

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Chelle Koster Walton

239-699-4754

ChelleTrav@aol.com

Caption:

‘Ding’ Darling free film series wraps up on the wings of rare eagle

The eighth annual “Ding” Darling Wednesday Film Series finishes its biweekly showings on April 1 with a free airing of the documentary *Bird of Prey* at 1 p.m. in the J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge Visitor & Education Center on Sanibel Island.

The 94-minute documentary follows world-renowned cinematographer Neil Rettig on his journey to find and film the planet’s rarest and most critically endangered eagle, the Philippine eagle. His mission inspires a group of people to save the creature from extinction.

International demand for timber led to the rapid demise of the Philippine forest in the late 20th century. Philippine eagles require large tracts of intact forest to survive, and most of what remains today is too small or fragmented to meet their needs. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology partnered with Rettig and other conservation organizations to produce the award-winning *Birds of Prey*.

DDWS has hosted the season’s seven free film showings with sponsorship from Sanibel-Captiva Beach Resorts. Seating is limited and on a first-come basis.

A short discussion follows the film to allow visitors to gain more from their documentary-viewing experience by listening to other people's points of view and analyzing what they just watched.

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 239-472-1100 ext. 4, or dingdarlingsociety@gmail.com.

###

