



U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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Media Advisory

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MEDIA ADVISORY
September 19, 2007

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Duckwater Shoshone Tribe to Celebrate Safe Harbor Agreement and Reintroduction of Railroad Valley Springfish

The Duckwater Shoshone Tribe and partners will celebrate the signing of a Safe Harbor Agreement and the reintroduction of Railroad Valley Springfish into the fish's restored native habitat on Sept. 26, at Big Warm Spring southwest of Ely, NV. The Tribe entered into a cooperative conservation partnership with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management, The Nature Conservancy, and U. S. Geological Survey Biological Resources Division and has been working to recover the threatened Railroad Valley springfish.

The conservation partners' efforts include the removal of a catfish farm, reconstruction of a stream channel to its natural flow regime, and removal of non-native fish. Native upland and riparian vegetation has been re-established at Big Warm Spring, which is also a very important cultural area for the Tribe. Altogether, an estimated \$700,000, plus staff time and equipment have been expended to support the project.

There are only six known populations of Railroad Valley springfish in the world, within 30 miles of each other in Railroad Valley. Prior to reintroduction of the springfish back into its historic habitat at Big Warm Spring, the Tribe and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service will enter into a Safe Harbor Agreement. Safe Harbor agreements guarantee that landowners will not incur any new restrictions on the use of their land if they improve, restore, maintain, or create habitat for endangered or threatened species.

- WHO:** Media is invited to join the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Nevada Department of Wildlife
- WHAT:** Reintroduce the threatened Railroad Valley springfish back into its historic habitat and signing of a Safe Harbor Agreement
- WHEN:** Wednesday, September 26, 2007
11:00 AM
- WHERE:** Big Warm Spring
State Route 379
Duckwater Shoshone Reservation