

# Francis Marion National Forest

## South Carolina



# Birding

Southern Region, USDA Forest Service

Date: 11/01/2002

## Highlights

The ecosystems of the Francis Marion National Forest provide seemingly endless opportunities to view a variety of birds. Represented habitats include upland forest, bottomland hardwood/swamp, maritime forest, salt marsh and even a limited amount of managed wetland impoundments.

Nearly 300 species of migratory and nonmigratory birds have been documented. Notable among these are the swallow-tailed kites, red-cockaded woodpeckers and wood storks.

For your most rewarding opportunities go to several key areas that offer ideal access where birdwatching can easily be explored. Six of these areas are listed.

## For More Information

### *Wambaw Office*

*P.O. Box 788*

*McClellanville, SC 29458*

*Phone: (843) 887-3257*

*Fax: (843) 887-3848*

*Hours: Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.*

### *Witherbee Office*

*2421 Witherbee Road*

*Cordesville, SC 29434*

*Phone: (843) 336--248*

*Fax: (843) 336-4789*

*Hours: Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.*

### *Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center*

*5821 Highway 17 North*

*Awendaw, SC 29429*

*Phone: (843) 928-3368 Fax: (843) 928-3828*

*Hours: Tuesday--Sunday, 9 a.m.--5 p.m.*

**Directions:** See map for directions to key birdwatching areas.

### **South Tibwin/North Tibwin Plantation**

**Access:** walking, bicycling, 15 miles of dirt roads.

**Habitat(s):** upland forest, bottomland hardwood/swamp, fields, maritime forest, salt marsh.

**Featured Species:** songbirds, wading birds, birds of prey, waterfowl, shorebirds.

### **Pon Swamp Reservoir**

**Access:** walking; 2-mile loop trail.

**Habitat(s):** bottomland hardwood/swamp (greentree reservoir).

**Featured Species:** songbirds, wading birds.

### **Little Hellhole Reservoir**

**Access:** walking.

**Habitat(s):** greentree reservoir/impoundment.

**Featured Species:** shorebirds.

### **Nicholson Creek Swamp**

**Access:** walking.

**Habitat(s):** greentree reservoir.

**Featured Species:** songbirds, wading birds.

### **Santee River Floodplain**

**Access:** walking.

**Habitat(s):** bottomland hardwood/swamp.

**Featured Species:** songbirds, birds of prey, swallow-tailed kites.

### **Waterhorn Area**

**Access:** driving, walking, bicycling.

**Habitat(s):** upland forest, bottomland hardwood/swamp.

**Featured Species:** songbirds, birds of prey, red-cockaded woodpeckers.

**Safety:** Be prepared for high temperatures and biting insects during warm months.

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## Francis Marion & Sumter National Forests

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# BIRDING ON THE FRANCIS MARION NF

