### U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Savannah

## National Wildlife Refuge



American alligators, Kirk Rogers

Savannah NWR, one of seven refuges administered under the Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex, was established April 6, 1927. It consists of 29,175 acres located along the lower Savannah River; 6,000 acres of freshwater impoundments are managed for migratory waterfowl and were formerly the rice fields of plantations dating back to the mid to late 1700's.

Habitats of Savannah NWR include freshwater marshes, tidal rivers and creeks, bottomland hardwoods, and upland hardwood forests.

The refuge is home to a large variety of wildlife including waterfowl, wading birds, shorebirds, songbirds, American alligators, and several endangered/threatened species including woods storks, manatees, and shortnose sturgeon.

#### **Visitor Opportunities**

- Visitor Center offers 11-minute video about the refuge, museum-quality exhibit hall, and nature store
- The four-mile Laurel Hill Wildlife Drive; open to vehicle traffic
- Environmental education and interpretation
- Hiking and biking trails
- Wildlife observation
- Wildlife photography
- Kayaking
- Fishing
- Scheduled hunts

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#### **Hours of Operation**

Savannah NWR: 7 days a week, sunrise to sunset (no overnight use)

Visitor Center: Monday -Saturday 9 am - 4 pm

#### Fees

None

#### Location

Savannah NWR Visitor Center is located on U.S. Highway 17, approximately seven miles south of Hardeeville, SC (Exit 5 off of I-95), or seven miles north of downtown Savannah, GA.

Refuge trail
maps and public
use information
available online
and at Savannah
NWR Visitor
Center and
information
kiosks.



The blue goose is the symbol for the National Wildlife Refuge System.

#### August 2013









Purple Gallinule, Kirk Rogers

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