

WOW 2026 Trips

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge South Pond Birding. South Pond is normally closed off to visitors. It is only during guided Wings Over Water trips such as this one that we are given special refuge permission to visit this otherwise closed area. The search for birds will include checking the impoundment for waterfowl and migratory shorebirds and also checking the undisturbed vegetation of the dikes and marshes for songbirds and raptors. Come prepared for mosquitoes. Cacti can also be a problem. Wear appropriate footwear. 1.5 to 2-mile walk. Meet: Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center parking lot, 14500 NC Hwy 12, app. 4 miles south of the Marc Basnight (Oregon Inlet) Bridge, west side of NC Hwy 12. Leader: Paul Laurent. Tue 10-13-26, 7:30-11:00 am. \$25.00

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge North Pond Birding. This walk, suitable for all levels of birding, will include the south and north dikes and will be paced to give participants an opportunity to study species found. Likely birds include dabbling ducks, herons, egrets; Brown Pelicans, White Ibis, raptors, shorebirds, gulls; terns, warblers, sparrows, and blackbirds. App. 1.5-mile walking distance. Meet: Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center parking lot, 14500 NC Hwy 12, app. 4 miles south of Oregon Inlet Bridge on the west side of Hwy 12. Leader: Susan Campbell. Tue 10-13-26, 7:30-11:00 am. \$25.00

Red Wolf Tour (NEW) Join North Carolina Wildlife Federation's Red Wolf Education and Outreach Coordinator, Katerina Ramos, for a guided Red Wolf Tour around Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge to learn about the endangered Red Wolf. This program meets at the Creef Cut parking lot at 5pm. There Katerina will provide a program on the Red Wolf's history, biology, and management! After the program concludes everyone will join in their personal vehicles and participate in a caravan across the refuge in the hopes of viewing wild Red Wolves in their habitat. The program will end around sunset. Field Expert: Katerina Ramos. Tuesday 10-13-26, 5:00 pm-sunset. \$20.00

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Exploring Pine Island Audubon Sanctuary Explore one of the gems of the region with special access to the various habitats of this 2600-acre Audubon sanctuary. This guided walk, although focused on bird watching, will feature all the nature and history that the Pine Island Audubon Sanctuary has to offer. 2-mile walk on solid terrain. Meet: Audubon Nature Sanctuary 300 Audubon Drive, Corolla, NC 27927 (app. 32 miles north of Roanoke Island off of NC Hwy 12). Pull onto Audubon Drive, wait at wooden gate. <http://pineisland.audubon.org/visit>. App. 32 miles north of Roanoke Island off NC Hwy 12. Leader/Field

Expert: Sara Marschhauser, Audubon staff at Donal C. O'Brien, Jr. Sanctuary and Audubon Center. Wed 10-14-26, 8:00-11:00 am. \$25.00

Nature Walk at Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Join wildlife ecologist Susan Campbell and Science Adviser, Claudia Jones, on Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. This 160,000-acre refuge is home to a multitude of species. We will spend most of our time walking the trails, paths and roads on the northern edge of refuge looking for tracks, 'sign' and whatever creatures are out and about. Learn about not only the habitats here but the history of the refuge and its management-- which can be challenging given that some very large mammals, sizeable alligators and even endangered species are found on the property. Wear comfortable shoes and be prepared for some muddy conditions if there have been recent rains. Be sure to carry insect repellent, sunscreen and plenty to drink. We will try to carpool as we move around the refuge to reduce disturbance. Meet at the Creef Cut Wildlife Trail parking area located at Hwy 64 & Milltail Road. Leaders: Susan Campbell & Claudia Jones. Wed 10-14-26, 8:30-11:00 am. \$25.00

Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge Pungo Unit Wildlife Tour (NEW) Join North Carolina Wildlife Federation's Laura Neitzey, Refuge Conservation Coordinator, and Katerina Ramos, Red Wolf Education and Outreach Coordinator, for a guided wildlife tour of the Pungo Unit of Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge. Together, we'll explore the incredible diversity of wildlife, from birds and butterflies to bears, that call the Pungo Unit home. This program will meet at the Pungo Unit Information Kiosk at 9 am. Using Google Maps, enter 600 Refuge Road Pantego, NC to get you to the right area. There is a large brown and white sign that reads "Refuge Tours Meet Here" at the kiosk. Once the group gathers, Laura and Katerina will go over the history of the Pungo Unit as a waterfowl sanctuary and review expectations for the tour. Following this introduction, participants will hop in their personal vehicles as we caravan across the refuge in search of wildlife. There will be several opportunities to pull off at observation areas to look for wildlife and signs of wildlife (tracks and scat)! We'll also enjoy a short walk along a popular trail for viewing black bears and other wildlife. To conclude the tour, participants can enjoy packed lunches or snacks from home at the observation deck, overlooking Pungo Lake. Meet: Pungo Unit Information Kiosk at [600 Refuge Rd. Pantego, NC](#), the intersection of Pat's Rd and Refuge Rd. Field Experts: Laura Neitzey and Katerina Ramos Wednesday, October 14, 2026 9 am - 12 pm \$25.00

Birding 101 (Classroom & Field) Birding 101 is designed for the inexperienced or casual bird watcher who would like to improve their birding skills. Using a combination of classroom and field exercises, participants will learn clues to solve the bird identification puzzle. Following classroom discussion and identification exercises, participants will put their new skills to work with a short walk at a nearby location. Although designed for the beginning birder, others may learn methods to expand their birding skills. Binoculars are recommended but not required. Due to class length, you might want to bring a snack and water. Meet: National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center, 100 Conservation Way, Manteo, NC 27954, Roanoke Island, conference room. Leader/Field Expert: Colleen Bockhahn. Wed 10-14-26, 1:00-4:00 pm. \$25.00

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge South Pond Birding The search for birds will include checking the impoundment for waterfowl and migratory shorebirds and also checking the undisturbed vegetation of the dikes and marshes for songbirds and raptors. South Pond is normally closed off to visitors. It is only during guided Wings Over Water trips such as this one that we are given special refuge permission to visit this otherwise closed area. Come prepared for mosquitoes. Cacti can also be a problem. Wear appropriate footwear. 1.5 to 2-mile walk. Meet: Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor parking lot,

14500 NC Hwy 12, app. 4 miles south of Oregon Inlet Bridge, west side of NC Hwy 12 Leaders: Karen Lebing & Marc Ribaud. Wed 10-14-26, 1:00-4:30 pm. \$25.00

