



## **U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**

Baca National Wildlife Refuge / San Luis Valley NWR Complex  
9383 El Rancho Lane  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
Phone/Fax (719) 256-5527

### **Public Service Announcement**

October 25, 2016

### **For More Information Contact:**

Ron Garcia / Refuge Manager  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Baca National Wildlife Refuge  
(719) 256-5527

## **Prescribed Burns Planned On Baca National Wildlife Refuge**

CRESTONE, Colo – The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plans to conduct prescribed burns on the Baca National Wildlife Refuge this Fall. The burns are planned for areas of the Refuge along Lower Crestone Creek in order to reduce fuels and improve wildlife habitat. The burns will be conducted by professional fire personnel from the San Luis Valley Interagency Fire Management Unit. Exact burn dates will depend on weather conditions and other prescription requirements.

Neighbors and towns adjacent to the Refuge should be aware of large plumes of smoke temporarily generated as a result of the prescribed burning, and that some burn units have the potential to smolder for several days. All burns will be monitored until they are declared completely out. Signs will be posted along nearest major roads including Saguache County Rd. T and Colorado State Highway 17. Any neighbors or individuals that may require special consideration or assistance in the event that unplanned smoke issues arise are encouraged to call the Refuge Manager, Ron Garcia at (719) 256-5527.

Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information see <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.

For additional information, contact the Baca National Wildlife Refuge at (719) 256-5527.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 96-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, which encompasses over 560 national wildlife refuges and thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 70 national fish hatcheries, 65 fish and wildlife conservation offices and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign and Native American tribal governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Assistance program, which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

**FWS**