

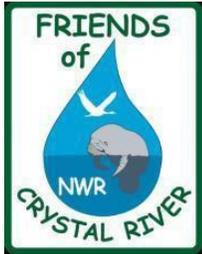
The Friends of Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Inc.  
**Nature Coast Lecture Series**  
Tuesday, March 9, 2021  
6 p.m.

Via Zoom. To Join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/3935807027?pwd=eFRzYXdxdFhORDBaSIV4eDhxSWI3dz09>

Meeting ID: 393 580 7027

Passcode: 342957



## Tales of the Chassahowitzka

Joyce Kleen, Wildlife Biologist, and  
Bob Quarles, Retired Boat Operator  
Crystal River NWR Complex



The Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1941, is comprised of over 31,000 acres of saltwater bays, estuaries and brackish marshes at the mouth of the Chassahowitzka River. The refuge provides significant waterfowl habitat and is home to over 250 species of birds, over 50 species of reptiles and amphibians, and at least 25 species of mammals, including the endangered West Indian Manatee. This talk will include tales of the conservation work by long-time refuge staff.



Joyce Kleen currently works for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as a wildlife biologist on the Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge Complex which includes five national wildlife refuges along Florida's Gulf coast - Crystal River, Chassahowitzka, Egmont Key, Passage Key, and Pinellas NWRs. Joyce has worked for the USFWS since 1981 as a biological technician, wildlife biologist, and assistant refuge manager with collateral law enforcement on nine refuges in two regions. Joyce has conducted and/or coordinated wildlife surveys for wading birds, waterfowl, deer, black bears, alligators, beach-nesting birds, sea turtles, and

manatees. Her work with endangered and rare species work has included American alligators, snail kites, piping plovers, least terns, black skimmers, peregrine falcons, bald eagles, reddish egret, West Indian manatees, and the reintroduction of whooping cranes in Florida.



Bob Quarles is a retired boat operator with over 38 years of service with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Chassahowitzka NWR. Bob's collateral duties included law enforcement and national fire fighting for 26 years and he was a boat instructor for his last 10 years of service. While at Chassahowitzka, Bob performed waterfowl, alligator, and manatee surveys, as well as assisting in the reintroduction of the Whooping Cranes. Bob also conducted controlled burns and lead shot studies for the enhancement and protection of waterfowl and wildlife.