

SC National Wildlife



The Charleston Documentary Film Festival
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ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve

Description: ACE Basin is one of the largest undeveloped estuaries on the East Coast. It's named for the Ashepoo, Combahee and Edisto rivers, which meander past cypress swamps, historic plantation homes, old rice fields and abundant tidal marshes to meet at South Carolina's biologically rich St. Helena Sound. The ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve protects the natural beauty, abundant wildlife and unique cultural heritage of the area. In addition, the reserve preserves habitat for many endangered or threatened species, such as shortnose sturgeon, wood storks, loggerhead sea turtles and bald eagles.

Recreation Opportunities

Educational Programs, Museums/Visitor Center, Wildlife Viewing

Directions: Headquartered 45 minutes south of Charleston, S.C., the reserve encompasses parts of Colleton, Charleston, Beaufort and Hampton counties.

ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve

ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve
South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

P.O. Box 12559

Charleston, SC 29412

Phone: 803-762-506

ACE Basin National Wildlife Refuge

Description: The ACE Basin National Wildlife Refuge helps protect the largest undeveloped estuary along the Atlantic Coast, with rich bottomland hardwoods and fresh and salt water marsh offering food and cover to a variety of wildlife. ACE Basin stands for the Ashepoo, Combahee, and Edisto Rivers, which form the estuary and parts of the Refuge boundary. The entire basin encompasses more than 350,000 acres, of which the Refuge comprises just less than 12,000 acres.

Directions: From Hwy. 17, take SC 174 (Signs will read "Edisto

Beach" and "ACE Basin National Wildlife Refuge"). Stay on SC 174 through Adams Run (174 will make a right turn in Adams Run). At the intersection with the flashing light (Signs will read "ACE Basin National Wildlife Refuge"), turn right on to Willtown Road. Go approximately 2 miles; entrance road will be on the left (signs will read "ACE Basin National Wildlife Refuge"). Office is located in the Plantation House approximately 2 miles down gravel road. A map with printed directions may be downloaded from our Web site at <http://acebasin.fws.gov>.

ACE Basin National Wildlife Refuge

8675 Willtown Road
Hollywood, SC 29449
Phone: 843-889-3084

Recreation Opportunities

Historic, Fishing, Hiking, Hunting

Baker Island National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Baker Island National Wildlife Refuge, 20 miles north of the equator and 1,600 miles southwest of Honolulu, is a nearly level saucer-shaped 405-acre island surrounded by a narrow reef and 30,504 acres of submerged land. Along with Jarvis and Howland Islands NWR, it forms the Pacific Remote Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

Most of the refuge is marine habitat, including extensive coral reefs and other inshore tropical ocean habitats. Uninhabited, it is low, flat, sandy, and vegetated only by grasses, prostrate vines, and low-growing shrubs due to the scant rainfall and intense sun.

The refuge provides nesting and roosting habitat for about 20 species of seabirds and shorebirds. Threatened green sea turtles, and endangered hawksbill turtles forage in the shallow waters of the reef with hundreds of species of fish, corals, and other invertebrates. Baker was exploited for commercial guano harvesting during the 19th century.

"Guano" is bird droppings, which is used as fertilizer. Its guano deposits are now exhausted. Feral cats were at one time found on Baker, Howland, and Jarvis Islands, where they preyed heavily on

nesting seabirds. Cats were successfully eradicated from Baker in 1984.

Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1932 to provide wintering habitat for migratory birds. Cape Romain's 64,000 acres encompass a 20-mile segment of the Atlantic coast and include barrier islands, salt marshes, coastal waterways, fresh and brackish water impoundments, and maritime forest. Of the land areas, 28,000 acres are preserved within the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Directions: The Refuge headquarters and Sewee Center are located about 20 miles north of Charleston, South Carolina on U.S. Highway 17. Garris Landing is about 17 miles north of Charleston just off U.S. Highway 17: From U.S. 17, turn right onto Sewee Rd. Follow Sewee Rd. for 3 miles and turn right onto Bull Island Rd. for 1.5 miles

Recreation Opportunities

Boating, Educational Programs, Fishing, Hiking, Hunting, Museums/Visitor Center, Wildlife Viewing

Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge

5801 Highway 17 North

Awendaw, SC 29429

Phone: 843-928-3264

Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Carolina Sandhills NWR was established in 1939 as a federal refuge for indigenous wildlife and game management demonstration project. The South Carolina State Commission of Forestry also conducted timber production and harvesting as long as these activities conformed to good game management and forestry practices. Over the years, management objectives have since been added and modified under other authorities. The 45,348-

acre refuge now serves as a demonstration site for land management practices, which preserve and enhance the longleaf pine/wiregrass ecosystem. Carolina Sandhills NWR is situated along the fall line separating the Atlantic Coastal Plain and the Piedmont Plateau in what is known as the Sandhills Region of South Carolina. Due to its location, the refuge is home to a variety of plants, animals, and habitat types characteristic of both the coastal plain and Piedmont Plateau. Rolling sandhills and deep sandy soils found here are remnants of an ancient coastal shoreline of what is now known as the Atlantic Ocean. The refuge supports approximately 190 species of birds, 42 species of mammals, 41 species of reptiles, 25 species of amphibians, and innumerable species of plants. Among this diverse group of fauna and flora are several species that are listed as threatened or endangered. These include the Swainson's warbler, red-cockaded woodpecker, pine barrens treefrog, white wicky, Well's pixie moss, and the sweet pitcher plant. Thirty man-made lakes & ponds & over 1,200 acres of fallow fields, forest openings, & cultivated fields contribute to the diverse habitat found here. The refuge supports an estimated 125 clusters of the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker, the largest population in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Directions: From Columbia, SC take I-20 east, exiting at Exit 98 and turning left onto Highway 521. Follow Highway 521 into Camden, SC to the intersection of US Highway 1 and 521. Turn right, going north on Highway 1. Follow Highway 1 for approximately 35 miles, going through Camden, Bethune, and McBee. The entrance to the refuge is 3-1/2 miles north of McBee. From Florence, SC, take Highway 52 west to SC Highway 151 west in Darlington. Follow Highway 151 approximately 20 miles to the intersection of Highway 151 and US Highway 1 in McBee. Turn right, following Highway 1 north for 3-1/2 miles to the refuge entrance.

Recreation Opportunities

Auto Touring, Boating, Educational Programs, Fishing, Hiking, Hunting, Wildlife Viewing

Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge

23734 Highway 1
McBee, SC 29101

Phone: 843-335-8401

Francis Marion-Sumter National Forests

Description: Located in South Carolina, the Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests encompass about 612,500 acres. The forest includes the southern Appalachian Mountains at 3,300-foot elevation, the rolling terrain in the middle of the state, and the flat, sea-level plains near the Intracoastal Waterway and the Atlantic Ocean. Visitors to the Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests find many recreational opportunities. Some enjoy developed sites such as campgrounds or picnic areas. Others find hiking, hunting, or horseback riding more to their liking. Whatever your interest, the Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests offer you a variety of opportunities.

Recreation Opportunities

Auto Touring, Educational Programs, Camping, Fishing, Hiking, Hunting, Pets Allowed, Picnic, Water Sports, Wildlife Viewing

Francis Marion-Sumter National Forests

4931 Broad River Road

Columbia, SC 29210

Phone: 803-561-4000

Hartwell Lake

Description: This lake in the upstate region of Georgia and South Carolina has a reputation as an excellent location for all types of outdoor recreational activities. The lake is created by Hartwell Dam located on the Savannah River seven miles below the point at which the Tugaloo and Seneca Rivers join to form the Savannah. . Extending 49 miles up the Tugaloo and 45 miles up the Seneca, Hartwell Lake comprises nearly 56,000 acres of water with a shoreline of 962 miles. The Corps operates 7 Class A campgrounds, 5 major day use areas as well as many other camping, picnicking and lake access areas. Campground reservations can be made by calling 1-877-444-6777 or on the web at www.ReserveUSA.com.

Hartwell Lake affords the avid sports fisherman and the weekend angler equal opportunities for a rewarding fishing experience. The Hartwell area abounds in historical lore, much of which is inherited from the Cherokee Indians and early settlers. The Project Manager's Office and Visitor Center is open 7 days a week from 8:00am to 4:30pm.

Directions: The dam is located on Hwy 29 on the South Carolina/Georgia border. The Hartwell Project Manager's Office and Visitor Center is located 1 mile past the dam on the Georgia side (or 5 miles North of Hartwell, GA. Many lake access areas can be easily reached from I-85.

