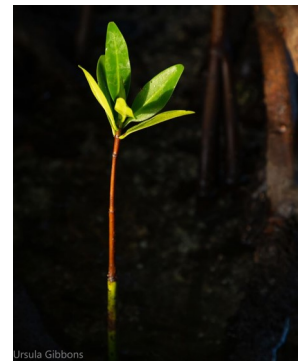


DELNOR DAILY

A quarterly newsletter brought to you by Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park

Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
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Welcome to the team, Ursula Gibbons!

At the annual membership meeting of the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins a new board member was inducted. Already a dedicated volunteer who runs the social media accounts for the Friends, Ursula Gibbons decided to take her volunteerism to the next level. Director Todd Richards stepped down after the end of his three year agreement came about, so as to focus more on his business; he is the owner of our concessionaire stand, Naples Beach Adventures. While he will no longer be directly involved with the Friends board he will remain a large part of the life of Delnor-Wiggins! We are so thankful to him for his past dedication, and so excited to welcome Ursula and help her get acquainted with another aspect of the park.

2021 Winter Shorebird Survey

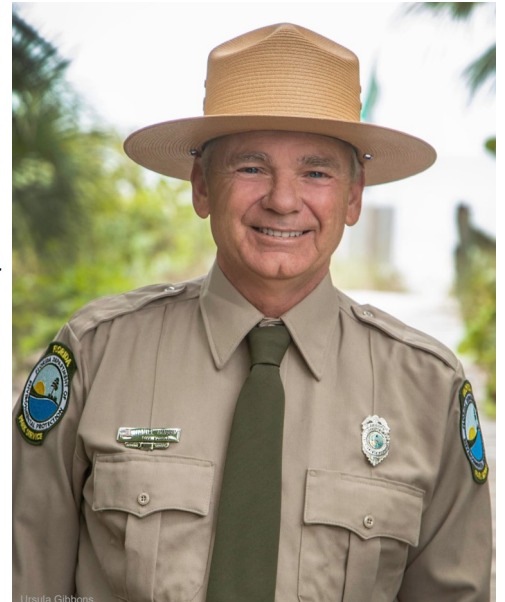


A multitude of species of seabirds and shorebirds can be found on our beach during the wintertime. Many of these birds are considered a focal species; these birds may provide an essential ecological function or are indicative of habitat conditions. Every year during the first week of February staff takes off on foot to participate in a state-wide survey of these birds. The primary objective of this study is to better understand the wintertime distribution of shorebirds and seabirds in Florida. Annual surveys allow for a recognition of long-term trends or changes in population sizes and distribution. This in turn can help identify key wintering sites, which guides future conservations efforts. During this year’s survey, a low total of twelve birds were spotted during the count. Species such as Herring Gull, Ring-Billed Gull, & Royal Tern were documented. Especially of interest, an injured royal tern was spotted and was able to be transported to the Conservancy of Southwest Florida for rehabilitation. To learn more about the importance of wintertime bird surveys you can visit: <https://flshorebirdalliance.org/get-involved/survey-monitoring/>

Division Award Winner, Daniel Goggin — 2020 Lifesaver Award

The Lifesaver Award is awarded to an employee or volunteer for saving the life of another person.

On a June afternoon in 2020 a staff member at Delnor-Wiggins was experiencing strange sensations that were at first thought to be heat related. The ranger was feeling poorly and expressed confusion; they were light headed and couldn’t function properly. Due to Ranger Goggin's emergency medical experience his immediate response was to check his coworker’s pulse. Based on the pulse rate, Ranger Goggin decided to call 911 because symptoms indicated to him that his coworker may have been suffering a heart attack. Shortly thereafter, the ailing coworker was taken by their spouse to the emergency room to be diagnosed and treated. The hospital found a concerning issue: blocked arteries. One was 99% blocked, and another was 80%. This employee underwent emergency surgery and spent the next four days in the hospital. If it were not for the quick thinking of Ranger Goggin and other rangers at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park, as well as the experience and knowledge of Ranger Goggin in emergency medical incidents, their fellow ranger might not be here today. Ranger Goggin's’ coworkers were honored to nominate him for the Lifesaver Award.



ISO (IN SEARCH OF)

Do you love the beach? Are you interested in learning about the park, the animals, the plants, and in sharing this information with others? Do you have any experience with public speaking? Do you have free time that you’d like to fill? If you said “yes” to any of those questions, becoming a beach steward may be just the thing for you! Please email the volunteer manager at Caitlin.Brunk@FloridaDEP.Gov with the email subject “Beach Steward” if you wish to learn more.