Gull/Tern Workshop (Classroom & Field). Perfect for beginning and intermediate birders, the classroom introduction to the basics of gull and tern identification will simplify studying them in the field. The diversity of gull and tern plumage, size, and behavior may seem daunting, but this workshop will teach you how to easily identify and age the common local species. Join this workshop and get hooked on the mystery of birding identification. We'll then go on a brief excursion that will solidify the basics. As many as six gull and four tern species may be located for further study. After the classroom portion of the program, we will caravan, following the leader to various gull and tern gathering spots. Locations we might visit are Manteo/Nags Head Causeway, Wanchese docks, the sound behind the Nags Head Outlet Mall and as far south as Oregon Inlet. Locations to be determined by up-to-the-hour birding reports. Meet at National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center 100 Conservation Way, Roanoke Island. Be prepared to drive as far south as Oregon Inlet as part of this program. Leader/Field Expert: Brian O'Shea North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. Wed 10-14-26, 1:00-5:00 pm. \$25.00

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Nature Photography Van Tour. A unique customized tour on Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge hoping to provide the optimal locations to see wildlife. We'll be looking for Black Bears, River Otters, Wild Turkeys, Alligators, Red Wolves and much more. This is not a camera instructional tour, but a tour taking you to locations where you might obtain the best nature photos with your camera. Very limited space for 6. Meet: Coastal North Carolina National Wildlife Refuges Gateway Visitor Center 100 Conservation Way Manteo, NC 27954 (Roanoke Island) Jackie Orsulak Rick Bentz. Wed 10-14-26, 4:30-7:00 pm. \$30.00

Owl Prowl. We hope to hoot up Barred Owls, Eastern Screech-owls, and Great Horned Owls on this trip with special nighttime access to Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. Owls can be secretive and hard to see, so you never know what species we will encounter in the wild. The program will begin with a presentation on the natural history, distribution and identification of local owl species. Transportation is by car caravan in your vehicle behind the leader. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight or headlamp. Meet: Creef Cut Trail parking lot, Hwy 64 & Milltail Road, app. 5.5 miles west of Roanoke Island (on Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. Leader/Field Expert: Sarah Toner, USFWS. Wed 10-14-26, 5:30-8:30 pm. \$25.00.

Big Day Birding. Dawn to dusk, we will tally birds. This big day will follow ABA rules as we venture around Dare County birding hot spots to tally as many birds as possible by sight and sound. We will carpool. We will begin on the Outer Banks, starting with owls, waterfowl and ocean birds. The trip will end inland on Alligator River NWR for land birds, sunset birding and some owling at dusk. This trip is best for intermediate level birders who have their own pair of binoculars (scope too if you have one) and be comfortable with bird identification and all-day birding. The pace will be brisk to cover the ground required. Identification by sight and sound could be quick, we will try our best to get participants on every bird sighted. Bird checklists and an itinerary with map and timetables will be provided in advance. Bring food and drink for the day. Rest stops will be made as needed and will be known. Wear walking shoes/boots suitable for mostly flat terrain; no hike from the vehicles will be lengthy or strenuous. Some wading possible. Meet: Outer Banks Welcome Center parking lot on Roanoke Island, located at the foot of the Virginia Dare Bridge, Highway 64. This is the opposite end of Roanoke Island from Wings Over Water headquarters. Leader: Paul Laurent. Thur. 10-15-26, 5:30 am - 8:30 pm. \$25.00

Red-cockaded Woodpecker at Palmetto-Peartree Preserve (P-3) This is a two-part trip. First, you meet at Creef Cut Trail parking lot on the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. Then you will caravan in your vehicle following the leader to the Palmetto-Peartree Preserve, app. 15 miles west of Creef Cut Trail parking lot. There you will look for several colonies of endangered Red-cockaded Woodpeckers who live in 'P-3.' Most of the sites are visible from the network of unpaved roads. We may also look for six other species of woodpeckers and various songbirds that can be found in this area. Binoculars, cameras, water & insect repellent recommended. Meet: Creef Cut Trail parking lot, corner of Hwy 64 and Milltail Road (app. 5.5 miles west of Roanoke Island). Be prepared for app. 15 miles further driving to the observation location (30-mile round trip). Car-pooling is an option. Leader/Field Expert: John Hammond, USFWS. Thu 10-15-26, 6:00-11:00 am. \$25.00

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Birding and Wildlife. Explore Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in areas open year-round and others normally closed to the public. Look for waterfowl and shorebirds in the impoundments, raptors including Bald and Golden Eagles over the farm fields, and songbirds in roadside vegetation. Rare species such as the Western Kingbird and Ash-throated Flycatcher have been found during previous festivals. Butterflies possible (weather permitting). Black Bear is often seen. Red Wolf and Bobcat are a possibility. Meet: Creef Cut Trail parking lot, Hwy 64 and Milltail Road (app. 5.5 west of Roanoke Island). Trip leader/Field Expert: Sarah Toner. Thu 10-15-26, 7:30-11:00 am. \$25.00

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge South Pond Birding. South Pond is normally closed off to visitors. It is only during guided Wings Over Water trips such as this one that we are given special refuge permission to visit this otherwise closed area. The search for birds will include checking the impoundment for waterfowl and migratory shorebirds and also checking the undisturbed vegetation of the dikes and marshes for songbirds and raptors. Come prepared for mosquitoes. Cacti can also be a problem. Wear appropriate footwear. 1.5 to 2-mile walk. Meet: Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor parking lot, 14500 NC Hwy 12, app. 4 miles south of Oregon Inlet Bridge, west side of NC Hwy 12. Leader: Ricky Davis. Thu 10-15-26, 7:30-11:00 am. \$25.00.