Recreation Opportunities

Biking, Boating, Educational Programs, Camping, Fishing, Groceries/Supplies, Hiking, Hunting, Lodging, Pets Allowed Picnic, Restaurant/Snack Bar, Recreational Vehicles Museums/Visitor Center, Water Sports, Wildlife Viewing

Hartwell Lake

PO BOX 278

Hartwell, GA 30643-0278

Phone: 1-888-893-0678

Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge

Description: The Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge is part of the Pacific Remote Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex. Established in 1909 by Theodore Roosevelt's Executive Order 1019, the refuge covers the northwestern Hawaiian Islands, with the exception of Midway and Kure Atolls.

It consists of a chain of islands, reefs, and atolls, including Nihoa, Necker, French Frigate Shoals, Gardner Pinnacles, Maro Reef, Laysan Island, Lisianski Island, and Pearl and Hermes Reef. These remote islands extend about 800 miles northwest of the main Hawaiian Islands. The many small islands provide bare rocky, lowland shrub and grass, sand, and wetland habitat for over 30 species and 14 million breeding sea birds, wintering shorebirds, and

endangered endemic songbirds and waterfowl. These islands and reefs also provide breeding and foraging habitat for the endangered Hawaiian monk seal and the threatened Hawaiian green sea turtle. The over 1,805,403 acres of submerged coral reefs are home to over 7,000 species of coral, algae, mollusks, fish, crustaceans, and other marine vertebrates and invertebrates. Visitation to the refuge is by special use permit only.

Howland Island National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Howland Island National Wildlife Refuge, 50 miles north of the equator and 1,600 miles southwest of Honolulu, is a low, flat, sandy island with a narrow fringing reef. The refuge is over 32,000 acres, including 400-acre Howland Island. The majority of the refuge is marine habitat, including extensive coral reefs and other inshore tropical ocean habitats.

Uninhabited and vegetated only by grasses, prostrate vines, and low-growing shrubs, due to scant rainfall and intense sun, the refuge is managed primarily as nesting and roosting habitat for 20 species of seabirds and shorebirds. Threatened green sea turtles and endangered hawksbill turtles forage in the shallow waters on, and seaward of the reef along with hundreds of species of fishes, corals, and other invertebrates.

Howland was exploited for commercial guano harvesting during the 19th century. "Guano" is essentially bird droppings, which were used as fertilizer. Its guano deposits are now exhausted.

J. Strom Thurmond Lake

Description: This is the largest Corps of Engineers lake east of the Mississippi River. The lake encompasses 1,200 miles of shoreline, 70,000 acres of water and 80,000 acres of land, which provides for an abundance of recreational opportunities. The Corps operates ten Class A campgrounds, five major day use areas as well as many other camping, picnicking and recreational facilities. To make campground reservations on Thurmond Lake dial 1-877-444-6777 or on the web at www.ReserveUSA.com. J. Strom Thurmond Lake provides excellent striper and black bass fishing and its large wildlife

management program provides some of the best hunting and wildlife observation opportunities in the South. The adjacent area abounds with historical and geological sites. The Visitor Center, located at the South Carolina end of the dam, contains numerous exhibits and additional information on the lake and the surrounding area.

Directions: Located on the Georgia / South Carolina border, north of Augusta, Georgia. From I-20 Exit 199 Augusta GA, 22 miles North on GA 28 or 104 to Hwy. 221. Follow the signs on Hwy. 221 to the Thurmond Lake Visitor Center.

Recreation Opportunities

Boating, Camping, Fishing, Groceries/Supplies, Hiking, Horseback Riding, Hunting, Lodging, Pets Allowed
Picnic, Restaurant/Snack Bar, Recreational Vehicles,
Museums/Visitor Center, Water Sports, Wildlife Viewing

J. Strom Thurmond Lake

Rt. 1, Box 12, Hwy 221
Clarks Hill, SC 29821-9701
Phone: 1-800-533-3478

Jarvis Island National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Jarvis Island National Wildlife Refuge, 18 miles south of the equator and 1,300 miles south of Honolulu, is over 36,400 acres, including 1,100-acre (1.6 square mile) Jarvis Island. The majority of the refuge is marine habitat, including extensive coral reefs and other inshore tropical ocean habitats. Jarvis is an uninhabited low, flat, and sandy; vegetated only by sparse grasses, prostrate vines, and low-growing shrubs (scant rainfall and intense sun).

The refuge is managed primarily as nesting and roosting habitat for about 20 species of seabirds and shorebirds. Principal species are sooty terns, gray-backed terns, shearwaters, red-footed boobies, brown boobies, masked boobies, lesser and great frigatebirds, red-tailed tropicbirds, and brown noddies.

Threatened green sea turtles and endangered hawksbill turtles forage near the reef along with hundreds of species of fish, corals, and other invertebrates. The refuge is closely monitoring the return of nesting seabirds totally removed from the island by feral cats, which were eliminated in the early 1980s. Jarvis Island was exploited for commercial guano harvesting during the 19th century.

Kakahaia National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Kakahaia Refuge is a coastal freshwater pond, originally used as an artificial fishpond. This 44-acre refuge is situated on the south coast of Moloka'i. Established in 1977, it provides habitat for the endangered 'alae ke'oke'o (Hawaiian coot) and small numbers of 'ae'o (Hawaiian stilt), migratory waterfowl, and shorebirds.

Northern pintails are common in winter months; and the Pacific golden plover is the most common shorebird. The native black-crowned night heron feeds on fish and other small vertebrates along the shoreline. Kakahaia is primarily a natural, spring-fed habitat. However, in 1983, an additional impoundment was constructed to increase shallow water habitat for the endangered stilt.

This "New Pond" has recently (1998-99) been cleared of invasive plants to open up habitat for the endangered stilt and coot, as well as wintering birds. State Rt. 450 bisects the refuge. The 2 acres seaward of the highway are under special use permit to the County of Maui for use as a county park open to picnicking and shoreline fishing.

Directions: Kakahaia Refuge is located along the coastal road (Highway 450) linking the island's southeast coast with the airport in Kaunakakai. The refuge is located directly seaward of the Kawela subdivision and is about 5 miles from Kaunakakai.

As a satellite refuge, Kakahaia is not open to the public except by Special Use Permit; however, parking, picnic tables, and shade trees are located on the ocean side of the road. This park area is open year round.

Kingman Reef National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Kingman Reef is an uninhabited, barren, coral atoll with a deep lagoon 5 miles wide and 9½ miles long. Located about 1,000 miles southwest of Honolulu, this triangular reef has a land area of only 0.01 square miles. It became a U.S. naval reservation in 1934. Pan American Airways used the lagoon just before World War II as a station for seaplanes flying between Hawaii and Samoa. Kingman consists of coral reefs and submerged lands. The reef is wet or awash most of the time, with a maximum elevation of about 1 meter. Besides a spectacular diversity of coral reef fishes, corals, and other marine organisms, it provides roosting, feeding, and other essential habitat for migratory seabirds, and supports migratory shorebirds and threatened Pacific green turtles.

Recreation Opportunities

Wildlife Viewing

New Savannah Bluff Lock And Dam

Recreation Opportunities

Boating, Fishing, Pets Allowed
Picnic, Water Sports, Wildlife Viewing

New Savannah Bluff Lock And Dam

RT. 3 BOX 49
AUGUSTA, GA 30906-0906
Phone: 706-793-9403

North Inlet -Winyah Bay Reserve

Description: The reserve features the salt marshes and ocean dominated tidal creeks of the North Inlet Estuary plus the brackish waters and marshes of the adjacent Winyah Bay Estuary. North Inlet is a relatively pristine system in which water and habitat quality are much higher than those in Winyah Bay. As the estuary with the third largest watershed on the east coast, Winyah Bay has been greatly influenced by agriculture, industry and other human activities. More

than 90 percent of North Inlet's watershed is in its natural forested state. The reserve is home to many threatened and endangered species, including sea turtles, sturgeons, least terns and wood storks.

Directions: The reserve is located in Georgetown County, South Carolina, 30 miles south of Myrtle Beach and 50 miles north of Charleston.

Recreation Opportunities

Educational Programs, Museums/Visitor Center, Wildlife Viewing

North Inlet -Winyah Bay Reserve

North Inlet -Winyah Bay Reserve

University of South Carolina, Baruch Marine Field Laboratory P.O. Box 1630

Georgetown, SC 29442

Phone: 843-546-3623

Orangeburg National Fish Hatchery

Description: The Orangeburg National Fish Hatchery was established in 1911. Our mission is to provide statutory mitigation and restoration fish (striped bass) for Federal water projects in South Carolina and Southeast region; to provide redbreast as a trade off for restoration in South Carolina managed waters; and to provide environmental education and outreach. Throughout the year the hatchery holds special events. In May-Handicap/special needs fishing, in June- National Fishing Week, and in August- Senior citizens fishing days. The hatchery is open Monday-Friday from 7:30 am to 4: 00 pm. There is no charge to visit the hatchery.

