Friends of St. Vincent Island Newsletter

MAY 2026

Welcome to the new Newletter for the Friends of St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge!

Feature Article: Sea Turtle Nesting Season

Sea turtle tracks on St. Vincent Island.
Credit: Bailey Black

Dear Friend of St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge,

It is officially sea turtle nesting season on the Refuge. Volunteers and staff have been busy preparing for nesting season while managing the many other aspects of the Refuge. Enclosures are made and volunteers are trained. Starting May 1, staff and permitted volunteers conduct daily nesting surveys to document and protect new nests along 10 miles of shoreline on the refuge. Existing nests are checked for predation. New nests are inventoried, photographed, and protected by exclosures. In two months, once eggs have hatched, nests are inventoried and results reported to state partners.

The Refuge receives no dedicated funding for the marine turtle conservation program so we are looking for your support to keep up this program and offering you the opportunity to adopt a nest this season. Last year there were 119 nests on the island. Monies raised will go towards the predator exclosure cage materials, fuel, supplies, and the cost of an intern.

Sea turtle nest on St. Vincent Island.
Credit: Bailey Black

All tax-deductible sponsorships receive a certificate of sponsorship, information about the sponsored nest, an end of the year season recap with specific information about their nest, and a receipt for tax records. This is a great gift opportunity for a young person, nature or turtle lover in your life. We appreciate your support.

The best way to adopt a sea turtle nest is on the Friends' website:
https://stvincentfriends.com

Or you can mail a tax-deductible donation to:
Friends of St. Vincent NWR, Inc., PO Box 69, Apalachicola, FL 32329

FRIENDS OF
ST. VINCENT NWR

If mailing a donation, please include Adopter Name and Address for certificate and annual recap mailing. If different, please include donor name and address or email address for confirmation and receipt for tax purposes.

Thank you for your continued support of the Friends of St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge.

Other News

Blog: Rescuing Turtles From the Cold

Paula, the Friends, and partners worked to rescue cold stunned sea turtles from St Joseph Bay.

Read the Blog>

Red Wolf Program Updates

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently released a report about the red wolf program.

Read the Report >

Upcoming Wagon Tours

May 7 - Final Wagon Tour of the season!

Check our events page for our fall schedule. Tour reservations open at 8:00 a.m. Eastern Time Zone the Friday before each tour.

View all events >

STVINCENTFRIENDS.COM

Friends of St. Vincent NWR