

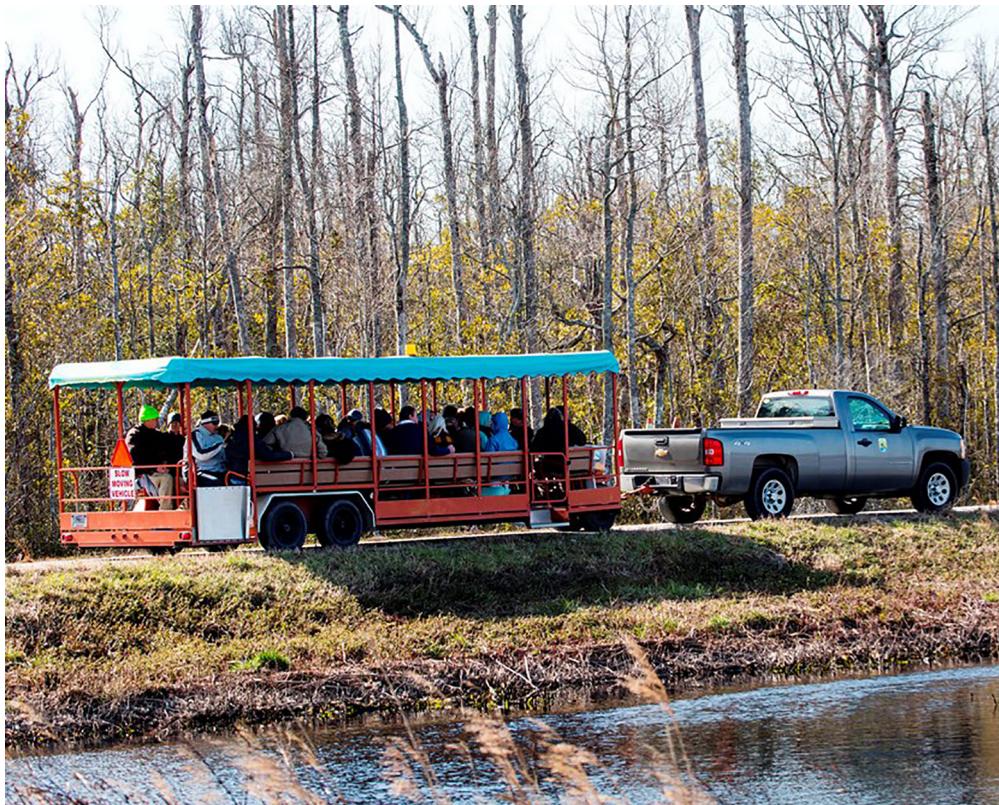
July 2017
Volume XX
No. 3



News from the Coastal North Carolina National Wildlife Refuges Complex

**Alligator River, Pea Island, Pocosin Lakes,
Roanoke River, Mackay Island, and Currituck**

Summer Programs in Full Swing!



Whether you enjoy paddling in a canoe, riding in a van or open-air tram, or sitting back learning about wildlife on the front porch of the Pea Island Visitor Center, you're sure to find something to do on the refuges this summer. From June through August, programs are conducted Tuesday through Friday. Many are FREE!

Of course, you are welcome to visit the refuges during daylight hours to explore on your own. If you do, please pick up a map to help you navigate the refuges.

One of the best ways to learn about the refuges before heading out is to stop by the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island. Here you will find a volunteer to answer all of your questions and view a great exhibit hall designed to give you a taste of the refuges before your actual visit. The Visitor Center is open Monday through

Saturday from 9 am – 4 pm and Sunday from 12 noon – 4 pm. Please see our program schedule on page 10 for our 2017 programs.

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Above: Pea Island Canoe Tours offer a hands-on experience for young or young-at-heart visitors, credit USFWS/Travella.

Left: The Alligator River Refuge Tram Tour is a great way to learn about the refuge and see all the plants and wildlife on the refuge, credit Orsaluk.



