

Wildlife Watching Tips

Watching birds and other wildlife can be an enjoyable experience, but it can also be frustrating. Here are some suggestions to help make your wildlife viewing a success.

- Morning and early evening hours are generally best for viewing wildlife as animals are more active during these times.
- Use binoculars and spotting scopes to get close-up views of birds and other wildlife without disturbing them. Also, stay in your vehicle, using it as a blind to observe birds.
- Use your ears as well as your eyes.
- Bring along field guides to help you identify various species, the habitats they prefer, when they are active, and what they eat.
- Make sure to bring along insect repellent, sun screen, and plenty of water. Also, pack snacks or lunch if you plan to spend the day.

The boardwalks at the Wildlife Education Center provide great bird watching opportunities.

• Dress for the weather. Layer your clothing, especially in spring and fall. Mornings are often cool, but daytime temperatures can rise quickly.





Enjoying the Refuge

Above: Adult whitefaced ibis feeding its chick. During your visit to the Refuge, you can observe wildlife along the auto tour route, go fishing in the Bear River, visit the James V. Hansen Wildlife Education Center, and more. The Refuge is open during daylight hours year-round, weather and road conditions permitting. The Wildlife Education Center hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm weekdays; 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Saturdays; and closed Sundays and Federal holidays.

To reach the Refuge, take the Forest Street exit (Exit 363) from Interstate 15 at Brigham City, and turn west. The Wildlife Education Center is located one block west of the Interstate. To reach the main portion of the Refuge, including the River Delta Interpretive Site and auto tour route, continue driving west on Forest Street for approximately 12 miles.

Note that except for during hunting seasons, the auto tour route is the only area in the main portion of the Refuge that is open to the public. Also, there is a security gate at the River Delta Interpretive Site that closes in the evenings. If you are leaving in the evening and the gate is already closed, please approach the gate slowly and it will open, allowing you to exit.

Did you know?

Refuge breeding colonies of white-faced ibis contain as many as 18,000 birds.

Protecting Wildlife Bear River MBR is a special place for wildlife and people. By following Refuge regulations, you can help ensure a safe and enjoyable visit for yourself and other visitors. Be respectful of the wildlife which reside here. Carry out all trash.

Please take the time to review the following list of activities you can take part in while at the Refuge. Any activity not addressed below is not permitted. Read the information below and the hunting and fishing leaflet for more detailed information on permitted activities.

James V. Hansen Wildlife Education Center The James V. Hansen Wildlife Education Center offers interactive exhibits, a wetland diorama, and other displays featuring information on birds and wetlands of the Great Salt Lake ecosystem. The Center's observation deck has a unique parabolic hood that enhances the sounds of wildlife in the adjacent marsh. Just outside the Center, a ½-mile accessible walking trail meanders through the wetland habitat.