

# Waccamaw

## *National Wildlife Refuge*

photo: Wendell Metzner



photo: Craig Sasser



photo: USFWS



photo: USFWS



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### Refuge Facts

- Established: 1997.
- Acreage: 9,506.
- Refuge headquarters are located on Highway 701 North in Georgetown.
- Location of Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge includes portions of Georgetown, Horry and Marion counties along the Great and Little Pee Dee rivers and the Waccamaw River.

### Natural History

- Refuge includes portions of the Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee and Waccamaw rivers.
- Habitats range from black water forested wetlands to tidal forested and emergent wetlands which were once the mainstay of the lucrative Georgetown rice culture.
- These river systems and associated wetlands comprise a large portion of the Winyah Bay drainage basin and are an important component of the Winyah Bay ecosystem.
- Large concentrations of wintering waterfowl, wading birds and neo-tropical migratory songbirds utilize the refuge area.
- Northern most nesting area for swallow tailed kites.

### Refuge Objectives

- Provide habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, neo-tropical migratory birds, and resident species.
- Environmental education and interpretation.
- Provide opportunities for hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation.

### Management Tools

- Habitat management which could include timber management, water management, prescribed burning, removal of noxious non-native species, and protected sanctuary where appropriate.
- Partnerships.
- Environmental education/interpretation.

### Public Use Opportunities

Hunting, fishing, boating, and environmental education. Other public use programs will be developed as refuge lands are added.