



# News Release

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**Southwest Region (Arizona • New Mexico • Oklahoma • Texas)**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 1, 2016  
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**Refuge Restoration Project Off To Early Start**  
***Temporary Closure of Wetland Public Use Area to Start August 15***

Work to complete improvements to approximately 60 acres of wetlands and riparian habitat on Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge will begin August 15, earlier than expected. To complete the work, Wetland Units A & B will be closed starting August 15, 2016 to public access and all recreational activities including hunting and wildlife observation. The closure is to ensure public safety and is expected to last through the 2016/2017 hunting season. In addition to habitat improvements, the Refuge will also improve hunting and wildlife observation opportunities.

The Refuge was awarded a competitive grant for the project through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Cooperative Recovery Initiative. This Initiative provides funding to national wildlife refuges to assist in the recovery of federally threatened or endangered species.

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge is located 50 miles south of Albuquerque and 25 miles north of Socorro. For more information about the temporary closure of Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge, please visit our website <http://www.fws.gov/refuge/sevilleta/> or call 505/864-4021. Office hours are Monday thru Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.

*The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service.*

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