Roanoke Island Birding Explore Roanoke Island's birding hotspots: from open lawns to dense forests, from salt marsh to scanning the sound, to birding the Wanchese harbor. Lots of photo opportunities. Look for year-round resident bird species as well as a mix of fall migrants, including warblers, vireos, kinglets, nuthatches, woodpeckers, thrushes and sparrows. Binoculars and insect repellent are recommended. Meet: National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center 100 Conservation Way, Manteo, NC 27954, Roanoke Island. You will caravan to various locations. Carpooling is optional. Good binoculars strongly recommended. Leaders: Colleen Bockhahn and Marc Ribaud. Thu 10-15-26, 7:30-11:00 am. \$25.00

Birding the Northern Banks-From Corolla to Duck Spend most of the day birding from north in Corolla and moving down to the boardwalk at Duck. Birding will begin with and include areas around Corolla village, including the Currituck Beach lighthouse and Whalehead Club area. We'll look for fall migrants including warblers, vireos, swallows and sparrows. We should see a few raptors, as well as terns and gulls. In the freshwater marsh areas rails are possible. If water levels are low, shorebirds may be present. We will enjoy lunch at a local restaurant and then head south to the famous Town of Duck boardwalk and vicinity, looking for more fall migrants, especially warblers and vireos. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in Duck at the Waterfront Shops parking lot, just beyond the blue water tower on the left in the Town of Duck. We will carpool/caravan from there north to Corolla. You will need to cover the cost of your lunch. Also, if you are already in Corolla, we can arrange to meet you there rather than you having to drive to Southern Shores. Call 252-216-9464 to arrange a Corolla meeting location. **Alert: When you're looking at overall**

driving, the mileage one way from Roanoke Island to Corolla is app. 41 miles. Good binoculars strongly recommended. Leaders: Jeff Lewis & Peggy Eubank. Thu 10-15-26, 7:30 am-3:00 pm. \$30.00

Hatteras Point Beach Birding. Cape Hatteras is one of the Outer Banks' premier birding locations. The Point, the Salt Pond and adjacent flats, dunes and wetlands are historically important to both anglers and birders. Expect to see not only Brown Pelicans, gulls, terns, shorebirds, ducks, and waders, but also a variety of raptors and passerines are possible. Ocean-watching may produce Atlantic Bottle-nosed Dolphins, migrant scoter flocks, passing loons or a few of the season's first wintering Northern Gannets. The trip will be in leader-driven beach vehicles with some walking on off-road areas. Alert: App. 45 miles south from Roanoke Island (Manteo) to Cape Hatteras Lighthouse (Buxton). Meet: Cape Hatteras Lighthouse parking lot, 46368 Old Lighthouse Road, Buxton, NC 27920. Leaders: Taylor Piephoff, Ed Corey, Karen Ritter & ?. Thursday, 10-15-26: 8:00-11:30 am. \$30.00

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Tram Tour (Family Friendly). Enjoy the beauty of the refuge from the open-air tram! Sit back and enjoy the ride with your hands free to take fantastic photographs, or gaze at wildlife up-close through binoculars. Enjoy a lively narrative about the natural history of the refuge and hear fascinating stories of past and present uses of the land. Find out if there really were buffalo in Buffalo City. Discover techniques used to manage the mosaic of habitats for native wildlife. The tour will include Twiford Road, which is normally closed at this time of year. Because of varying temperatures and possible insects, dress appropriately to keep warm and prevent insect bites. Binoculars and cameras are recommended but not required. Tram is handicapped and wheelchair accessible. Meet: Creef Cut Trail parking lot, Hwy 64 & Milltail Road, app. 5.5 miles west of Roanoke Island (on Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge). Leader/Field Expert: Bob Glennon & ? Thu 10-15-26, 9:00 am-11 am. \$20.00

Nags Head Woods Reptile and Amphibian Hike. Explore Nags Head Woods Ecological Preserve for some of the many reptile and amphibian species that live in the preserve. The preserve is made up of several types of habitats including maritime forest, sand dunes, freshwater wetlands, and marsh that provide a home to one of the highest diversity of reptiles and amphibians on the Outer Banks. A total of 29 species of reptile and 15 species of amphibians has been found within the preserve. There are several species that the only location on the Outer Banks in which they have been documented is in Nags Head Woods. Walk a few of the trails in search of species of reptile such as Black Racer, Rat Snakes, Cottonmouth, Green Anoles, and skinks. Search the edges of some of the ponds and under logs for amphibian species such as Southern Leopard Frogs, Cricket Frog, Bull Frog and Marbled Salamander. Meet: Nags Heads Woods Ecological Preserve parking lot, 701 West Ocean Acres Drive, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 Leader/Field Expert: Michael Gosselin. Thu 10-15-26, 9:00-11:00 am. \$25.00

Mashoes Marshes Kayak Tour. Kayak with a local guide through the backwater creeks of the Mashoes community. This is a lesser-traveled portion of the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge, making it one of the most pristine kayaking locations on the Outer Banks. The trip combines open water and narrow, winding paths through cordgrass fields. Participants will also have the opportunity to explore a remote beach and maritime forest on foot along the Albemarle Sound. Meet: Mashoes Road kayak access. Moderate to strenuous. Leader/Field Expert: Coastal Kayaks Touring Company: <https://www.outerbankskayaktours.com/> Thursday, 10-15-26, 9:00-11:30 am. \$45.00

Buxton Woods Maritime Forest Hike. Take a two-hour hike in the wild maritime forest on relict sand dune ridges as high as 60 feet surrounding freshwater swales locally known as sedges. Located on the widest and wildest part of Hatteras Island, these topographic and geographic features combine to produce unique island habitat. The maritime forests, swamps, and inter-dune ponds of Buxton Woods provide habitat for much of the island's wildlife. Bring water. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Meet: Buxton Woods Nature Trail parking lot on Lighthouse Road, adjacent to the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse parking area. We may caravan to other nearby trails showing various aspects of wooded habitats. Alert: This meeting location is app. 48 miles south of Roanoke Island. Leaders/Field

Experts: Marcia Lyons, retired Cape Hatteras National Seashore Park Naturalist & Field Biologist and Co-Leader, Science Advisor, Claudia Jones. Thu 10-15-26, 1:00-3:00 pm. \$25.00

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Birding Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge and Environs (NEW). All day trip. Enjoy a day of birding with birding and refuge expert leader Ricky Davis. This destination is one of the most well-known US Fish & Wildlife

Service Refuges in the Southeast. Plan to observe a wide variety of water birds as well as Passerines. Expect lots of waders and ducks as well as the early wintering sparrows, warblers and raptors. Stops will be made at well-known hotspots around the refuge including Lake Landing, Wildlife Drive, the Causeway and possibly down at Swan Quarter. The group will be birding a wide array of habitats: large, open farm fields and vast marshes as well as impoundments, canals, wet woodland and of course, Lake Mattamuskeet. Meet: Dare County Welcome Center on Roanoke Island, east end of the Virginia Dare Memorial Bridge on Highway 64/264. Bring snacks, lunch, drinks. There are not many options for food during the day. Good idea to have a full tank of gas. Will try to carpool to reduce number of vehicles. Will be a number of bathroom stops: public restrooms as well as porta-johns. Please bring your spotting scope (if you have one) and binoculars are essential. Leader: Ricky Davis. Fri 10-16-26, 6:30 am-4:00 pm. \$30.00

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Roanoke Island Birding. Explore Roanoke Island's birding hotspots: from open lawns to dense forests, from salt marsh to scanning the sound. Lots of photo opportunities. Look for year-round resident bird species as well as a mix of fall migrants, including warblers, vireos, kinglets, creepers, nuthatches, woodpeckers, thrushes and sparrows. Binoculars and insect repellent are recommended. Meet: National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center, 100 Conservation Way, Roanoke Island. Carpooling may be an option, otherwise we will caravan to the various locations. Good binoculars strongly recommended. Leader/Field Expert: Mark Ribaud. Fri 10-16-26, 7:30-11:00 am. \$25.00.

