

Subject: Request for Permission to Share Sandwiches and Souvenirs with Visitors

Dear Visitor Services Office,

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Daniel Kenney, and I am reaching out with a proposal to share homemade peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and glow-in-the-dark 3D-printed souvenirs with visitors at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, particularly around Haulover Canal. This initiative is deeply rooted in both my love for the refuge and my faith, which inspires me to serve others and care for the earth as part of God's creation.

About My Background

I previously worked as a tour guide with BK Adventure, where I earned the nickname "Dan the Snackman" for sharing homemade peanut butter and jelly sandwiches with guests and guides. This small act of kindness became a hallmark of the tours, and many people appreciated the gesture.

In addition to the sandwiches, I also gave away glow-in-the-dark 3D-printed souvenirs featuring wildlife species found in the refuge, such as dolphins, sharks, manatees, comb jellies, blue crabs, and sea turtles. Kids especially loved them, and it brought me joy to see their faces light up as they explored the glowing designs.

What I Would Like to Do

I am hoping to resume these activities, offering sandwiches and souvenirs free of charge to visitors. My primary goal is to serve the public and contribute to their experience of the refuge in a meaningful way.

Sandwiches: I would continue to prepare peanut butter and jelly sandwiches at home using grocery-sourced ingredients, ensuring they are individually wrapped for easy handling. If necessary, I can use pre-packaged options like Uncrustables, though these would significantly increase my costs.

Souvenirs: I would 3D-print glow-in-the-dark items, focusing on species iconic to the refuge, and distribute them as gifts to visitors, particularly children.

While these efforts are offered freely, there are costs associated with materials, gas, and time. I would graciously accept optional tips to help defray these expenses. Tips would never be required, but they allow me to continue offering these services sustainably.

Faith-Based Motivation

This project is not only about sharing food or souvenirs but also about expressing my faith in action. Feeding hungry people is a deeply faith-driven practice for me, as is helping visitors connect with nature and experience the wonder of God's creation. In the past, I included scripture verses on the sandwich bags I gave out, which many visitors appreciated. I am open to modifying this practice if necessary to align with refuge guidelines, but it is an example of how I try to integrate my faith into these acts of service.

Supporting Education and Conservation

This initiative is also tied to my passion for educating the public about the Indian River Lagoon System. I maintain a website, www.danthesnackman.com, which I am working to upgrade. The site includes pages about

local wildlife and educational videos, such as one on sea turtles, using public domain footage and narrated content. My hope is that visitors not only enjoy their time at the refuge but leave with a deeper appreciation for its ecological importance.

Why I'm Reaching Out

I want to ensure that my activities align with the refuge's mission and comply with its regulations. If a permit or special permission is required, I am happy to apply and make any necessary adjustments to meet your requirements. My goal is to serve the visitors and the refuge without causing disruption or additional burden.

Thank you for considering this request. Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge is a place I hold dear, and I see this effort as a way to give back to both the refuge and its visitors. Please let me know how I can proceed or if there's a way to discuss this further.

Warm regards,
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