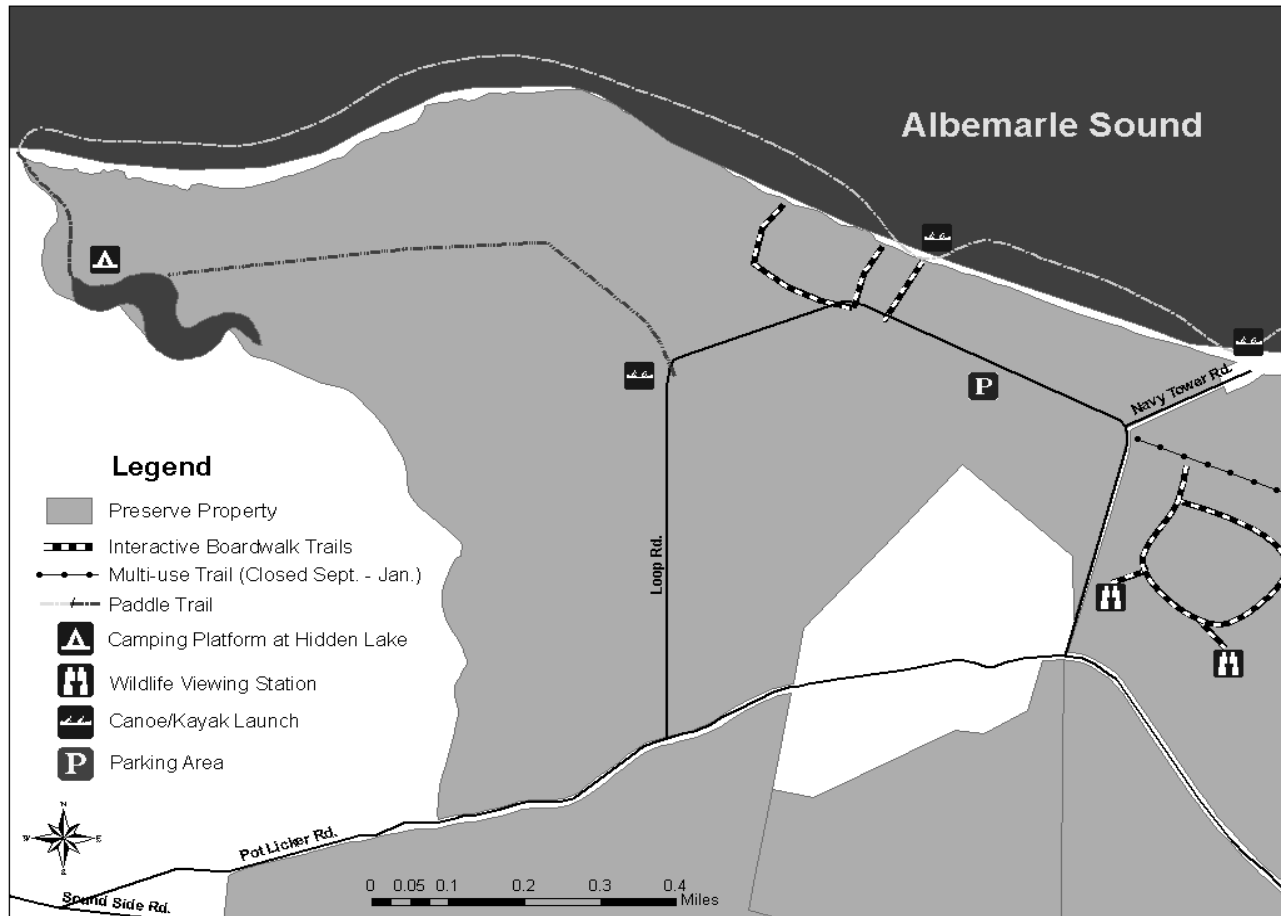


Directions



Five miles East of Columbia on US Hwy 64 or approximately five miles West of the Alligator River Bridge on US-64, turn North onto Old US Hwy 64 (SR-1229). After approximately 2 miles, turn North onto Newfoundland Road (SR-1221). Turn left onto Sound Side Road (SR-1209). Continue on Sound Side Road for less than a mile, turn right onto Pot Licker Road (SR-1220). The entrance to the preserve is on the right. Follow the signs to the boardwalk trails and canoe launches.

For assistance contact the
Tyrrell County Visitor's Center
 203 South Ludington Drive, Columbia NC 27925
 Phone: (252) 796-0723 Fax: (252) 796-0303


The Conservation Fund is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to balancing economic and environmental objectives to preserve America's natural, cultural, and historic heritage.



Palmetto-Peartree Preserve

USFWS



*Protecting the natural heritage
of Tyrrell County*

The Conservation Fund
 Partners in Land and Water Conservation

www.palmettopeartree.org

About the Preserve

The Palmetto-Peartree Preserve encompasses 10,000 acres of wetland forest in Tyrrell County, North Carolina. The preserve was established to protect and provide habitat for the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW). The Conservation Fund purchased the property in 1999 with funding from the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Protection of the RCWs at the preserve will mitigate the loss of RCW habitat in road construction projects.



Red-cockaded woodpeckers are the only woodpeckers that build their cavities in living pine trees. The dominant pine species at the preserve is loblolly pine. The preserve is also home to other rare and endangered species including the bald eagle, peregrine falcon, and red wolf. The preserve hosts more than 100 species of migratory birds and waterfowl. Bobcats, black bears, white-tailed deer, and a wide variety of plant species also flourish at the preserve.



Discover Nature

A system of boardwalks and trails at the preserve offers visitors a unique opportunity to experience the habitat up close. Wildlife viewing stations provide a quiet place for bird watching. Signage provides information on the history of the property, native plant and animal species, and the forest communities of the preserve.



A canoe/kayak trail accessible from the preserve offers 14 miles of water exploration along the Albemarle Sound and Alligator Creek. On the western edge of the preserve is Hidden Lake, which can only be reached by boat. The lake is surrounded by cypress trees and Spanish moss and offers a quiet serenity that must be experienced. A camping platform on the lake can be reserved by visiting:

www.roanokeriverpartners.org



Management Activities

Goals of the preserve:

- To manage the preserve to protect the existing red-cockaded woodpecker clusters while enhancing the habitat for additional clusters
- To use an ecosystem approach to protect and manage the preserve's resources
- To develop natural resource-based economic and community development through ecotourism
- To provide sustainable revenue sources through selective logging, hunt leases, and nature tourism activities



RCW protection requires extensive monitoring, which includes bird counts and banding to track survival as well as periodic habitat assessments to determine management needs. Forest management techniques are critical to the survival of the RCW and the maintenance of a healthy ecosystem. Management activities include selective thinning, reforestation, and prescribed burns.