Recreation Opportunities

Fishing, Hiking, Museums/Visitor Center

Orangeburg National Fish Hatchery

P.O. Box 410

Orangeburg, SC 29487

Phone: (803) 534-4828

Pinckney Island National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Pinckney Island NWR, established December 4, 1975, was once included in the plantation of Major General Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, a prominent lawyer active in South Carolina politics from 1801 to 1815. Few traces of the island's plantation in the 1800's exist today. From 1937 to 1975, when it was donated to the Fish and Wildlife Service, Pinckney Island was privately owned and managed as a game preserve.

The 4,053 acre refuge includes Pinckney Island, Corn Island, Big and Little Harry Islands, Buzzard Island and numerous small hammocks. Pinckney is the largest of the islands and the only one open to public use. Nearly 67% of the refuge consists of salt marsh and tidal creeks. A wide variety of land types are found on Pinckney Island alone: salt marsh, forestland, brushland, fallow field and freshwater ponds. In combination, these habitats support a diversity of bird and plant life. Wildlife commonly observed on Pinckney Island include waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, neo-tropical migrants, white-tailed deer and American alligators, with large concentrations of white ibis, herons, and egrets.

Directions: The refuge is located in Beaufort County, South Carolina and is 1/2 miles west of Hilton Head Island off of U.S. Highway 278. The island is bounded by Skull Creek (the Intracoastal Waterway) on the east, Mackay Creek on the west, and its northern tip faces Port Royal Sound. From I-95, take SC Exit 8 east towards Hilton Head Island approximately 16 miles to the entrance gate on the left.

Recreation Opportunities

Educational Programs, Hiking, Hunting, Wildlife Viewing

Pinckney Island National Wildlife Refuge

Administrative Office - 1000 Business Center Drive

Suite 10 - Savannah, GA 31405

Pinckney Island, SC

Phone: 912-652-4415

Richard B Russell Dam And Lake

Description: The Corps' newest lake project on the Savannah River, lying between J. Strom Thurmond Lake to the south and Hartwell Lake to the north, Russell is one of the finest fishing lakes in the Southeast. Hunting opportunities abound as well. The cost of construction of recreational facilities was shared with the states of Georgia and South Carolina, and operation and maintenance of these facilities has been assumed by these states. Russell Lake has two unique and informative visitor centers at the powerhouse and the Project Office.

Directions: Located on the Georgia / South Carolina border, 20 miles East of Elberton, GA, and 8 miles West of Calhoun, SC off US 72

Recreation Opportunities

Boating, Historic, Educational Programs, Camping, Fishing
Groceries/Supplies, Hiking, Horseback Riding, Hunting
Lodging, Pets Allowed, Picnic, Restaurant/Snack Bar, Recreational
Vehicles, Museums/Visitor Center, Water Sports
Wildlife Viewing

Richard B Russell Dam And Lake

4144 RUSSELL DAM DRIVE

Elberton, GA 30635-9271

Phone: 1-800-944-7207

Rose Atoll National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Rose Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, 14 degrees south of the equator and about 2,500 miles south of Hawaii, is the smallest atoll in the world with about 20 acres of land and 1,600 acres of lagoon. The square reef protects two small, emergent islands. Rose Island, the larger of the two, is low, sandy, and thickly vegetated. It is an important nesting area for the threatened green sea turtle and endangered hawksbill turtle.

It provides nesting, roosting, and foraging for about 15 species of

seabirds and 3 shorebirds. Buka trees provide crown nesting sites for red-footed boobies and great and lesser frigatebirds. Black noddies and white terns use middle and lower branches. Reef herons and red-tailed tropicbirds nest in the root systems. Sooty terns and brown noddies nest in barran coral rubble and gray-back terns nest on unvegetated Sand Island.

Hundreds of fish, coral, and invertebrate species inhabit the shallow reefs. One of these, the giant clam, is highly prized as food by Pacific Islanders and is rare in unprotected areas.

