

# News Release

## DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge



DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge  
1434 316<sup>th</sup> Lane  
Missouri Valley, IA 51555  
712-388-4800  
Email: [Desoto@fws.gov](mailto:Desoto@fws.gov)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
June 16, 2023

Contact:

Alyssa Lu  
(712)388-4820  
[alyssa\\_lu@fws.gov](mailto:alyssa_lu@fws.gov)

### Summer Junior Refuge Ranger Programs at DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges

MISSOURI VALLEY, IOWA – Summer has arrived at DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges! Join us at the refuge for some upcoming kid-friendly Junior Refuge Ranger weekend programs that focus on different aspects of our wildlife and lands. All programs are free with a valid entrance pass to the refuge. Youth must be accompanied by an adult.

**Fishing Clinic– Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am and July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30pm at South End Recreation Area.** Join our Certified Youth Fishing Instructor for fishing clinics on the shores of DeSoto Lake at the South End Recreation Area of DeSoto Refuge. The fishing clinic goes from 10 am to 12 pm on June 24<sup>th</sup> and from 1:30pm to 3:30pm on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Fishing gear and bait will be provided at a first come first fished basis!

**Leaf Investigations - Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1-2 pm. at the DeSoto Visitor Center**

Leaves litter the ground and cover our heads during the fall and spring, but what makes them different from each other? Join us to look at the different key features that help us see the unique compositions of different species leaves!

**Butterflies Around Us - Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1-2 pm at the DeSoto Visitor Center.**

Come learn about butterfly species that can be found at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge! We will discuss pollination, butterfly tracking, and try our hand at identifying these special insects.

**Chute Study – Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 11 am, meet at the Main Parking Lot at Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge.**

Interested in learning about macroinvertebrates and other aquatic species that make their home at Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge? During this program we will be investigating the waters and banks of the chute to discover what creatures inhabit them.

## U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

### **Beaver Studies - Saturday August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1-2 pm at the DeSoto Visitor Center.**

Busy beavers are all around DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge! Help us investigate why they are so busy and the tools they use to help them be one of nature's best engineers.

### **Herpetology Investigation - Saturday August 19<sup>th</sup>, 1-2 pm at the DeSoto Visitor Center.**

While they aren't always the easiest to spot, reptiles and amphibians are extremely important parts of the DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge ecosystem. This Junior Ranger program will explore herpetology- what makes herps so important and what kinds of herps live on the refuge?

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuges is located north of Omaha, Nebraska along U.S. Highway 30 between Missouri Valley, Iowa and Blair, Nebraska. Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge, managed by staff at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge, is located east of U.S. Highway 75 near Ft. Calhoun, Nebraska. For more information contact 712/388-4822 or email the refuge at [desoto@fws.gov](mailto:desoto@fws.gov). Check our websites, [www.fws.gov/refuge/desoto/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/desoto/) or [www.fws.gov/refuge/boyer\\_chute/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/boyer_chute/), for refuge updates. Like us on Facebook - search for DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The National Wildlife Refuge System, managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is the world's premier system of public lands and waters set aside to conserve America's fish, wildlife, and plants. Since President Theodore Roosevelt designated Florida's Pelican Island as the first wildlife refuge in 1903, the System has grown to more than 150 million acres, 566 national wildlife refuges and other units of the Refuge System, plus 38 wetland management districts. Visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)