



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Join Federation Advocate Mike Giles on a Rich Inlet Exploration

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH - The N.C. Coastal Federation is planning a Halloween boat trip on Friday, Oct. 31, from 8 a.m. to noon, with Coastal Advocate Mike Giles, to explore Rich Inlet and Lea Island north of Figure Eight Island.

The event, a part of the federation's Coastal Adventures series, will explore diverse marine ecosystems, visit important birding areas and see first-hand the unspoiled Hutaff-Lea Island barrier island complex. Lunch will be provided. Join Giles on Halloween and see what real "treats" our coast has to offer.

"The trip provides people the chance to see what makes this inlet system special and why our inlets should be preserved as much as possible and not altered by dredging or hardened structures," said Giles. "We will observe a variety of shorebirds that call our coast home. Rich Inlet is the wintering habitat of the endangered Piping Plover and chances are we will get to see this elusive shorebird at the inlet system that is so important to that species survival."

Space is limited, and people are asked to register early online at www.nccoast.org. The boat trip and tour is geared toward adults and children ages 10 and older and will begin at the federation's Fred and Alice Stanback Coastal Education Center in the Wrightsville Beach Historic Square at 309 W.

Salisbury St. The cost is \$40 for federation members and \$55 for non-members. For more information or with questions, call 910.509.2838 or email tracys@nccoast.org.

From May to November, the federation sponsors a series of events as part of a Coastal Adventures series. Special guests will provide hands-on, engaging opportunities for you to learn more about your coast, critters and cool DIY projects. Times and prices vary.

Additional programs offered at the Coastal Education Center include a Coastal Speaker Series, featuring notable guests who will share experiences and insights.

You can find out more about these programs on the federation's online Events Calendar at www.nccoast.org, call 910.509.2838 or email nccf@nccoast.org.

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About the North Carolina Coastal Federation:

"Working Together for a Healthy Coast"

The N.C. Coastal Federation is the state's only non-profit organization focused exclusively on protecting and restoring the coast of North Carolina through education, advocacy and habitat restoration and preservation. The federation's headquarters are at 3609 N.C. 24 in Ocean between Morehead City and Swansboro and the office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The federation also operates field offices in Wrightsville Beach and Manteo. For more information call 252.393.8185 or check our website at www.nccoast.org.

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