Exploring Pine Island Audubon Sanctuary. Explore one of the gems of the region with special access to the various habitats of the 2600-acre Audubon sanctuary. This guided walk, although focused on bird watching, will feature all the nature and history that the Pine Island Audubon Sanctuary has to offer. 2-mile walk on solid terrain. Meet: Audubon Nature Sanctuary, 300 Audubon Drive, Corolla, NC 27927 (app. 32 miles north of Roanoke Island off of NC Hwy 12). Pull onto Audubon Drive, wait at wooden gate. <http://pineisland.audubon.org/visit> 32 miles north of Roanoke Island off of NC Hwy 12. Leaders/Field Experts: Sara Marschhauser, Audubon staff Donal C. O'Brien, Jr. Sanctuary and Audubon Center. Fri 10-16-25, 8:00-11:00 am. \$25.00.

Ocean-watching Excursion. (NEW) This trip will be an excursion to several ocean-watching locations along the beach where the conditions are good for viewing ocean-going birds and other wildlife. Learn about ocean-watching techniques as you visit different habitats. The group will visit up to four local piers and/or beach access areas. Expect to see a variety of gulls, terns and other species of migrant and foraging seabirds. Chances are good that we will spot pods of dolphins and perhaps a whale or even a sea turtle or two. Bring a spotting scope if you have one. Meet: Nags Head Fishing Pier, 3335 S. Virginia Dare Trail. Leaders/Field Expert: Sandy Cash. Fri 10-16-26, 8:00-11:30 am. \$25.00

Hatteras Point Beach Birding. Cape Hatteras is one of the Outer Banks' premier birding locations. The Point, the Salt Pond and adjacent flats, dunes and wetlands are historically important to both anglers and birders. Expect to see not only Brown Pelicans, gulls, terns, shorebirds, ducks, and waders, but also a variety of raptors and passerines are possible. Ocean-watching may produce Atlantic Bottle-nosed Dolphins, migrant scoter flocks, passing loons or a

few of the season's first wintering Northern Gannets. The trip will be in leader-driven beach vehicles with some walking on off-road areas. Alert: App. 45 miles south from Roanoke Island (Manteo) to Cape Hatteras Lighthouse (Buxton). Meet: Cape Hatteras Lighthouse parking lot, 46368 Old Lighthouse Road, Buxton, NC 27920. Friday, 10-16-26: 8:00-11:30 am: Taylor Piephoff, Ed Corey, Jeff Phippen and Karen Ritter. \$30.00

Ocracoke Island Birding (Distant Trip). Explore this wonderful 15-mile-long barrier island which is entirely within the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Birding can change from day-to-day, especially in the fall. We will be on the lookout for lots of shorebirds, including Red Knots, White and Glossy Ibis, Peregrine Falcons, Eurasian Collared-doves, Palm Warblers and Red-breasted Nuthatches and, hopefully, spectacular views of Northern Gannets feeding just offshore. Stops will include a maritime forest, the dunes for an overview of migrating raptors, marshes, the beach, views of Pamlico Sound and Springer's Point. Meet at the northern Ocracoke ferry terminal parking area. **ALERT: This trip is one of WOW's most southern programs. Plan your WOW schedule considering the travel time. It is 63 miles from Roanoke Island to the Hatteras ferry terminal.** The free ferry ride takes approximately 65 minutes and does not take reservations, loading first come, first served. Call 1-800-BYFERRY to confirm ferry schedules or check on-line. On your ferry ride crossing Hatteras Inlet, look for waterfowl, gulls, terns, cormorants, and pelicans. Call the trip leader (202- 468-2871) if you are delayed. Consider pairing this trip and register for Friday Cape Hatteras Birding or Buxton Woods Maritime Forest Hike or Birding Portsmouth Island on Saturday. Leader/Field Expert: Peter Vankevich & co-leader Matt Janson. Fri 10-16-26, 8:00 am-2:00 pm. \$25.00.

Nags Head Woods Reptile and Amphibian Hike. Explore Nags Head Woods Ecological Preserve for some of the many reptile and amphibian species that live in the preserve. The preserve is made up of several types of habitats, including maritime forest, sand dunes, freshwater wetlands, and marsh that provide a home to one of the highest diversities of reptiles and amphibians on the Outer Banks. A total of 29 species of reptile and 15 species of amphibians have been found within the preserve. There are several species that the only location on the Outer Banks in which they have been documented is in Nags Head Woods. Walk a few of the trails in search of species of reptile such as Black Racer, Rat Snakes, Cottonmouth, Green Anoles, and skinks. Search the edges of some of the ponds and under logs for amphibian species such as Southern Leopard Frogs, Cricket Frog, Bull Frog and Marbled Salamander. Meet: Nags Heads Woods Ecological Preserve parking lot, 701 West Ocean Acres Drive, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 Leader/Field Expert: Michael Gosselin. Fri 10-16-26, 1:00-3:00 am. \$25.00

Hatteras Point Land Birding (NEW). Explore a variety of habitats on Hatteras Point on foot. Although the focus will be on late fall Passerines especially warblers, sparrows, wrens and others, there should be an assortment of wetland species such as rails, waders and grebes as well. The group may also come across local amphibians or reptiles such as Yellow-bellied Sliders, River Otter or maybe even Mink. Expect to bird in several locations during this afternoon trip. Stops will include Buxton Woods Trail, the original Cape Hatteras Lighthouse location, Loran Road, WWII British Cemetery Trail, Cape Hatteras Campground and more. Be sure to wear waterproof footwear and have insect repellent on hand. Meet: at the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse follow signs to the old lighthouse site. At the 4-way stop proceed straight through to a parking lot on your right. Leader/Field Expert: Taylor Piephoff. Fri 10-16-26, 1:00-4:00 pm. \$25.00.

