



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 23, 2018**

For More Information Contact:  
Marlin French, Refuge Biologist  
308/762-4893

## **Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge Invites You to Participate in Migratory Bird Day May 12, 2018**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge invites you to participate on Migratory Bird Day on Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup> 2018. This is in conjunction with Nebraska Game and Parks celebrating events during migratory Bird Month in the State of Nebraska.

Crescent Lake NWR invites you to tour the Prairie Ranch Community in Garden County. The Refuge sits halfway between Highways 26, and Highway 2, with the main north south roads connected though the refuge. These roads allow an opportunity for several drive options crossing from Hwy 2-26, or a U back to the same highway. Email [marlin\\_french@fws.gov](mailto:marlin_french@fws.gov) or visit the Nebraska Game and parks web site at <http://nebraskalandmagazine.com>, <http://www.nebraskabirdmonth.org>, or Crescent Lakes Home Page at [https://www.fws.gov/refuge/crescent\\_lake/](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/crescent_lake/) for a copy of the news release and map

Bird and other wildlife activity is often the best around sunrise or sunset (5:33 am and 7:59 pm on the 12<sup>th</sup>). Planning a start time from the highway increases viewing opportunities. Song birds often continue to sing until 9 am.

The refuge Headquarters will be staffed from 6:00 am to 2:00 pm on the 12<sup>th</sup>. You can see displays in the visitor center and see bird carvings, and wildlife and sandhills photography. Rest rooms are available at all hours, water during staffed hours.

---

### Directions

The 390 Ln (turns to Rd 155) just off the east edge of Antioch heading south starts with alkali ponds great for shorebirds and waterfowl viewing. Antelope can also be seen in these flatter rolling sandhills. The Hills eventually turn to more choppy sands habitat used by lark and vesper sparrows. Mule deer also use these rougher hills.

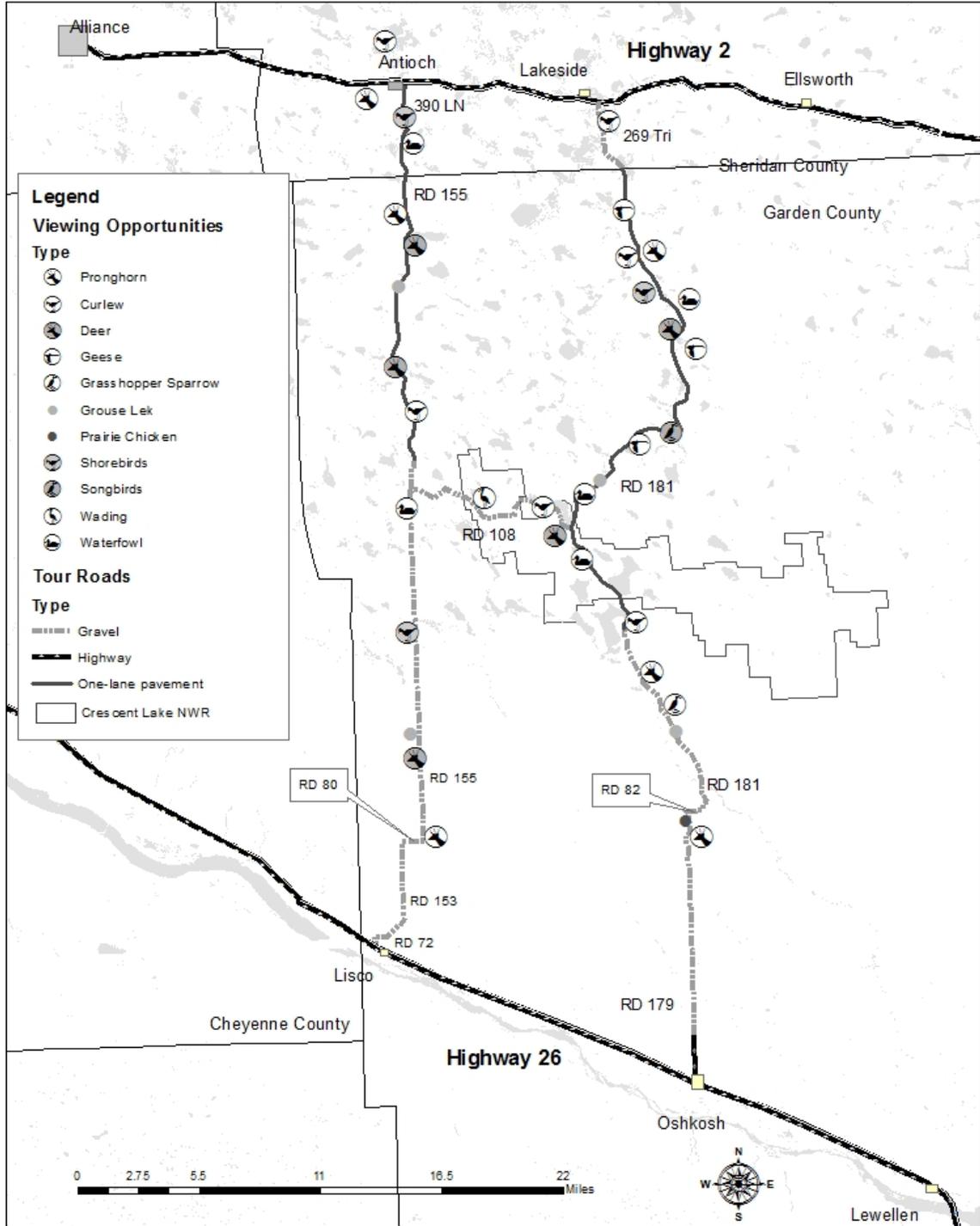
Road 396 Tri is just east of Lakeside (turns to Rd 181) and wenders south through the most ponds and meadows providing plenty of opportunities for waterfowl and shorebirds, including curlew and sandpipers. The larger meadow habitats are the home of eastern meadowlarks and bobolinks.