Wings

Alligator River & Pea Island
National Wildlife Refuges
PO Box 1969 (mailing)
100 Conservation Way (physical)
Manteo, NC 27954
Phone: 252/473 1131
Fax: 252/473 1668
E-mail: alligatorriver@fws.gov
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/alligator_river/

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Friends of Alligator River and
Pea Island National Wildlife
Refuges and
USFWS North Carolina



Biology Program Update

Submitted by Supervisory Wildlife Biologist Becky Harrison

On Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge, a team of U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologists conducted bat mist-net surveys. Six different bat species were observed, including big brown, eastern red, eastern pipistrelle, evening, and seminole bats. Biologists are interested in documenting the different species using the refuge but also observing which species are present during various times of the year. Bat populations across eastern North America are being impacted by **white-nose syndrome**, a disease which is causing significant mortality events in hibernating bat populations. None of the bats captured on the refuge tested positive for the fungus that causes white-nose syndrome.

Warmer temperatures and longer days marked the start of shorebird nesting season on Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge. Temporary closed areas were developed throughout different beach habitats on the refuge to protect birds during nesting activities.

Refuge staff, interns, and staff from the North Carolina Migratory Bird Field Office conducted the annual least tern survey on Pea Island in early June. Least terns are the smallest tern species in North America and are a species of Special Concern in North Carolina.

They nest in large groups in a variety of habitats (often near inlets) including sandy beaches, dredge islands, or even on gravel roofs. This information is entered into the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission colonial waterbird database and is very important for assessments of species' trends and habitat needs for Atlantic coast least terns. This year, we detected more than 560 active nests. Pea Island is an important nesting area for this species. In 2016, nests observed on the refuge comprised ~45% of all least tern nests found during the June 1-15 survey window in North Carolina.

The American Oystercatcher (*Haematopus palliatus*) is listed as a species of Special Concern in North Carolina. The refuge participates with partners including North Carolina State University, N.C. Wildlife Resources, the National Park Service, and Audubon North Carolina in **research and monitoring activities of these birds** through the **American Oystercatcher**



Evening Bat/USFWS



Eastern Red Bat/USFWS



Above: adult American oystercatcher with two chicks, credit USFWS; at left: biologist Kris Fair banding American oystercatcher chick, credit USFWS.

Working Group. At Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge, pairs are typically observed beginning on the refuge in early March.

In general, oystercatchers fledge one brood per season with nesting attempts occurring between April and July. In North Carolina, nest sites are shallow depressions on high, sandy sites and typically contain up to two - four eggs. Both parents will incubate the clutch for 24-28 days, and eggs usually hatch within a day of each other in the order they were laid. Adults defend the brood and chicks remain together or with adults until they fledge at approximately 35 days.

Similar to piping plover monitoring, refuge staff regularly monitor breeding and nesting activities every one to three days. Together with partners from **Audubon North Carolina**, we captured and marked oystercatcher adults and chicks with green colored bands with **unique alphanumeric codes**. These codes help identify different

individuals and track behaviors. We hope this research contributes to the working group goals of evaluating the status and viability of North Carolina's oystercatcher population and understanding the relationship of North Carolina's population to other populations along the east coast of the United States.

Refuge staff and interns have also been working with partners to actively capture and track other shorebird species including piping plovers and American oystercatchers. Piping plovers observed on Pea Island in the summer are typically part of the Atlantic Coast breeding population (*Charadrius melanodus melanodus*) and are protected as a Threatened species.

On the refuge, piping plover pairs are usually first observed in early April. Nest attempts normally occur April through July, but re-nesting attempts may occur after large overwash events associated with storm activities. Nests typically contain up to four eggs, with one egg laid

Another Summer Program!



Red Wolf Howling Programs are a great way to learn about Red Wolves while attempting to howl up the captive red wolves.

every other day. The clutch is incubated 27-30 days, and adults and chicks remain together until they fledge at 25-35 days old. Once pairs are identified, refuge staff regularly monitor activities every one-three days. Partners at the **Virginia Tech Shorebird Program** have captured and marked plover adults and chicks with colored bands with **unique alphanumeric codes**. These codes help us identify individuals and learn more about nesting ecology, brood movement and behavior, and population dynamics of this small population.