Bodie Island Lighthouse Birding Look for songbirds around the lighthouse and on wooded trails, and for waterbirds (ducks, grebes, herons, egrets, ibis, rails, etc.) from the boardwalk by the ponds. While the emphasis will be on birds, the search will also include identifying butterflies and dragonflies (weather permitting). Local plant life will also be pointed out, and fun flora facts will be mentioned relating to both human culture and the importance of

the area to birds. Meet: Bodie Island Lighthouse parking lot near the north end restrooms, 8210 Bodie Island Lighthouse Road S. Nags Head, NC 27954. Leader/Field Expert: Jeff Phippen. Fri 10-16-26, 1:00-4:30 pm. \$25.00.

Hummingbird Banding (Family Friendly) (Waves) Hummingbird expert and licensed bander, Susan Campbell will demonstrate techniques for capturing and banding hummingbirds. The yard where the program will take place has hummingbirds twelve months a year. The program also will provide useful tips on attracting hummingbirds. Consider bringing along a folding chair. We will be in one spot and standing may get tiring. **ALERT: Because this is a 'Family Friendly' trip, two children 12 or under may accompany a paying, supervising adult at no charge. To include your child or children you must make reservations by either calling or emailing. 252-216-9464 or wow@coastalwildliferefuge.com.** This program is being held midway between Whalebone Junction and Buxton in the village of Waves. Meet: at the Lebing residence which is located at 25962 Hwy 12 in the town of Waves. Use GPS or Google earth to locate if necessary. There is plenty of parking in the driveway. House has a unique observatory above the roofline that will help you locate the spot. Leader/Field Expert: Susan Campbell, Fri 10-16-26, 2:00-4:00 pm. \$25.00

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Nature Photography Van Tour. A unique customized tour on Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge hoping to provide the optimal locations to see wildlife. We'll be looking for Black Bears, River Otters, Wild Turkeys, American Alligators, Red Wolves and much more. This is not a camera instructional tour, but a tour taking you to locations where you might obtain the best photos with your camera. Very limited space for 6. Meet: Coastal North Carolina National Wildlife Refuges Gateway Visitor Center 100 Conservation Way Manteo, NC 27954 (Roanoke Island) Rick Bentz. Fri 10-16-26, 4:30-7:00 pm. \$30.00 Jackie Orsulak

Owl Prowl. We hope to hoot up Barred Owls, Eastern Screech-owls, and Great Horned Owls on this trip with special nighttime access to Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. Owls can be secretive and hard to see, so you never know what species we will encounter in the wild. The program will begin with a presentation on the natural history, distribution and identification of local owl species. Transportation is by car caravan in your vehicle behind the leader. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight or headlamp. Meet: Creef Cut Trail parking lot, Hwy 64 & Milltail Road, app. 5.5 miles west of Roanoke Island (on Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. Leader/Field Expert: Sarah Toner, USFWS. Fri 10-16-26, 5:30-8:30 pm. \$25.00

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge South Pond and Beach Birding South Pond is normally closed off to the general public so that it acts as a bird sanctuary. It is only during guided Wings Over Water trips such as this one, that we are given special refuge permission to visit this otherwise closed area. The first hour will be spent ocean-watching and searching for and identifying ocean and beach birds. The rest of the trip will be spent birding the impoundments, dikes, and marshes of South Pond. Expect a variety of waterfowl, herons, egrets, wrens and sparrows. American Bitterns are possible. If we have good weather, there is also a chance for an assortment of raptors. With any luck we might find some warbler species in addition to all of the Yellow-rumps! While the emphasis will be on birds, the search will include identifying butterflies and dragonflies that we might encounter (weather permitting). Fun flora facts will be mentioned relating to both human culture and the importance to birds. Meet: Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, 14500 NC Hwy 12, app. 4 miles south of Oregon Inlet Bridge on west side of NC Hwy 12. Leader/Field Expert: Jeff Phippen. Sat 10-17-26, 7:30-11:00 am. \$25.00

Bodie Island Lighthouse & Beach Birding. Look for songbirds around the lighthouse and on wooded trails, and for waterbirds from the boardwalk by the ponds. Then experience the diversity of the island's habitats by spending an hour on nearby Coquina Beach watching for early migrating seabirds. Be prepared to walk up to 1 mile on paved or hard-packed, flat terrain. Meet: Bodie Island Lighthouse parking lot, near the north end restrooms. 8210 Bodie Island Lighthouse Road, Nags Head, NC 27959. Leader: Steve Shultz. Saturday 10-17-26, 7:30-11:00 am. \$25.00

Oregon Inlet Old Coast Guard Station Birding Where the ocean meets the sound, you will find an interesting selection of birds. Around the historic Oregon Inlet old Coast Guard Station look for land birds and whatever else may fly through the often-volatile Oregon Inlet corridor. Walk sand flats to find terns, shorebirds, and Piping Plover. Explore the rock jetty and view the inlet and ocean for waterbirds. App. one mile walk. Meet: Southern Oregon Inlet Bridge parking lot. If you're headed south on NC Hwy 12, this lot is immediately east (left) after crossing the bridge. Leader: Ricky Davis. Sat 10-17-26, 7:30-11:30 am. \$25.00

Ocracoke Island Birding (Distant Trip). Explore this wonderful 15-mile-long barrier island which is entirely within the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Birding can change from day-to-day, especially in the fall. We will be on the lookout for lots of shorebirds including Red Knots, White and Glossy Ibis, Peregrine Falcons, Eurasian Collared-doves, Palm Warblers and Red-breasted Nuthatches and, hopefully, spectacular views of Northern Gannets feeding just offshore. Stops will include a maritime forest, the dunes for an overview of migrating raptors, marshes, the beach, views of Pamlico Sound and Springer's Point. Meet at the northern Ocracoke ferry terminal parking area. **ALERT: This trip is one of WOW's most southern programs.** Plan your WOW schedule considering the travel time. It is 63 miles from Roanoke Island to the Hatteras ferry terminal. The free ferry ride takes approximately 65 minutes and does not take reservations, loading first come, first served. Call 1-800-BYFERRY to confirm ferry schedules or check on-line. On your ferry ride crossing Hatteras Inlet, look for waterfowl, gulls, terns, cormorants, and pelicans. Call the trip leader (if you are delayed, call your leader, 910-977-0933). Leader: Hal Broadfoot Sat 10-17-26, 8:00 am-2:00 pm. \$25.00

