

Media Advisory

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Services

1434 316th Lane, Missouri Valley, IA 51555

712/388-4800 Fax: 712/388-4800; <http://www.fws.gov/refuge/desoto/>

First Free Refuge Admission Day of 2015 Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 19

When: Monday January 19, 2015
Where: DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge
Who: Contact DeSoto Visitor Services at (712) 388-4800

There will be a free admission day at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge on Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Monday, January 19, 2015. DeSoto’s visitor center will be closed for the federal holiday on January 19; however, refuge tour roads and access to DeSoto Lake for ice fishing will remain open.

Fee free days are scheduled each year to encourage Americans to visit their public lands and enjoy firsthand the natural and cultural experiences they have to offer. National wildlife refuges are managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, part of the Department of the Interior.

“Our National Wildlife Refuges System is an unparalleled network of public lands dedicated to the conservation of native wildlife and their habitats. This national treasure provides Americans with places to hunt, fish, observe the natural world and experience the outdoors in many exciting ways,” said Service Director Dan Ashe. “If you have never visited a national wildlife refuge before, one of these fee-free days would be the perfect opportunity to see what you’ve been missing.”

On these fee-free days and weekends, national wildlife refuges that charge a fee, as well as other public lands within the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture, will waive entrance fees.

Get outside and enjoy some of the country’s most magical places – DeSoto and America’s other national wildlife refuges will also offer free admission on these days in 2015:

- February 14-16 – Presidents’ Day Weekend
- September 26 – National Public Lands Day
- October 11 – First Sunday of National Wildlife Refuge Week
- November 11 – Veterans Day

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge is located north of Omaha, Nebraska along on U.S. Highway 30 between Missouri Valley, Iowa and Blair, Nebraska. For more information contact 712/388-4800 or email the refuge at desoto@fws.gov. Check our websites, www.fws.gov/refuge/desoto/ or www.fws.gov/refuge/boyerchute/, for refuge updates. Like us on Facebook - search for DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.