Santee National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Santee National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1942 to alleviate the loss of natural waterfowl and wildlife habitat caused by the construction of hydroelectric projects on the Santee and Cooper Rivers. Stretching for eighteen miles along the northern shore of Lake Marion, the refuge protects 15,095 acres in four different units (Bluff, Dingle Pond, Pine Island, and Cuddo) within the upper coastal plain region of Clarendon County, South Carolina. From open waters to closed hardwood canopies - from freshwater marshes to cultivated fields - from cypress swamps to upland pines - and practically everything in between - Santee has them all. Since the key to wildlife diversity is habitat diversity, it's easy to understand why so many different species call this refuge home.

Significant waterfowl concentrations winter on the refuge as do a number of other birds of interest. Santee National Wildlife Refuge over-winters the largest group of Canada geese belonging to the Southern James Bay population in the State. Nesting bald eagles and an abundance of osprey are evident along with several other birds of prey.

Birds are not the only residents of Santee Refuge. White-tailed deer, wild turkey and other woodland creatures live alongside raccoons, alligators and other reptiles and amphibians found around the ponds and marshes.

Unique natural and cultural resources found on the refuge include a Carolina Bay and the Santee Indian Mound (used as both a ceremonial and burial mound). British troops erected Fort Watson atop the mound during the Revolutionary War only to have it taken by Francis Marion's colonial troops in April of 1781.

Directions: The office/visitor center is located just off of U. S. Highway 301/15, seven miles south of Summerton, S. C. Visitors may take Exit 102 on Interstate 95 and follow the signs.

Recreation Opportunities

Auto Touring, Boating, Historic, Fishing, Hiking, Hunting, Museums/Visitor Center, Wildlife Viewing

Santee National Wildlife Refuge

2125 Fort Watson Road

Summerton, SC 29148

Phone: 803-478-2217

Savannah National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Savannah NWR, which lies on both the South Carolina and Georgia sides of the Savannah River just upriver from the city of Savannah, Georgia, was established April 6, 1927. The refuge 28,168 acres include bottomland hardwoods and tidal freshwater marsh. A 3,000 acre fringe area of upland hardwoods exists along the eastern boundary. An additional 3,000 acres forming an impoundment system are managed for migratory wading birds and waterfowl. These freshwater impoundments were formerly the rice fields of plantations dating back to the mid or late 1700's. Many of the dikes enclosing these pools were originally built during the rice culture era.

The refuge is home to a large variety of wildlife including: ducks, geese, wading birds, shorebirds and several endangered and/or threatened species including bald eagles, wood storks, manatees and shortnose sturgeon. The refuge also provides nesting areas for wood ducks, great horned owls, bald eagles, osprey and swallow-tailed kites among others.

Motorists are welcome on the Laurel Hill Wildlife Drive, off of S.C. 170, which meanders along four miles of earthen dikes through the managed freshwater pools and hardwood hammocks. During the spring and fall, you will usually see many alligators sunning themselves on the banks of waterways, along with an assortment of

wading birds. During the winter months, waterfowl and other migratory birds are visible in the impoundment system.

Directions: Savannah NWR is located on SC 170, six miles south of Hardeeville, South Carolina via US 17 (exit 5 off I-95) or one mile north of Port Wentworth, Georgia on GA 25/SC 170 (take I-95 Exit 109 to GA 21 South, then east on GA 30 to GA 25 North).

Recreation Opportunities

Auto Touring, Boating, Educational Programs, Fishing, Hiking
Hunting

Savannah National Wildlife Refuge

Administrative Office - 1000 Business Center Drive
Suite 10 - Savannah, GA 31405
Hardeeville, SC
Phone: 912-652-4415

Savannah River Scenic Highway

Description: Winding along three major lakes, this road crosses four counties. Spring and fall colors are especially beautiful along this easy-traveling river route. Many recreation areas are along the way.

Recreation Opportunities

Auto Touring, Historic, Camping, Groceries/Supplies, Lodging
Restaurant/Snack Bar, Museums/Visitor Center

Savannah River Scenic Highway

1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201
Phone: 803-734-0175

Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center

Description: Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center
The Sewee Center showcases the unique heritage and natural history of South Carolina's lowcountry. Jointly operated by the USDA Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the 9,000 square

foot facility exhibits hands-on interpretive displays on the unique and valuable ecosystems of the forest and refuge. In addition, Sewee Visitor Center features tourist information on recreational opportunities available on the Francis Marion National Forest and Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge. The center features a live red wolf education area to increase knowledge and understanding of this endangered species.

