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# News Release



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **ARTHUR R. MARSHALL LOXAHATCHEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE Closes Headquarters Area Canoe Trail**

The Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge will be closing its headquarters area canoe trail for three days starting Wednesday afternoon, May 2, 2018. Rolf Olson, Refuge Manager announced today. This closure is due to the prescribed fire activity happening near the area. Canoeing will still be allowed in the areas open to boating (L-40, L-39, and L-7 Canals) and anywhere south of the Hunt Boundary (26° 27.130' N); however, people using canoes are warned that motorized boats will be present.

Prescribed fire is the burning of vegetation based on a prescription that takes into consideration fuel type, fuel moisture, relative humidity, air temperature, wind speed, wind direction, and other atmospheric conditions to ensure a safe and successful burn. According to Tom Ledbetter, Fire Management Officer, "All prescribed fires must have approved plans and meet set criteria authorized by agency fire experts." The prescribed burn will also comply with all State of Florida open burning regulations.

Refuge fire management staff will conduct the burns with assistance from fire staff at

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other refuges located throughout south Florida and in cooperation with Florida Division of Forestry and Palm Beach County Fire and Rescue.

The Refuge is open from 5 AM to 10 PM, seven days a week. It is located off U.S. 441/SR 7, two miles south of SR 804 (Boynton Beach Blvd.) and three miles north of SR 806 (Delray Beach's Atlantic Avenue). Visitor Center hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., seven days a week. An entrance fee of \$5.00 per vehicle or \$1.00 per pedestrian is charged. A variety of annual passes, including a \$12.00 refuge specific annual pass, are available.

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