapes acceptable however, odd shaped images may not print well on a standard 8 X 10 print.

By submitting your image to the Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex Photography Contest, you verify that your images conform to these rules and guidelines.

The winning images will be printed on a standard 8 X 10 and displayed for public viewing at the Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex visitor center at 694 Beech Hill Lane, Hardeeville, SC 29927

As a condition of entering the contest, the photographer grants to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service a perpetual, non-exclusive license to reproduce and publish the image(s) in printed and/or electronic form for promotional, informational and educational purposes only. Copyright will remain with the photographer, and attribution will be given for all images used.

Prizes

A list of prizes will be posted to www.fws.gov/refuge/savannah.

Schedule

- **Entry Submission Window:** Begins March 14, 2020 – Ends September 8, 2020
- **Announcement of Results:** Saturday, October 17, 2020

Please cut and paste the information in bold into your emailed submission for each of your images. Submissions with incomplete information by the submission deadline will not be eligible to compete in the contest.

- ✓ **Image File Name** (*Match name to the actual file you submit*)
- ✓ **Name of Refuge where photo was taken:** *Can only be Pinckney Island, Savannah, Wassaw, Harris Neck, or Blackbeard Island*
- ✓ **Tier:** Select Tier 1, Tier 2, or Youth Tier
- ✓ **Category:** Wildlife, Landscape, or People in Action
- ✓ **Copyright:** *Photographer's Name, year image was taken, and birth date (if submitting under the youth tier)*