Least tern chicks/USFWS

It's sea turtle nesting season on Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge! Five species of sea turtles occur in North Carolina waters: loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), green (*Chelonia mydas*), leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*), Kemp's Ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*), and hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*). The most abundant species in North Carolina is the loggerhead that nests annually on Pea Island beaches. Green turtles are less frequent but regular nesters in North Carolina. All species of marine turtles that occur in North Carolina are protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Loggerhead and green sea turtles are listed as Threatened and the other three species are all listed as Endangered under both federal and state law.

Refuge staff, interns, and volunteers have been searching the beaches daily for sea turtle nesting activities. This year, we observed our earliest nest to date laid on May 20th. As of July 1, we have

documented 22 turtle nesting activities including nine false crawls, 12 loggerhead nests, and one possible green nest. In 2016, we observed a record number of 41 nests (all loggerheads).



Adult Piping Plover/USFWS

Summer Interns Gain Experience in Many Disciplines

Interns are very important to the missions of the refuges. In addition to having a Red Wolf Caretaker Intern year-round, each summer the refuges depend on interns to assist with just about every program area. After two weeks of extensive training, they spend the rest of the summer rotating through three program areas: biological, maintenance, and visitor services.



Interns help with measuring the water salinity in the impoundments at Pea Island Refuge, credit USFWS/Travella.



Many hours are spent on sea turtle training in preparation for the nesting season.



Whether it's posting for a bird closure or helping post informational signs, the interns become experts with a post-hole digger by the end of the summer; credit USFWS/Travella.



Some interns help with the Red Wolf Howling Program each week and become proficient at howling with the captive wolves, credit USFWS/Travella.

Whether it's using a weed trimmer or riding a mower, the interns help keep the refuges looking great, credit USFWS.

Rebekah Martin: New Project Leader North Carolina Coastal Plain National Wildlife Refuge Complex

In June the Complex welcomed Rebekah Martin as the new Project Leader for the North Carolina Coastal Plain National Wildlife Refuge Complex. This Complex includes Alligator River, Pocosin Lakes, Roanoke River, Pea Island, Currituck, and Mackay Island National Wildlife Refuges. Rebekah follows Mike Bryant who retired in September. Rebekah has served in all three levels of the Service – field, regional office, and headquarters; gained experience in two programs of the Service; and worked in two different Regions. Throughout her career Rebekah has served on a great many national and regional teams, recognized for her communication skills, character and integrity, common sense, and other exceptional leadership skills.

For nearly two years, Rebekah has served as the Deputy Refuge Supervisor – and for many months the Acting Refuge Supervisor – for our Area III, which includes 40 national wildlife refuges located in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Eastern Tennessee, and Kentucky. Rebekah previously served as the Deputy Refuge Manager for the Eastern Virginia Rivers National Wildlife Refuge Complex in Region 5. Before that she was a leader in Headquarters, helping develop a new vision for the National Wildlife Refuge System and plan the national conference for *Conserving the Future: Wildlife Refuges and the Next Generation*.

Rebekah grew up on a farm on the shore of the Rappahannock River in Virginia's Northern Neck. Her early experiences cultivated her love of the great outdoors, and she began her career as a student trainee at the Eastern Virginia Rivers Refuge Complex while she completed Bachelor and Master of Science Degrees at the College of William & Mary.

Rebekah, husband Dustin (a Refuge law enforcement officer), daughter Cora (7), and son Cole (3) will be living on Roanoke Island and look forward to becoming active members of our community. Rebekah said, "For us, Dare County offers exactly what we need. Dustin and I are passionate about our careers, so the refuges in eastern North Carolina offer us so many areas in which we can grow and learn... and serve. And, this is the perfect place to raise our kids. We're very happy to be here."



