

# News Release

## *National Wildlife Refuge System*



### Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge

La Crosse District  
555 Lester Avenue  
Onalaska, WI 54650

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 23, 2009

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### Join Us At The Brownsville Overlook On November 14

Mark your calendars. The annual Waterfowl Observation Day, hosted by the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge and members of Mississippi River Wild (MRW), will be held on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Brownsville Overlook. We will be there between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to view migrating birds that have stopped to rest and feed on their journey to wintering grounds.

The public is welcome to attend and are encouraged to join Refuge staff and MRW members in a special dedication ceremony at the new overlook at 11:00 a.m.

The overlook is one of the best places along the river to view hundreds of tundra swans, diving and puddle ducks, bald eagles, and other birds.

Binoculars, scopes, and bird identification books will be available for the public to use. Refuge staff, members of MRW, and volunteers will be on hand to help with bird identification, discuss the island restoration project under construction, and to answer questions. Refreshments will also be sold at the event. All proceeds benefit MRW.

The overlook is located about three miles south of Brownsville, MN along Highway 26.

For more information, contact the La Crosse District Office at 608/783-8405, or stop-in the office at 555 Lester Avenue, Onalaska, WI. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Additional Refuge information, including the results of the weekly aerial waterfowl surveys, is available online at <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/UpperMississippiRiver/> or on Mississippi River Wild's website at [www.mississippiriverwild.com/](http://www.mississippiriverwild.com/).

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*The Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge is the most visited refuge in the United States. The refuge extends 261 miles along the Upper Mississippi River from Wabasha, Minn. to Rock Island, Ill., protecting and preserving habitat for migratory birds, fish, and a variety of other wildlife. This 240,000 acre refuge was established in 1924.*