



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

The Centennial Celebration

**Celebration of a Century of Conservation
100 Years of National Wildlife Refuges**

CELEBRATING A
CENTURY
of CONSERVATION

*March 13 and 14, 2003
Riverview Park and Pelican Island NWR*
Sebastian, Florida*

On March 14, 2003, Americans will celebrate a century of wildlife conservation that began when President Theodore Roosevelt declared that tiny Pelican Island in Florida's Indian River be protected forever as a safe haven for pelicans and other species of birds. This was the birth of America's best kept secret... our National Wildlife Refuges. This network of vitally important lands specifically set aside for wildlife now includes 540 refuges encompassing nearly 95 million acres. Over the past century, these lands have played a quiet but critical role in the protection of our nation's wildlife and wild places.

Join us for a grand celebratory event including:

- Presidential proclamation for the Year of the National Wildlife Refuge
- Grand Opening of the Pelican Island Centennial Trail and Observation Tower
- Refuge System Time Capsule Exhibit Dedication
- Rededication of Pelican Island as a National Historic Landmark
- Refuge System Flag Ceremony
- Historical re-enactment of Pelican Island's history
- First Day of Issue, Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge U.S. Postage Stamp
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service exhibits, featuring National Wildlife Refuges
- Military band

Pelican Island Wildlife Festival

*March 15 and 16, 2003
Riverview Park, Sebastian*

- Live wildlife presentations featuring Jack Hanna and Jim Fowler
- Boat and Kayak Tours
- Arts and Crafts Exhibits
- Live Music
- Environmental exhibits including touch tanks and live birds of prey
- Historical re-enactment featuring a President Theodore Roosevelt presentation



Pelican Island

PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Wildlife Festival

- Photography contest
- Kid's activities
- Wildlife seminars
- Book signings

For more information or to volunteer, contact Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge at 772/562 3909, ext. 258 or visit <http://pelicanisland.fws.gov>

*Rain location: Sebastian River High School