Hatteras Point Beach Birding. Cape Hatteras is one of the Outer Banks' premier birding locations. The Point, the Salt Pond and adjacent flats, dunes and wetlands are historically important to both anglers and birders. Expect to see not only Brown Pelicans, gulls, terns, shorebirds, ducks, and waders, but also a variety of raptors and passerines are possible. Ocean-watching may produce Atlantic Bottle-nosed Dolphins, migrant scoter flocks, passing loons or a few of the season's first wintering Northern Gannets. The trip will be in leader-driven beach vehicles with some walking on off-road areas. Alert: App. 45 miles south from Roanoke Island (Manteo) to Cape Hatteras Lighthouse (Buxton). Meet: Cape Hatteras Lighthouse parking lot, 46368 Old Lighthouse Road, Buxton, NC 27920. Leaders: Taylor Piephoff, Ed Corey, Gerald Head and Karen Ritter. Saturday, 10-17-26: 8:00-11:30 am. \$30.00

Birding Portsmouth Island (Distant Trip). Bird the abandoned village on Portsmouth Island, now part of the Cape Lookout National Seashore and maintained by the National Park Service. Established in 1752, for many years it was the largest European settlement on the Outer Banks, serving as a major shipping port. Starting with the Civil War, it began a long decline with the last residents leaving in 1971. Portsmouth Island is one of the last wild frontiers of the Outer Banks. The overall experience makes this a truly once-in-a-lifetime birding trip. Expect a variety of waders, shorebirds, especially American Oystercatchers, raptors, and thicket-loving birds. Your registration fee covers the chartered boat that transports participants from Ocracoke to the sound side of Portsmouth Island. Be prepared for walking and insects. Mosquitoes can be fierce. **ALERT: This trip requires careful planning with lots of travel time. It is Wings Over Water's most southern trip.** The trip is unique and wonderful. But we urge you to plan

your schedule carefully due to the time and distance involved. It is 63 miles from Roanoke Island to the Hatteras ferry docks. There is a wait to get on the ferry which departs on the hour. The ferry ride takes app. 65 minutes. Once off the ferry you have another 20-to- 30-minute drive south to the meeting location in Ocracoke village. You may choose to spend the night before on Ocracoke. Save one-day long-distance driving and consider combining this field trip and that of Ocracoke Island that takes place the day before. But keep in mind that if this trip gets cancelled due to weather, you may be committed to your motel reservation. Call 1-800-BYFERRY to confirm ferry schedules. Hatteras Inlet ferries are free loading first come, first serve. Call the trip leader if you have a ferry delay (202-468-2871). Meet at the ferry parking lot, at the south end of Ocracoke Island. Leaders: Peter Vankevich & co-leader Matt Janson. Sat 10-17-26, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm. \$50.00

Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge Tram Tour-Birding & Wildlife with Scott Weidensaul (NEW). Join veteran leaders, Susan Campbell and Marc Ribaldo along with keynote speaker Scott Weidensaul, on this special trip! Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge is renowned for its waterfowl. And it is widely recognized as one of the best birding sites in North Carolina. During the fall and winter, hundreds of thousands of migratory birds, including a variety of ducks migrate to Lake Mattamuskeet, the largest natural lake in North Carolina. Besides waterfowl you may also see Bald Eagles, warblers, waders, River Otters and Muskrats. Binoculars and a bird Identification book are recommended. Dress for the weather! The tram has hard seating. You are welcome to bring a seat cushion, towel or blanket on which to sit for more comfort. Meet: Lake Landing/Great Ditch Road parking area. GPS 35.48338 - 76.07834. Off Highway 264 between Engelhard and Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge. **We DO NOT meet at the refuge visitor center.** The meeting location is 5 miles south of Engelhard and 9.5 miles east of the Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. You'll be turning off Highway 264 onto a dirt and gravel road. After you turn, the canal will be on your left as you drive straight ahead to the parking/meeting area. ALERT- This trip is app. 59 miles from Roanoke Island. Consider the distance when planning your Wings Over Water itinerary. Leaders/Field Experts: Susan Campbell, Marc Ribaldo and Scott Weidensaul. Sat 10-17-26, 9:00 am - noon. \$30.00

Birding 101 (Classroom & Field). Birding 101 is designed for the inexperienced or casual bird watcher who would like to improve their birding skills. Using a combination of classroom and field exercises, participants will learn clues to solve the bird identification puzzle. Following classroom discussion and identification exercises, participants will put their new skills to work with a short walk at a nearby location. Although designed for the beginning birder, others may learn methods to expand their birding skills. Binoculars are recommended but not required. Due to class length, you might want to bring a snack and water. Meet: National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center, 100 Conservation Way, Manteo, NC 27954, Roanoke Island, conference room. Leader/Field Expert: Colleen Bockhahn. Sat 10-17-26, 1:00-4:00 pm. \$25.00

Shorebirds & Waders. The marshes, flats, and beaches of the Outer Banks are some of the best places in North Carolina to enjoy two groups of birds closely associated with the coast, shorebirds and waders. Join us as we roam the coast from Nags Head to Rodanthe in search of sandpipers, plovers, godwits, herons and egrets. This trip will focus on the identification of shorebirds and waders by size, plumage, and behavior. Learn which shorebirds winter in North Carolina and where some of our migrants end up. You might be surprised! The exact locations that we will visit will depend on current conditions and the timing of the tides, but may include Bodie Island Lighthouse, Oregon Inlet, and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge. Spotting scopes are helpful but not required. Mosquito repellent may be appropriate at Pea Island. The bugs can be fierce! Be prepared to walk up to 2 miles along mainly flat, hard-packed terrain. Meet: Bodie Island Lighthouse parking lot, 8210 Bodie Island Lighthouse Road, Nags Head, NC

27959, at north end near the rest rooms. You will carpool or caravan to various other locations. Leader: Steve Shultz. Sat 10-17-26, 1:00-4:30 pm. \$25.00

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge South Pond Birding. The search for birds will include checking the impoundment for waterfowl and migratory shorebirds and checking the undisturbed vegetation of the dikes and marshes for songbirds and raptors. Come prepared for mosquitoes. Cacti can also be a problem. Wear appropriate footwear. 1.5 to 2-mile walk. Meet: Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center parking lot, 14500 NC Hwy 12, app. 4 miles south of Oregon Inlet Bridge, west side of NC Hwy 12. Leader: Sandy Cash. Sat 10-17-26, 1:00-4:30 pm. \$25.00