Road 179 runs north from Oshkosh (turns onto Rd 82 and then Rd181) and travels through the agricultural sandhills interface which allows opportunities for Prairie Chicken dancing grounds. Antelope and mule deer also heavily use this area. As you go north along Blue creek, lark bunting and Grasshopper sparrows become common. When you near the sandhill lakes, curlew can be found.

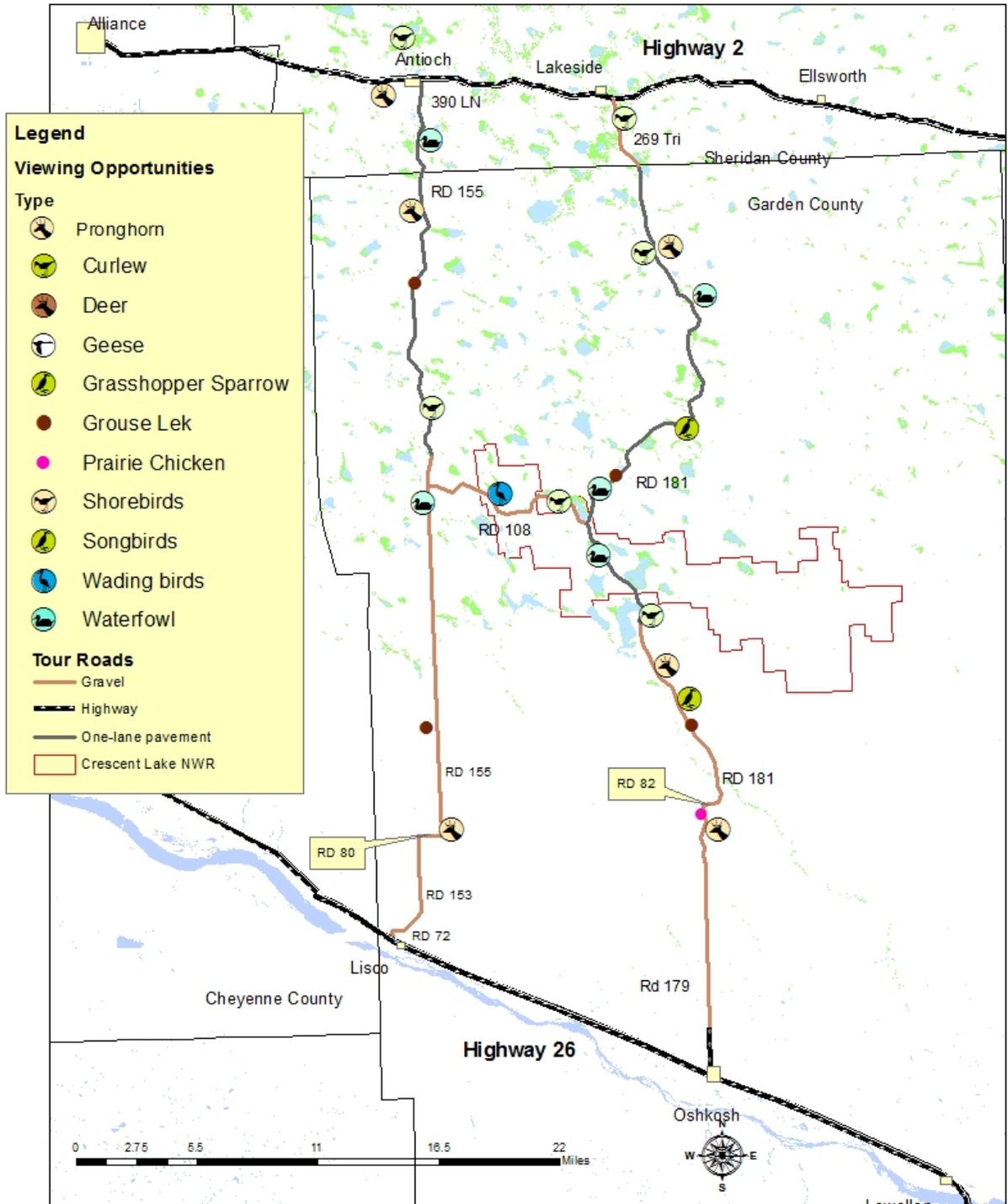
Road 72 (turns into 153) is just west of Lisco also starts in the agricultural sandhills interface this is habitat for horned lark, as well as deer and antelope. Make turns onto Rd 80 and Rd 155. The drive north is a mix of choppy and sands sandhill habitats allowing for a mixture of song birds. Watch for birds of prey on fence posts

Road 108 across the refuge goes through lake, wetland, meadow, trees, sands and choppy sand habitat. This variety allows for walks and opportunities for a wide variety of migratory birds. The staff at the headquarters can direct you to viewing opportunities.





**AMERICA'S NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES...**  
*Where wildlife comes naturally!*



**AMERICA'S NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES...**  
*Where wildlife comes naturally!*