Only Fifteen Pieces of Deck Furniture Remain Available for Sponsorship!



There are still pieces waiting for sponsorship.

Many folks have sponsored pieces of deck furniture to honor or memorialize a loved one. Fortunately, there are a few pieces left for those of you who may have missed the opportunity earlier. The Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society has purchased these extraordinarily functional, durable, and attractive pieces for the back deck of the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center. Each piece will have a beautiful bronze plaque with your personalized message of honor or memorial. This is a great way for a group to join together to honor or memorialize someone. The cost of sponsorship covers both the costs of the furniture and the plaque. Only 15 pieces remain! The following pieces are available for sponsorship: Child's chair-1; Adult chair-11; Small table-1; Trash can-2.

Sponsorship Fees/Contributions:

Child Chair	\$325
Adult Chair.....	\$400
Small Table.....	\$200
Trash or Recycle Bins	\$600

Please call 252/473 1132 x 224 or email Steven_Brumfield@fws.gov to claim your piece and learn the details of sponsorship.

Check Out the New Items in the Gift Shops!



Chilly summer nights call for a cute hoodie. Available for children in the bear (shown) or sea turtle theme, credit USFWS.

The Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society has some great new items to choose from in the four gift shops. Whether you are looking for a gift for that special someone or just want to learn about wildlife through a variety of field guides, you're sure to find just the right thing! Gift shop hours vary depending on location. Please call Mary Grindlay at 252/473 1131 x 226 for more information.

Support Your National Wildlife Refuges Donate to Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society

Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society exists to support interpretive, educational and volunteer programs of eastern NC national wildlife refuges with a focus on Alligator River and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuges and the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island. Your contributions to the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society help make it possible to provide this support.

Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society supports local K-12 schools by assisting with educational programs and funding transportation grants for students and teachers to visit the refuges and the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center.

Donated funds also help maintain refuge land and water trails, provide refuge visitor services staff, assist with the annual *Wings Over Water Wildlife Festival*, and support dozens of refuge projects and programs.

Please support your national wildlife refuges by donating \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100 or more. Send check or money order to, Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society, P.O Box 1808, Manteo, NC 27954. You can also use a credit card by calling 252/216 9464 or visiting <http://www.coastalwildliferefuge.com/donate.html>.

Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society (CWRS) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Your contribution may be tax deductible as a charitable contribution.

You will receive a receipt for each contribution and an annual CWRS membership card to use for savings in CWRS gift shops.

The Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society has some great new items to choose from in the four gift shops. Whether you are looking for a gift for that special someone or just want to learn about wildlife through a variety of field guides, you're sure to find just the right thing! Gift shop hours vary depending on location. Please call Mary Grindlay at 252/473 1131 x 226 for more information.

Resident Volunteers



Andy and Cindy Bullwinkel
Turtle Watch Volunteers
August - October 2017

Andy and Cindy have lived in Brevard, a small town on the edge of the Pisgah National Forest in the mountains of western North Carolina, for the past 29 years.

Prior to retirement, Cindy worked for the Cradle of Forestry Interpretive Association as Director of Sales. Andy taught high school science at the local alternative school.

They volunteer with their church and a variety of community and private groups. Cindy mentioned, "We love life, travel, hiking (just about anything outdoors), and great food, and are excited about our upcoming stay at the Pea Island Refuge!"

Cindy Catalano
Pea Island
June - August 2017

Cindy began volunteering with National Parks and the Fish and Wildlife Service in 2012. A little over two years ago, she sold her home and moved into her RV. Home is now wherever she parks it! After spending over 33 years working for the State of California with more than 31 years with the Department of Fish and Game, she looks upon volunteering as a chance to give back for the fine living she made for years and that now continues in her retirement.

She is an avid reader, can't live without her techy toys, love the outdoors, is a work-in-progress birder, loves to cook and garden, and enjoys traveling and spending time with her family and friends.



