

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release
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Caption: Intern April Arthur will spend the 2019-2020 season at “Ding” Darling.

Refuge welcomes new intern

Intern April Arthur recently arrived to help J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge with staff shortages in the coming season, thanks to funding from the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS).

Arthur graduated from Clemson University, S.C., in 2018 with a bachelor degree in wildlife and fisheries biology. The North August, S.C., native later moved to Columbia, S.C., to work for the Richland Library building experience in programming, design, and customer relations. She now serves as a shared-use intern for DDWS and the refuge.

“I absolutely adore Sanibel thus far!” said Arthur. “I am an avid birder, so I'm thrilled to live in a place with so many diverse species that I can see right out my window. It also doesn't hurt that I now live so close to the beach and that the sun seems to always shine.”

DDWS provides living stipends and other benefits for more than a dozen interns each year. The refuge supports interns with free housing.

“Our interns bring youthful energy, enthusiasm, and creativity to the refuge team,” said DDWS executive director Birgie Miller. “At the same time, the program gives college students and recent graduates an opportunity to learn hands-on about the environment and refuge and non-profit operations.”

“ I love the Society's mission and very much look forward to designing marketing materials to help build others' interest in the mission as well,” Arthur said.

For more information about the refuge's internship programs, contact supervisory refuge ranger Toni Westland at 239-472-1100 ext. 237. To make a donation in support of the program, contact Miller at 239-472-1100 ext. 4.

ABOUT DDWS

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, DDWS works to support J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge's mission of conservation, wildlife and habitat protection, research, and public education through charitable donations and Refuge Nature Shop profits.

To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit dingdarlingsociety.org or contact Birgie Miller at 239-292-0566 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org.

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