

News Release

Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex
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<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/sacramento/>



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pile Burns on Sacramento River NWR

Willows, Calif.—Fire crews at the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Complex will conduct pile burns within the Dead Man’s Reach Unit of the Sacramento River NWR. The pile burns will occur between March 4 and March 13, 2020, during periods when weather conditions are favorable. The Dead Man’s Reach Unit is located along the Sacramento River, north of Ord Ferry Road in southwestern Butte County.

Wood pile burning is an efficient and effective tool for reducing excessive fuel build up on the refuge and in the wildland urban interface. The piles consist of remnant woody vegetation from tree trimming and habitat restoration projects on the refuge. Favorable weather conditions for pile burning consists of increased humidity and potential rain days.

During the year, the fire crew regularly conducts prescribed burns to help meet the goals and mission of the refuge to provide habitat for wildlife. The planned burns assist in managing invasive plants, provide quality grass forage for hundreds of thousands of wintering geese, prepare lands for habitat restoration, and reduce fuel loads.

Smoke may be visible and wood piles may have a longer burn time than other prescribed fire practices. Fire managers work closely with local air districts to mitigate the effects of the smoke to the public and local air sheds.

Information on current conditions is available at the visitor center located at Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge, 752 County Rd 99W, Willows, California 95988 or at 530-934-2801.

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