



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Take a Cruise to Celebrate National Estuaries Day

OCEAN – The coastal waters of the central North Carolina coast are magical places. Here, where the rivers meet the sea, we come to nourish our youthful spirit by fishing, sailing, and swimming. We come to relax by a placid marsh or to admire the sun rising above the ocean's horizon. Some of us come to make our livings from the bountiful harvest that these productive waters offer.

Come get a closer look at and learn about these magnificent waters and why they are so special. On Saturday, Sept. 24, the N.C. Coastal Federation and Hammocks Beach State Park in Swansboro will offer cruises around the White Oak River's estuaries. Join federation educators to learn more about these waters and how you can help protect them. The cruises will last about 90 minutes. They are in honor of Chris Campbell, a Navy Seal killed on Aug. 6 in Afghanistan. Chris was a former employee of the park.

The cruises are part of National Estuaries Day, an annual celebration that's been held on the last Saturday of September since 1988.

Cruises begin at the park, starting at 1 p.m. and at 3 p.m. Space on the park ferry boats is limited so registration is required. Call the federation to register at 252-393-8185. The cruises will be held rain or shine. The fee for the cruises is a \$5 minimum donation to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project, in memory of Campbell.