Keynote Talk and Social with Scott Weidensaul (NEW). Scott Weidensaul is the author of nearly 30 books on natural history, including the Pulitzer Prize finalist, *Living on the Wind* and his New York Times bestseller, *A World on the Wing*. His latest book, *Return of the Oystercatcher*, coming in April 2026, showcases successes in bird conservation around the world. Weidensaul is a contributing editor for *Audubon* magazine, a columnist for, *Bird Watcher's Digest*, and writes for a variety of other publications including, *Living Bird*. He is a Fellow of the American Ornithological Society and an active field researcher, studying Northern Saw-whet Owl migration for 30 years, as well as winter hummingbirds in the East, bird migration in Alaska, and the winter movements of Snowy Owls through Project SNOWstorm, which he co-founded. *The Return of the Oystercatcher: Saving Birds to Save the Planet*. At a time when the news for birds – for the planet – has rarely seemed grimmer, there is reason for hope. We've restored faltering bird populations in the past, bringing back nearly extinct raptors and waterfowl. And despite the odds today, all around the world, people are reviving bird populations, providing a roadmap for wider recovery. In his newest book, *The Return of the Oystercatcher*, best-selling author and researcher Scott Weidensaul shows why we should never underestimate the resilience of birds, and why creating a world that works for birds will work for everything, including us. He'll trace this inspiring arc from a tiny island off the Maine coast to the bird-rich Danube Delta on the Ukrainian border where even war has not stopped progress; from vulture restoration in the mountains of Bulgaria to oases of sanctuary for endangered seabirds in the highlands of Hawai'i, and across the world's largest and most intact forest in Canada where Indigenous communities are permanently protecting hundreds of millions of acres of some of the most important migratory bird habitat on Earth, a win as well for social justice. This is a dose of optimism we all need. The historic Pioneer Theater: 109 Budleigh Street, Manteo, NC 27954. Sat 10-17-26, 6:00-8:00 pm. \$25.00

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Birding & Wildlife. Explore Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in areas open year-round and others normally closed to the public. Look for waterfowl and shorebirds in the impoundments, raptors including Bald and Golden Eagles over the farm fields and songbirds in roadside vegetation. Rare species such as Western Kingbird and Ash-throated Flycatcher have been found during previous festivals. Butterflies possible (weather permitting). Black Bears are often seen. Red Wolf and Bobcat are a possibility. Binoculars strongly recommended. Meet: Creef Cut Trail parking lot, Hwy 64 and Milltail Road, app. 5.5 miles west of Roanoke Island. From the meeting location we will caravan around the refuge. Carpooling may be an option. Leader: Sandy Cash. Sun 10-18-26. 7:30-11:00 am. \$25.00

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge North Pond Birding. This walk, suitable for all levels of birding, will include the south and north dikes and will be paced to give participants an opportunity to study species

found. Likely birds include dabbling ducks, herons, egrets; Brown Pelicans, White Ibis, raptors, shorebirds, gulls; terns, warblers, sparrows, and blackbirds. App. 1.5-mile walking distance. Meet: Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, 14500 NC Hwy 12, app. 4 miles south of the Oregon Inlet Bridge on the west side of Hwy 12. Leaders: Karen Lebing & Marc Ribaldo. Sun 10-18-26, 7:30-11:00 am. \$25.00

WOW 2026 Encore December 4-6, 2026

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Birding WOW Encore ALERT: When registering for this trip please note the date is in December. Explore Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in areas open year-round and others normally closed to the public. Look for waterfowl and shorebirds in the impoundments. Raptors, including Bald Eagles and Peregrine Falcons may be seen over farm fields and songbirds in roadside vegetation. Rare species such as Golden Eagle, Western Kingbird and Ash-throated Flycatcher have been found during previous festivals. Black Bears are often seen. Red Wolf, Bobcat and River Otter are possibilities. Binoculars strongly recommended. Meet: Creef Cut Wildlife Trail parking lot, Milltail Road & Hwy 64, app. 5.5 miles west of Roanoke Island bridge (Virginia Dare Bridge). Leader: Derb Carter Fri 12-4-26, 8:00-11:30 am. \$25.00. GPS 35.863989-75.861076. \$25.00

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge North Pond Birding WOW Encore. ALERT: When registering for this trip please note the date is in December. This walk, suitable for all levels of birding, will include the south and north dikes and will be paced to give participants an opportunity to study species found. Likely birds include dabbling ducks, herons, egrets; Brown Pelicans, White Ibis, shorebirds, gulls; terns, warblers, sparrows and blackbirds. App. 1.5-mile walking distance. Meet at Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, 14500 NC Hwy 12, app 4 miles south of the Oregon Inlet (Bonner) Bridge on the west side of NC Hwy 12. Leaders: Peggy Eubank & Jeff Lewis Fri 12-4-26, 8:00-11:30 am. \$25.00

Mattamuskeet & Swan Quarter National Wildlife Refuges Birding (Distant Trip) WOW Encore ALERT: When registering for this trip please note the date is in December. Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge is widely recognized as one of the best birding sites in North Carolina. During the fall and winter hundreds of thousands of migratory birds, including a wide variety of ducks, geese and swans migrate to Lake Mattamuskeet, the largest natural lake in North Carolina. Besides waterfowl, you may also see Bald Eagles, warblers, waders, River Otters and muskrats. Binoculars and bird field guide are recommended. ALERT: App. 59 miles from Roanoke Island to this location. For distant trips, consider travel times when planning your WOW schedule. Meet: Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center parking lot, 85 Mattamuskeet Road, Swan Quarter, NC 27885. Leader: Marc Ribaldo. Fri 12-4-26, 8:00 am-noon. \$25.00

Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge Birding (Distant Trip) WOW Encore ALERT: When registering for this trip please note the date is in December. Come discover the best spots on the refuge for bird and wildlife watching. Expect a wide assortment of waterbirds in the lake and refuge impoundments. The group will see plenty of Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, and Northern Shovelers to name a few. There is also the possibility of finding a Eurasian Wigeon. Herons and egrets will be abundant. This is a good place to spot a 'Great White' Heron, the rare

form of Great Blue Heron. The group should also see a variety of land birds in the adjacent bottomland forest. Wrens, sparrows and perhaps an unusual flycatcher such as an Ash-throated could turn up. Driving with short walks at some stops. Meet: Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center parking lot, 85 Mattamuskeet Road, Swan Quarter, NC 27885. **ALERT: App. 59 miles from Roanoke Island to this location.** For distant trips, consider travel times when planning your WOW schedule. Leader: Marc Ribaud. Fri 12-4-26, 1:00-4:00 pm. \$25.00

