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"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society - Friends of the Refuge

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Caption: Salmon are the lifeblood of Alaska's Tongass National Forest, which boasts more than 15,000 miles of salmon rivers and streams and over 123,000 acres of lakes and ponds that support salmon.

'Ding' virtual film airing focuses on salmon habitat conservation

A partnership between the Sitka Conservation Society and the U.S. Forest Service, the 30-minute documentary *The Salmon Forest* explores the connection between wild salmon and life in Alaska's Tongass National Forest, the largest national forest in the United States. Part of the 10th annual "Ding" Darling Film Series, it will air virtually for viewers to watch before the March 16 Zoom discussion.

The 30-minute film follows Alaskan salmon on their epic migration from the streams of the forest to the ocean and back, revealing the various lives they impact along the way. Pull in a huge catch with commercial fishermen, explore the breathtaking landscapes that draw in millions, watch as a mother bear lunges into a stream to feed her cubs, visit a native Tlingit community to better understand salmon's cultural significance, and meet the people who work day and night to protect this public resource for generations to come.

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) hosts the season's free film showings. Pre-registration for *The Salmon Forest* and follow-up discussion is currently open via dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/lecture-and-film-series and will be required by, at latest, March 15, depending upon availability. (Registrations are limited to 200 for each film.)

Films will be available to viewers on various platforms to watch at a time and link assigned via email. The discussion at 5 p.m. on March 16 allows visitors to gain more from their documentary-viewing experience by listening to other people's points of view and analyzing what they just watched. Watch dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/lecture-and-film-series for details. See the calendar of film discussions, below. Early registration is recommended.

March 16 - *Salmon Forest*

April 6 - *Last Green Thread & Chasing Ghosts*

April 13 - *Troubled Waters: A Turtle's Tale*

To learn about sponsorship opportunities for the film series, contact Sierra Hoisington at shois@dingdarlingsociety.org or 239-472-1100 ext. 233.

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.

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