

Gillespie Creek Journal

Visit gillespiecreek.com for archived Newsletters



Wood Storks in Flight

Wood Stork's wing span can be up to 61." Currently Wood Storks are on the Endangered Species list.

A Few Facts about Wood Storks

- * They are vociferous and loud when nesting but become nearly mute as adults only making soft hissing noises and grunts during interactions.
- * Their nests are open to the sky with no tree covering.
- * Adult Wood Storks give their chicks cooling showers in their nest by regurgitating water on them.
- * Wood Storks are the largest of the wading birds.
- * Wood Storks can live to be 22 yrs old
- * Wood Stork territory's Northern limit is the Carolina's.

Engage Your Senses



Welcome to South Carolina's Barrier Islands
12-4-23



Wood Stork

A

Bird With a Dirty Face

Wood Storks need alligators to prepare their nesting areas by keeping open water at the base of the colony's nests. They also guard the area from humans. The Wood Stork is an indicator of an ecosystem's health. They control the prey diversity, abundance and distribution. (Avian Report)

Nature's Treasures Abound

My first visit to the Lowcountry of South Carolina brought me the magnificent view of Wood Storks in flight pictured below left.

The photo was taken using my iPad in 2015.

*

The closeup of a single Wood Stork (a bird with a dirty face) is recent, taken on December 1, three days ago.

My daughter and I were on a neighborhood walk when the Wood Stork with its massive wing span caught our attention. The bird landed in a small pond beside our trail.

We quietly approached. He/she remained intent on fishing. Wood Storks use both their bill and feet to stir up the plough mud while in search for food.

Wood Storks nest in colonies in trees. However they forage singly. They simply hold their bill open and seize their prey as it drifts by. This shore bird has the quickest reflexes in the animal Kingdom.



Stunning Sunrises Begin Each Lowcountry December Day Experience Awe