



Celebrate Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge -- 100 Years

Reply to: Dave Menke 530-667-2231
dave_menke@fws.gov

For Immediate release 6/2/08

June 14 & 15 Tour Features Wildlife and Scenery on Klamath Marsh Refuge

On August 8, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt established Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge as the Nation's first refuge set aside for migratory waterfowl and marsh birds. To celebrate the 2008 Centennial of Lower Klamath, employees and friends of the Refuge are hosting a series of monthly public events. On Saturday June 14th, the public is invited to tour Klamath Marsh Refuge to learn about Refuge programs and view the scenery and wildlife of this remote refuge in Northern Klamath County. There will be no charge for the trip but participants are asked to make reservations by calling Dave Menke at (530) 667-2231. Transportation and meals will be the responsibility of participants.

Trip guides will meet participants at the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Office in Klamath Falls on Oregon Avenue at 8:30 am the morning of Saturday June 14th. The guided trip is expected to last until the mid afternoon at which time participants may elect to return home or reassemble later for evening wildlife viewing after taking time out to eat dinner. This trip is expected to provide views of some of the Basin's most spectacular scenery in addition to searching out Mountain Bluebirds, Western Tanagers, Black Terns, Wood Ducks, Sandhill Cranes and many other interesting species. An early morning guided Refuge birding trip will also be available the following day (Sunday, June 15th), for those who choose to camp or make arrangements to stay overnight in the area. The morning tour on Sunday is expected to conclude about 11:00 am. Everyone planning to attend should bring lunch, snacks, drinking water, mosquito repellent, sunscreen, a light jacket, sturdy shoes and raingear (just in case!).

This opportunity is open to everyone, including families and beginning birdwatchers. Additional information, including directions to meeting locations may be made by calling (530) 667-2231. For a complete list of future month's Centennial events in 2008 visit the refuge web site at "fws.gov/klamathbasinrefuges."

Klamath Marsh Refuge was established in 1958 to protect this high elevation marsh. The Refuge offers stunning views of Mt. Thielsen and Mt. Scott across vast expanses of marsh.