

## **Paddle Alligator River and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuges**

**WHEN? April 14th and 15<sup>th</sup>**

This **moderately difficult** paddle trip is suited for **intermediate skill level** paddlers due to distance and open water conditions.

### **4/14 Saturday ALLIGATOR RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

Meet at 11 a.m. at the Milltail Canoe and Kayak Trail parking lot off of Buffalo City Road in the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge.

Directions: Take highway 64 toward Manteo. After crossing the Alligator River (swing bridge) watch for signs to Milltail and Sandy Ridge Wildlife Trails, turn right. The turn is about 5 miles on right after bridge.

The Milltail Canoe and Kayak Trails consists of 4 trails, a 1 ½ mile loop, Milltail Lake(10 mile), Sawyer Lake (4 miles) and Milltail Creek (another 8 miles). We plan to paddle the loop, Sawyer Lake and a little bit of Milltrail Lake and creek for about 8 to10 miles.

Plan to launch NO LATER THEN NOON and we will hopefully find a little high ground to take a paddle break about half way/mid afternoon. We should be off the water by about 4 p.m. or so. Bring your camera....usually you will have the opportunity to get some great wildlife shots (see attached from last year!)



## **4/15 Sunday PEA ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

For those that wish to paddle the Pea Island Refuge on Sunday, we will be camping at the Oregon Inlet National Park Service Campground Saturday Night.

### **Oregon Inlet Campground (NPS)**

NC 12, Bodie Island (252) 473 2111

The northernmost National Park Service campground on the Outer Banks, this facility offers 120 sites along the windswept dunes just north of Oregon Inlet. If you're arriving from the north, look for the campground entrance on the east side of NC 12 just before you cross the Bonner Bridge. It is located on the ocean almost directly across from the Oregon Inlet Fishing Center. Water, cold showers, modern toilets, picnic tables, and charcoal grills are available here. There aren't any utility connections, but dumping stations are nearby.

Most of these sites are in sunny, open areas on the sand. Park rangers suggest that campers bring awnings, umbrellas, or other sources of shade. You also may need mosquito netting and long tent stakes here. Oregon Inlet Campground is open from April through October. Campers are limited to a two-week stay. Reservations are not accepted, and sites are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Fees begin at \$17 per night. Golden Age Passport holders receive a 50 percent discount. Note that this campground accepts cash, credit cards, and personal checks with Social Security numbers printed on them. WILL OPEN APRIL 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **DETAILS:**

After breaking camp (about 10 a.m.), we'll head to the Pea Island NWR (about 7 miles south). There is a launch area just past the headquarters buildings. I believe it is called New Inlet Ramp and parking area?? Dependant on winds, weather and tide, paddle trip route TBD

Give me a call or an e-mail; Cal Hansen 252-637-3655 or [paddler@suddenlink.net](mailto:paddler@suddenlink.net)

### **Disclaimer;**

Each participant of this adventure is responsible for making his or her own decisions. As understood, adventures such as this require that each participant must rely on their knowledge, their abilities and their assessment of current and potential conditions and hold others harmless and not at fault.