Directions: From Charleston, take U.S. Highway 17 north. Go about 18 miles. The center is located on the right.

Recreation Opportunities

Educational Programs, Museums/Visitor Center, Wildlife Viewing

Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center

5821 Highway 17 North

Awendaw, SC 29429

Phone: (843) 928-3368

Tybee National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Tybee NWR was established on May 9, 1938, by an executive order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, as a breeding area for migratory birds and other wildlife. Located in the mouth of the Savannah River, the 100-acre refuge began as a one-acre oyster shoal, Oysterbed Island, used by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) as a spoil disposal site to support their mandated harbor dredging activity. As a result, the majority of the refuge is now covered with sand deposits. The more stable portions of the island are densely covered with such woody species as eastern red cedar, wax myrtle, and groundsel. Saltwater marsh borders parts of the island.

The refuge is an important resting and feeding area for migratory birds including gulls, terns, neotropical migratory songbirds, and shorebirds. Least terns, black skimmers, Wilson's plovers, and several other shorebird species have nested on the spoil deposits on Tybee. During all seasons, the refuge's shoreline and open spoil deposits are used as resting sites for brown pelicans, gulls, and

terns. Endangered species, including piping plovers and wood storks, have been observed on the refuge land, while shortnose sturgeon and manatees have been found in the waters bordering Tybee. With the use of telescopes, birdwatchers observe the refuge birdlife from levees located across the river within Fort Pulaski National Monument.

Directions: Tybee NWR is located in Jasper County, South Carolina, at the mouth of the Savannah River, directly opposite Fort Pulaski National Monument, which is 12 miles from Savannah on U.S. 80. It also lies across the river from the small Georgia town of Tybee Island. The refuge is unstaffed and is administered from the Savannah Coastal Refuges complex headquarters office in Savannah, Georgia. The entire refuge is considered sanctuary for migratory birds and closed to all public use.

Tybee National Wildlife Refuge

Administrative Office - 1000 Business Center Drive
Suite 10 - Savannah, GA 331405
Oyster Bed Island, SC
Phone: 912-652-4415

Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge was established on December 1, 1997. The purposes for which Waccamaw NWR was established are (1) protect and manage diverse habitat components within an important coastal river ecosystem for the benefit of endangered and threatened species, freshwater and anadromous fish, migratory birds, and forest wildlife, including a wide array of plants and animals associated with bottomland hardwood habitats; and (2) provide compatible wildlife-dependant recreational activities including hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, and environmental education and interpretation for the of present and future generations.

Located in portions of Horry, Georgetown, and Marion County Waccamaw NWR's acquisition boundary spans over 55,000 acres and includes large sections of the Waccamaw and Great Pee Dee Rivers and a small section of the Little Pee Dee River. The US Fish

and Wildlife Service is actively acquiring lands within this acquisition boundary from willing sellers and presently refuge lands purchased total just under 9,000 acres. Habitats within Waccamaw NWRs acquisition boundary include 6,166 acres of upland forest, located primarily on Sandy Island, and the remaining acreage being made up primarily of jurisdictional wetlands. The wetland diversity of this refuge is what sets it apart from most others found along the east coast. Wetland habitats range from historic, broken tidal rice fields, to actively managed rice fields, to black water and alluvial flood plain forested wetlands of the Waccamaw and Great Pee Dee Rivers. These tidal freshwater wetlands are some of the most diverse freshwater wetland systems found in North America and they offer many important habitats for migratory birds, fish and resident wildlife. Species such as the swallow-tailed kite, osprey, wood stork, white ibis, prothonotary warbler, and many species of waterfowl can be observed on a seasonal basis. Additionally, these wetlands play a critical role in the filtration and storm water retention of the primary drinking water resource for the greater Grand Strand region. Waccamaw NWR is one of four refuges in the Ace Basin/Cape Romain/Santee/Waccamaw NWR Complex and is presently being administered by Cape Romain NWR. Plans for refuge staffing and the construction of a refuge headquarters/ environmental education center are currently underway.

Directions: Presently, few refuge owned tracts are accessible by car on Waccamaw NWR . The refuges land acquisition process is very active and tracts offering vehicular access are anticipated to be acquired

Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge

5801 Highway 17 North

Awendaw, SC 29429

Phone: 843-928-3264