Bill and Tish Palmer / Pea Island / September-December 2017

Bill is originally from Portland, Oregon and retired from the U.S. Coast Guard in 1992 as a BMCS, after 23+ years of service. Tish is originally from Detroit, Michigan and retired from the U.S. Coast Guard in 2004 as a LCDR after serving 23+ years. They hit the road in an RV and never looked back. Since then, they have worked for agencies such as Department of Defense, Army Corp of Engineers, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. They have traveled all around the country volunteering and hope to continue for many more years.

Tish mentioned, "We are looking forward to spending time on the Outer Banks, learning more about the east coast flyway, and exploring this island rich in Coast Guard history."



Cindy Catalano

Returning Resident Volunteers for the fall include Lauren and George Radecskey and Wendy and Roy Gatewood.



Jim and Cyndie Worley
Pea Island
June-August 2017

Jim and Cyndie are both semi-retired and do a lot of volunteer work for their church in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Cyndie enjoys spending her time making crafts and wood working. Jim enjoys spending time playing guitar, drums, and recording bands in his studio. They both love the beach and just relaxing by a camp fire. They are anxious for the opportunity to volunteer on Pea Island and are looking forward to meeting new people and learning more about nature.

Next Art Expo Reception Friday, September 15

Please join us for the September 15 Art Expo Reception from 5-8 pm at the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island. Artists will be present during this time to discuss their work. Light refreshments will be served during this FREE event. Art will be available for viewing and purchase through the fall.

Tracey Anderson - Acrylics

Sean Paul Ballentine - Photography

Cindy Harrison - Oil and Colored Pencils

Anne May - Gouache Painting/Etching

Pam Pounce - Gouache Painting/Etching

John Sill - Watercolor



John Sill: Peregrine Falcon



Tracey Anderson: Pelican



Cindy Harrison: Sacred Marsh



Pam Pounce: Royal Terns



Anne May: Floral Fantasy

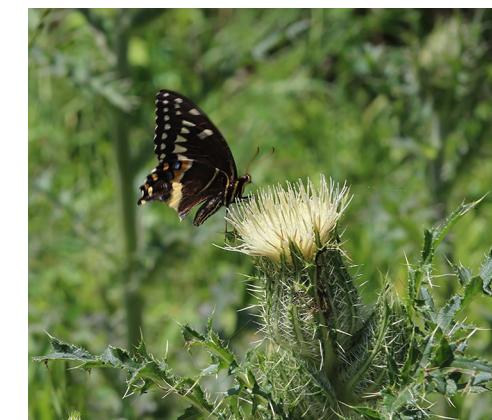


Pollinators are important pieces of the ecosystem puzzle. Many, like this Cabbage White Butterfly, can be found throughout the refuges. As the many wild flowers bloom along trails and roads, be sure to take a minute and look for these beauties as they work their magic, credit USFWS.

Wings Over Water 2017



Yellow-bellied slider; credit USFWS



Butterfly, credit USFWS



Canada geese, credit USFWS/Oglethorpe

New Wings Over Water T-shirts

The new T-shirts are available now at the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. Featuring artwork by former Wings Over Water keynote speaker and current Wings Over Water art class teacher, John Sill, the shirts are available in two different colors.

\$21.95 S-M-L-XL and \$24.00 (2 XL)



*October 17-22 and
WOW Encore
December 8-10*

Registration for the 2017 Wings

*Over Water Wildlife Festival has
been steady and right on track*

for a great festival in October:

*Wings Over Water is comprised
of over 90 trips, tours, and classes*

*-- birding, paddling, photography,
art, and natural history. Yes, some*

trips with very limited space fill

*up early. But there's still time to
register for dozens of activities.*

**Follow these directions to register
or just to see what activities are
available:**

1. <https://2017wow.my-trs.com/>
2. Choose 'Register Now'
3. Select 'WOW Individual registrant'
4. On Activity Selector page click + to expand any and all categories that you'd like to see
5. In the block for each activity the total spaces available will be shown on the right, or it will say 'full'.
6. In the same block if you choose the small white question mark in the blue circle it will give a complete activity description.