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge South Pond & Beach Birding WOW Encore ALERT - When registering for this trip please note the date is in December. The first hour will be spent ocean-watching and searching for and identifying ocean and beach birds. The rest of the trip will be spent birding the impoundments, dikes, and marshes of South Pond. Expect a variety of waterfowl, herons, egrets, wrens and sparrows. American Bitterns are possible. If we have good weather, there is also a chance for an assortment of raptors. With any luck we might find some warbler species in addition to all of the Yellow-rumps! Meet: Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center parking lot, 14500 NC Hwy 12, app 4 miles south of the Oregon Inlet Bridge, on the west side of NC Hwy 12. Leaders: Karen Lebing & Karen Ritter Fri 12-4-26, 1:00-4:00 pm. \$25.00

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge South Pond & Beach Birding WOW Encore ALERT - When registering for this trip please note the date is in December. The first hour will be spent ocean-watching and searching for and identifying ocean and beach birds. The rest of the trip will be spent birding the impoundments, dikes, and marshes of South Pond. Expect a variety of waterfowl, herons, egrets, wrens and sparrows. American Bitterns are possible. If we have good weather, there is also a chance for an assortment of raptors. With any luck we might find some warbler species in addition to all of the Yellow-rumps! Meet: Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center parking lot, 14500 NC Hwy 12, app 4 miles south of the Oregon Inlet Bridge, on the west side of NC Hwy 12. Leaders/Field Experts: Susan Campbell & Sarah Toner Sat 12-5-26, 8:00-11:30 am. \$25.00

Oregon Inlet Old Coast Guard Station Birding WOW Encore ALERT: When registering for this trip please note the date is in December. Where the ocean meets the sound, you will find an interesting selection of birds. Around the historic Oregon Inlet old Coast Guard Station look for land birds and whatever else may fly through the often-volatile Oregon Inlet corridor. Walk sand flats to find terns, shorebirds, and, if very lucky, Piping Plover. Explore the rock jetty for Purple Sandpiper and view the inlet and ocean for waterbirds. App. 1 mile walk. Meet: Oregon Inlet Bridge south parking lot. From the north, this is immediately on the east after crossing south on NC Hwy 12. Leaders: Karen Lebing & Karen Ritter Sat 12-5-26, 8:00-11:30 am. \$25.00

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge & Oregon Inlet Birding WOW Encore ALERT: When registering for this trip please note the date is in December. This trip will start at Pea Island and then move northward Oregon Inlet. The group will start with surveying the impoundments at Pea Island. Then they will drive up to the north end of the island to Oregon Inlet and the bridge. Time will be spent checking the inlet out to the rock groin looking for species that may include Great Cormorant, Common Eider, Purple Sandpiper, Piping Plover, "Ipswich" Sparrow and more. The group will also spend time ocean watching at multiple locations along the way. Northern Gannet, Red-throated Loon and an assortment of gull species, as well as scoters, should be visible from the beach. Meet: Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center parking lot, 14500 NC Hwy 12, app. 4 miles south of the Oregon Inlet Bridge on west side of NC Hwy 12. Leader: Steve Shultz. Sat 12-5-26, 8:00 am-3:00 pm. \$25.00

Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge Birding/Nature Tour WOW Encore ALERT: When registering for this trip please note the date is in December. Pocosin Lakes is famous for huge flocks of wintering Snow Geese. Mixed in may be a Ross's, Greater White-fronted or Cackling Geese. Red-winged Blackbirds can number in the thousands, a spectacle in itself. Yellow-headed Blackbird might be found. Also, raptors abound with the possibility of a Golden Eagle overhead. Farm field and edge species may include a variety of sparrows as well as American Pipits and Horned Larks. Meet: Pettigrew State Park office parking lot. 2252 Lake Shore Road, Creswell, NC 27928. From this meeting location we will either carpool or caravan following the leader to various birding hotspots around the refuge. Leaders/Field Experts: Jeff Beane, Stephanie Horton and Ed Corey. Saturday 12-5-26, 10:00 am-6:00 pm. \$30.00

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Birding WOW Encore ALERT: When registering for this trip please note the date is in December. Explore Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in areas open year-round and others normally closed to the public. Look for waterfowl and shorebirds in the impoundments. Raptors, including Bald Eagles and Peregrine Falcons may be seen over farm fields and songbirds in roadside vegetation. Rare species such as Golden Eagle, Western Kingbird and Ash-throated Flycatcher have been found during previous festivals. Black Bear is often seen. Red Wolf, Bobcat and River Otter are possibilities. Meet: Creef Cut Wildlife Trail parking lot, Milltail Road & Hwy 64, app. 5.5 miles west of Roanoke Island bridge (Virginia Dare Bridge). GPS 35.863989-75.861076. Leader: Derb Carter. Sat. 12-5-26, 1-4 pm. \$25.00

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Birding WOW Encore ALERT: When registering for this trip please note the date is in December. Explore Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in areas open year-round and others normally closed to the public. Look for waterfowl and shorebirds in the impoundments. Raptors, including Bald Eagles and Peregrine Falcons may be seen over farm fields and songbirds in roadside vegetation. Rare species such as Golden Eagle, Western Kingbird and Ash-throated Flycatcher have been found during previous festivals. Black Bear is often seen. Red Wolf, Bobcat and River Otter are possibilities. Meet: Creef Cut Wildlife Trail parking lot, Milltail Road & Hwy 64, app. 5.5 miles west of Roanoke Island bridge (Virginia Dare Bridge). GPS 35.863989-75.861076. Leader: Derb Carter. Sun 12-6-26, 8:00-11:30 am. \$25.00

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge North Pond Birding WOW Encore. ALERT: When registering for this trip please note the date is in December. This walk, suitable for all levels of birding, will include the south and north dikes and will be paced to give participants an opportunity to study species found. Likely birds include dabbling ducks, herons, egrets, Brown Pelicans, White Ibis, shorebirds, gulls, terns, warblers, sparrows and blackbirds. App. 1.5-mile walking distance Meet: Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center parking lot, 14500 NC Hwy 12, app. 4 miles south of the Oregon Inlet Bridge on the west side of NC Hwy 12. Leaders: Karen Lebing & Karen Ritter Sun 12-6-26, 8:00-11:30 am. \$25.00