

## REGULATIONS

All plants and animals are protected. Molesting, disturbing, injuring, destroying, or removing any plant or animal are prohibited, (except legally taken waterfowl).

Wildlife observation, photography, and hiking are permitted except where restricted by signs.

Automobile touring is restricted to gravel roads.

Closed roads are marked with signs.

Parking: please do not obstruct roads and dikes.

Camping overnight is not permitted on the refuge. The BLM campground outside the Refuge may be used.

Swimming is not permitted. Springheads and pond bottoms contain deep mud, quicksand, and entangling aquatic vegetation.

Hunting is prohibited, except during prescribed special seasons - ask for hunting regulations at the Refuge office.

Firearms or other weapons are prohibited on the refuge, except as noted in the hunting regulations.

Fires are permitted only in provided firegrates.

Litter is ugly - please use the trash barrels.

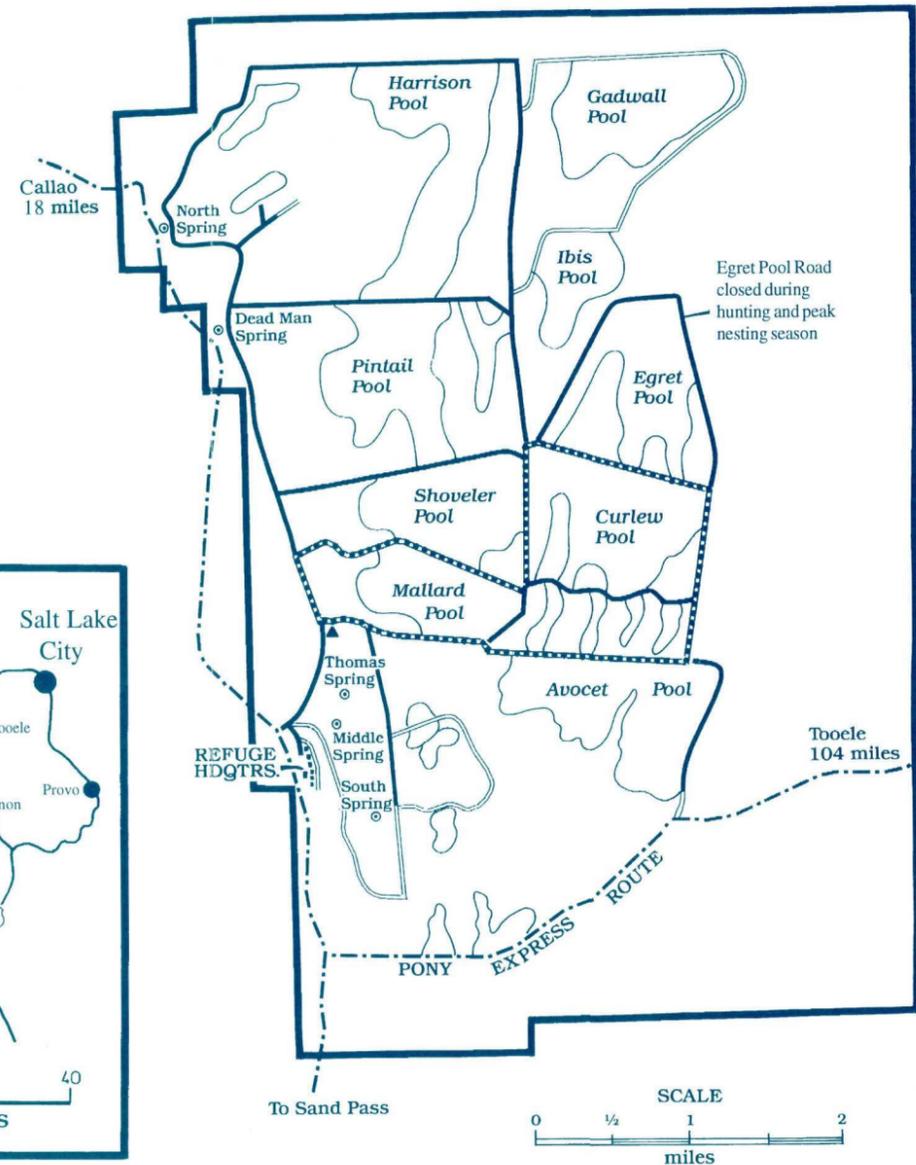
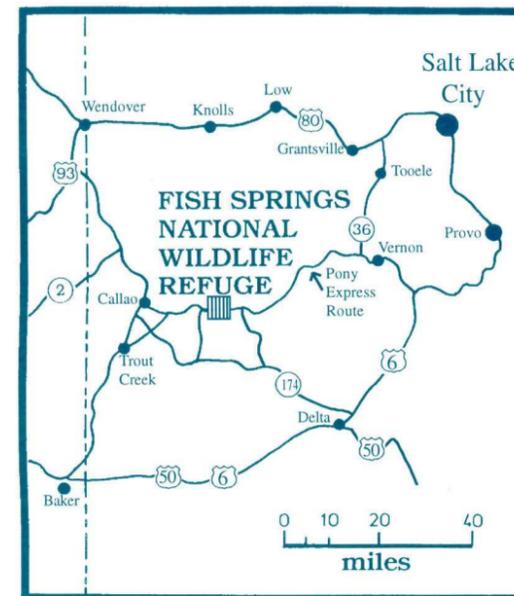
All other uses not expressly permitted are prohibited.

