

**United States Department of the Interior  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
2145 Key Wallace Drive  
Cambridge, MD 21613  
TEL: 410-228-2677  
(FAX: 410-221-7738)  
Email: [fw5rw\\_BWNWR@fws.gov](mailto:fw5rw_BWNWR@fws.gov)**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 10, 2010  
INFORMATION: Michele Whitbeck, 410-901-6124 x.23**

### **Blackwater NWR Birding and Natural History Research Library Opens**

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) has opened its Blackwater NWR Birding and Natural History Research Library on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10:00am to 3:00pm. The list of over 500 birding and wildlife oriented books can be found on the Blackwater Refuge website: [www.fws.gov/blackwater/visitorctr.html](http://www.fws.gov/blackwater/visitorctr.html) and on the Friends of Blackwater website: [www.friendsofblackwater.org/visitorctr.html](http://www.friendsofblackwater.org/visitorctr.html).

With the assistance of the Friends of Blackwater (FOB), Blackwater NWR constructed a room for the research library along with the Wild Birds Unlimited "Pathways to Nature" second floor Observatory in 2006. The library was furnished by the FOB and was stocked with its first 450 volumes of birding and wildlife books donated by long time Volunteer Dick Kleen in 2008. For the past two years, the library has only been open by appointment until such time as there were enough Volunteers to staff the library on a regular basis.

Blackwater will utilize the help of its Volunteers to staff the library on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The refuge is still seeking a few more Volunteers for the library, with the goal of having each library Volunteer work once a month. As we acquire even more Volunteers, we will be able to open the library more days a week. If you would like to find out more about volunteering in the library, contact Volunteer Coordinator Michele Whitbeck at 410-901-6124 ext. 23, or email her at [michele\\_whitbeck@fws.gov](mailto:michele_whitbeck@fws.gov).

If you have birding and wildlife oriented books you would like to donate to the library, please download, print, read, and sign the "Library at BWNWR" Donation Policy Form, which can be found on either website. For more information, please contact the refuge at 410-228-2677.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov).