

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge

2155 West Forest Street
Brigham City UT 84302
(435) 723-5887

Media Release

DRAFT



Bear River Refuge Lowers Water Level near Perry Hunt Units Preparing for a Prescribed Burn

The Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge will lower water levels ahead of a prescribed burn this fall on the wetland units near Perry, Utah. The low water level will affect the boat launch in this area. The day chosen for this burn will be determined by weather conditions that provide an optimum result for decreasing the amount of dead cover from the invasive plant species known as “phragmites”. The burn area will include wetland areas not open to the public. However, due to the location, smoke will be visible to visitors along the I-15 corridor near Perry.

According to Bob Barrett, Refuge Manager, “The Refuge is implementing a prescribed burn plan that requires lowered water levels for the boat launch near Perry, but will result in enhanced habitat productivity for the long term. Phragmites often displaces more desirable native plant species that provide food and cover to wild birds. The strategy to control this plant is to burn the dead cover, then follow up with a summer grazing or herbicide application.”

The public is invited to call the Refuge prior to making a trip, to check on status of the burn plan. Please call the refuge at (435) 723-5887 during business hours for more information.

The Wildlife Education Center is located at 2155 W. Forest St., Brigham City, one block west of I-15 at Exit 363. The Center offers interactive exhibits, wetland diorama, 1/2-mile outdoor trail, and is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Saturdays. The Auto Tour Loop is open 365 days from sunrise to sunset. For more information call (435) 723-5887. Visit our website at: http://www.fws.gov/refuge/bear_river_migratory_bird_refuge/ You can also find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @USFWSBearRiver.