Call Steve at 252/216 9464 if you have questions.

**This fall take a great Wings Over
Water art class with artist John Sill.**

Friday and Saturday, October 20-21, Bird Drawing & Watercolor with John Sill. It's a great class for beginners AND those who want to hone their drawing and watercolor technique.

**New activities for 2017
(there are more than listed)**

Nags Head Woods Reptile and Amphibian Hike

Pamlico Sound Birding Kayak Tour

Beginning Bird Photography in the Field

Bird Drawing and Watercolor with John Sill

2017 July and August Guided Interpretive Programs Alligator River and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuges

Program	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Location
Refuge/Wildlife Movies	9:30 am-3 pm	9:30 am-3 pm	9:30 am-3 pm	9:30 am-3 pm	National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center Roanoke Island
Turtle Talk	2:30-3:30 pm				Pea Island NWR Visitor Center
AR Canoe Tour \$(R)		9 am-12 noon	9 am-11 am	9 am-12 noon	Alligator River NWR Buffalo City Boat Launch
AR Van Tour \$(R)	7-9 am	7-9 am	5-7 pm		Alligator River NWR Creef Cut Trail Parking Lot
PI Bird Walk		8-9:30 am		8-9:30 am	Pea Island NWR Visitor Center
PI Canoe Tour \$(R)		9-11 am	9-11 am	9-11 am	Pea Island NWR Visitor Center
Bird Adaptations		2:30-3:30 pm			Pea Island NWR Visitor Center
Bear Necessities		5:30-7 pm			Alligator River NWR Creef Cut Trail Parking Lot
Red Wolf Howling (\$)		7:30-9 pm			Alligator River NWR Creef Cut Trail Parking Lot
Who Lives in that Shell?			2:30-3:30 pm		Pea Island NWR Visitor Center
Open-air Tran Tour \$(R)			8:30-11 am		Alligator River NWR Creef Cut Trail Parking Lot

All programs are free unless noted. \$-Fee charged. R-Reservation required. Call 252-216-9464.



Other Programs

Free Preschool Young Naturalist Program 10-11 am Year-round Fridays National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center Roanoke Island	Free Saturday Red Wolf Howlings April 8 7-8:30 pm May 13 7:30-9 pm October 14 6-7:30 pm November 18 4:30-6 pm December 19 4:30-6 pm	Saturday Tram Tours \$(9 am-noon) April 8 May 13 September 9 October 14 November 11 December 16
Free Pea Island Bird Walk 8-9:30 am June-August Wednesdays Year-round Fridays (except October 20-December 9)		



**Virtual tour:
National Wildlife
Refuges Visitor Center**



**Scan to store this schedule on
your phone!**

Or visit: [http://www.fws.gov/
refuge/alligator_river/visit/
guided_programs.html](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/alligator_river/visit/guided_programs.html)

Or call 252/216 9464

We rely on many local volunteers like Bill Atkiss (shown helping with tern banding) to help with a variety of duties on the refuges. While many jobs involve working in a visitor center, we have other opportunities to get you out in the field! If you are interested in volunteering, contact Tracey Rock at tracey_rock@fws.gov or 252/473 1131 x 227.

