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“WATERFOWL WEEKEND” PROVIDES A TASTE OF TRADITIONAL COASTAL COMMUNITY HERITAGE

HARKERS ISLAND, N.C. – The Core Sound community of North Carolina’s Southern Outer Banks hosts **CORE SOUND WATERFOWL WEEKEND** December 4 – 6, 2009 with traditional decoy carving and boat building demonstrations, live traditional music and an abundance of the area’s fresh seafood and home cooking. The event allows the Harkers Island community to throw open their doors, welcoming everyone to an annual down east celebration of the natural beauty and maritime heritage of the area, held every year at the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum and Heritage Center. From unraveling fact and fiction during storytelling sessions and sampling “fresh from the docks” fare to exploring recently developed nature trails, Waterfowl Weekend provides entertainment mingled with the rich cultural bonds of a small North Carolina community.

Friday evening commences the celebration with a ticketed event to the Core Sound Seafood & Wild Game Extravaganza and Dessert Reception. Talented local artisans, musicians and chefs are on hand Saturday and Sunday, sharing some of the community’s long-standing recipes of “Down East” coastal cuisine and fish house lies. “Carteret Catch” – a program created to encourage local businesses to purchase locally caught seafood – allows festival-goers to sample fresh seafood, while meeting local fishermen and chefs from Crystal Coast restaurants.

Wrapping around the fishing communities of Down East Carteret County, Cape Lookout National Seashore (and its 56 miles of protected barrier islands) embraces Core Sound, one of the state’s most pristine and productive fishing grounds and the region’s livelihood. This area, just recently named one of America’s byways – the Outer Banks National Scenic Byway -- provides visitors with a deep sense of place among the marshes, creeks and maritime forests that create a landscape of natural beauty that has been calling travelers for many years. Here lies generations of history and heritage, from waterfowling to commercial fishing, community history and a reverence for the “old ways” seldom found along today’s coast. Along these roads you can still purchase locally caught seafood at the fish house, buy a local handmade decoy and see a wooden boat being built by hand under windswept oaks.

Core Sound Waterfowl Weekend celebrates all this with a “homecoming” atmosphere for all who will venture to the “end of the road” for a taste and feel of North Carolina’s maritime traditions.

For more information on the **CORE SOUND WATERFOWL WEEKEND 2009**, call (252) 728-1500 or visit www.coresound.com.

To experience **NORTH CAROLINA’S CRYSTAL COAST** along the Southern Outer Banks, call (800) 786-6962, or visit www.crystalcoastnc.org or www.facebook.com/crystalcoast.

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