

# News Release

## *National Wildlife Refuge System*



### Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge

McGregor District  
470 Cliff Haven Rd  
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Big Slough Boat Landing to Remain Open, Overflow Parking Impacted by Black Hawk Bridge Construction**

Big Slough boat landing, located on Highway 82 near the Black Hawk bridge and managed by the McGregor District of the Upper Mississippi River National and Fish Refuge, will remain open during the construction of the Black Hawk Bridge.

Construction activities are expected to start around October 9 and will include use of the adjacent beneficial use site. Overflow parking for boaters will not be available in the beneficial use site or up on the highway shoulder. Boaters are encouraged to use nearby landings including Winneshiek Boat Landing (Hwy 82 and Hwy 35) or Village Creek Landing (Lansing, Iowa).

For more information and or pools maps showing additional river access points view pool maps on our webpage: <http://www.fws.gov/refuge/upper-mississippiriver/>

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The Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge is the most visited refuge in the United States. The refuge extends 261 miles along the Upper Mississippi River from Wabasha, Minn. to Rock Island, Ill., protecting and preserving habitat for migratory birds, fish, and a variety of other wildlife. This 240,000 acre refuge was established in 1924. In addition to being the most visited refuge in the country, the "Upper Miss" Refuge has the added complexity of a major navigation system, including 11 locks and dams, within its boundary. It is also a world-class fish and wildlife area which harbors 306 species of birds; 119 species of fish; more than 300 active bald eagle nests; thousands of heron and egret nests; spectacular concentrations of canvasback ducks, tundra swans, and white pelicans; and several threatened or endangered species.