2017 Guided Interpretive Program Descriptions

Program	Description
Refuge/Wildlife Movies	Looking for something to do inside? Stop by the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island to watch a wonderful movie in HD-surround sound. Learn about the various refuges in the area. Other topics will be shown throughout the summer.
Turtle Talk	FREE What are the differences between sea turtles and land turtles? Why are sea turtles endangered? What can you do to save these gentle giants? Find out about sea turtle conservation; learn how you can be a part of the solution. Make a take-home craft. Meet at Pea Island Visitor Center.
Alligator River Canoe Tour	2-3 hours \$40 per person; \$25 for children 12 and under; 1 1/2-2 hours-\$30 per person; \$20 for children 12 and under. Reservation required. Really get out into the wild! Milltail Creek Paddling Trails take you deep into the heart of Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. Paddle the shady blackwater canals; learn about the history of the area. Watch and listen for the Refuge's secretive wildlife. Hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, and drinking water are recommended. Co-sponsored by the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society. Meet at the end of Buffalo City Road off Hwy 64 west of Manns Harbor.
Alligator River Guided Van Tour	\$30 per adult. \$20 children 6-12. Limited to 5 participants. Larger group trips can be arranged. Reservation required. Join us for a personal tour through popular areas for viewing and photographing wildlife. Comfortable walking shoes, insect repellent, sunscreen, and drinking water are recommended. Feel free to bring a snack. Co-sponsored by the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society. Meet at Creef Cut Wildlife Trail parking lot (Milltail Road and Hwy 64 west of Manns Harbor).
Pea Island Bird Walk	FREE Pea Island is for the birds - literally! Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge is home to nearly 400 species of birds. Whether you're a beginner or an expert, you'll enjoy this casual stroll beside North Pond. Field guides, binoculars, sunscreen, and insect repellent are recommended. Some field guides and binoculars will be available for loan. Meet at Pea Island Visitor Center.
Pea Island Canoe Tour	1 1/2-2 hours-\$30 per person; \$20 for children 12 and under. Reservation required. Visit the quiet side of Pea Island. Explore the marshes, islands, and creeks of Pamlico Sound. Our two- hour tour is designed especially for kids and others who are looking for a hands-on experience. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, and drinking water are recommended. Reservations and footwear are required. Co-sponsored by the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society. Meet at Pea Island Visitor Center.
Birds and their Adaptations	FREE Do all shorebirds have long legs? How can a duck stay afloat in the water? Why do certain birds open their wet wings to dry? If you have ever wondered about these and other facts about birds, come out and discover the many ways birds adapt to their habitats. You may even create your own bird to take home. Meet at Pea Island Visitor Center.
Bear Necessities	FREE Alligator River is home to the largest population of black bears in eastern North Carolina and one of the largest in the eastern United States! Learn more about what makes the Refuge such a good home for our largest mammal. After the presentation, follow us in your vehicle as we lead you on the Wildlife Drive to look for bears and other wildlife. Participants will return in time for the Red Wolf Howling. Meet at Creef Cut Wildlife Trail parking lot (Milltail Road and Hwy 64 west of Manns Harbor).
Red Wolf Howling	\$10 per adult. Children 12 and under Free. NO RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED. Refuge staff and volunteers offer you the experience of a lifetime! Come and learn about the endangered red wolf during a short presentation and journey to the heart of the refuge for an adventurous attempt to hear our captive red wolves produce their haunting sounds. The program will occur except when there is lightning, heavy wind or rain, or impassable road conditions. Co-sponsored by the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society. Meet at Creef Cut Wildlife Trail parking lot (Milltail Road and Hwy 64 west of Manns Harbor).
Who Lives in that Shell?	FREE What have you found on the beach today? Have you ever thought about what used to live inside all of those shells? Learn about a variety of critters that call the ocean home. After exploring our touch box, we'll cross the road and explore the beach (Weather permitting). Meet at the Pea Island Visitor Center.
Open-air Tran Tour \$(R)	\$10 per adult. Children 12 and under Free with one or more paying adults. Tram seating is limited. To guarantee your tram seats, you may register ahead of time. Join us for a trip around the refuge and learn about the wild lands and wildlife. Bring your binoculars and camera! Drinking water and insect repellent are also recommended. The program will occur except with lightning, heavy wind or rain, or impassable road conditions. Dress for the weather! Co-sponsored by the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society. Meet at Creef Cut Trail parking lot (Milltail Road and Hwy 64 west of Manns Harbor).

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to providing access to programs for all participants. Please direct all requests for sign language interpreting services, close captioning, or other accommodation needs by calling 252/216 9464, TTY 800/877 8339, at least two weeks prior to the program.