When in doubt as to any regulation, contact a Refuge officer.

## HOW TO GET THERE

Fish Springs National Wildlife Refuge is located on the south edge of the Great Salt Lake Desert, 104 miles southwest of Tooele, and 78 miles northwest of Delta, Utah. The Refuge is extremely isolated and can be reached only by gravel roads across uninhabited desert. Local inquiry into road conditions is advised.

Lodging is not available in the Fish Springs area, and it is 42 miles to the nearest gasoline and grocery supplies. Although camping is not permitted on the Refuge, there are several nearby Bureau of Land Management areas that are suitable for primitive camping or RV parking.



## LEGEND

- Refuge Boundary
- Auto Tour Route
- Refuge Roads Open to Public
- Service Road (Closed to Public Vehicles)
- County Roads
- Rest Rooms/ Picnic Area
- Open Water

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Refuge Manager  
Fish Springs National Wildlife Refuge  
Dugway, Utah 84022  
801-831-5353

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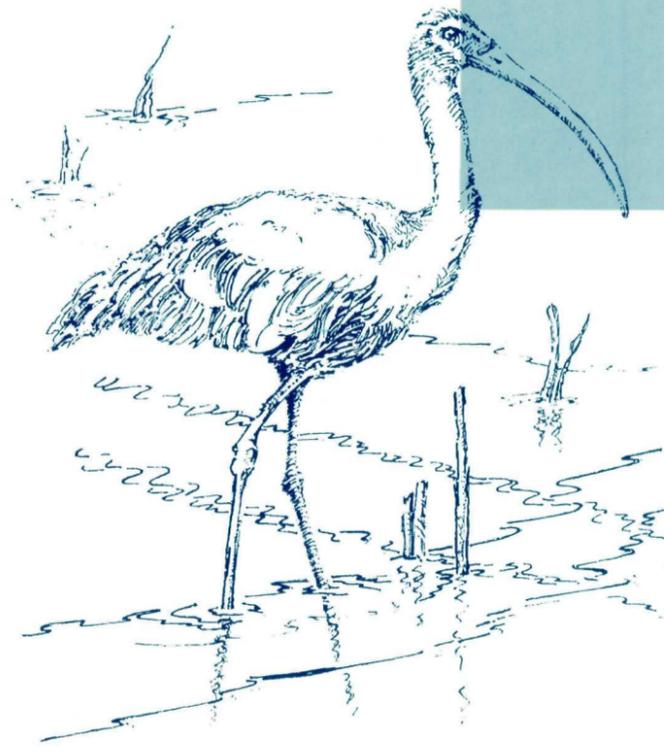
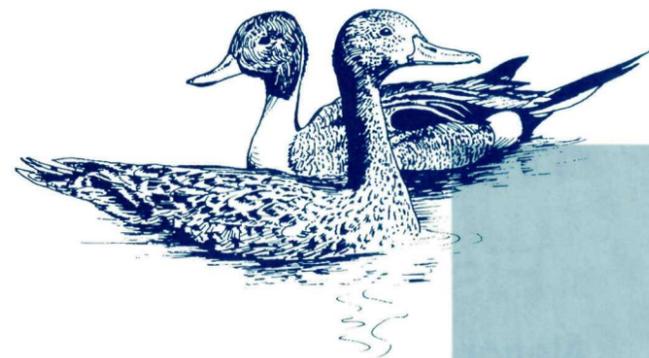


**Fish Springs**  
National Wildlife Refuge  
Dugway, Utah

## WELCOME

Located at the southern end of the Great Salt Lake Desert in western Utah, Fish Springs National Wildlife Refuge encompasses 17,992 acres between two small mountain ranges. Five major springs and several lesser springs and seeps flow from a faultline at the base of the eastern front of the Fish Springs Mountain Range. These warm, saline springs provide virtually all of the water for the Refuge's 10,000-acre marsh system.

Established in 1959, Fish Springs National Wildlife Refuge was named for the native fish, the Utah chub. The lush habitat of the Refuge, surrounded by miles of Great Basin desert, is a true oasis for wildlife. The Refuge provides vital habitat for migrating wetland birds that stop to rest and replenish energy stores before moving on. Many of those species remain to nest and rear their young. Generally, mid April and late September coincide with the peak of the annual spring and fall migrations.



Over 250 species of birds have been observed at the Refuge. Waterfowl species include swans, Canada geese, mallards, green-winged and cinnamon teal, pintails, wigeons, gadwalls, redheads, canvasbacks, buffleheads, goldeneyes, ruddy ducks, and mergansers. A variety of shore and wading birds use the Refuge, including great blue herons, snowy egrets, black-crowned night herons, white-faced ibis, avocets, black-necked stilts, and eared grebes. Waterfowl and marsh bird concentrations can be observed best during the late fall and early spring. Many species of mammals native to the Great Basin also reside here or utilize the Refuge on a seasonal basis.

Visitors to Fish Springs are encouraged to observe and study the Refuge's abundant bird life.

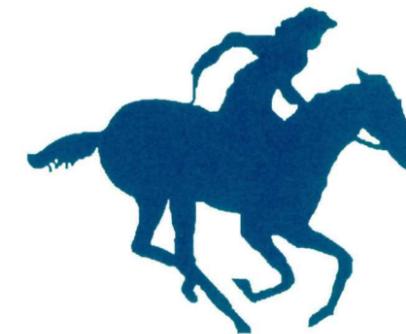
## PREHISTORY

Around 17,000 years ago, the area that now comprises the Refuge was enveloped by an enormous inland lake now referred to as Lake Bonneville. This great body of water, having no outlet, rose and fell several times during its 35,000-year existence. One can still see the prominent shorelines on the mountain ranges that surround the Refuge where the water levels stabilized for extended periods.

When Lake Bonneville was at its peak level, the water in the area that is now marsh would have been nearly 850 feet deep and covered almost 20,000 square miles! (That's an area about the size of New Hampshire and Vermont, combined!) The Lake declined to a level below present marsh level around 10,000 years ago.

## HISTORY

The Fish Springs area has a rich historical background, including use of the Springs by pre-Columbian Indians. European settlers first entered the region in 1827 when famed explorer, Jedediah Strong Smith, visited the Springs en route from California to central Utah. Both the Overland Stage and the Pony Express maintained way-stations at Fish Springs, and the first transcontinental telegraph, which replaced the Pony Express in 1861, crossed the Fish Springs marsh. Early in the 20th century, the nation's first transcontinental automobile road, the Lincoln Highway, cut its way through what is now the Refuge. Segments of the original road are still visible.



## VISITING

Fish Springs National Wildlife Refuge has an 11-mile self-guided auto tour route. Interpretive signs are provided along this route to enhance your understanding of Refuge wildlife and management practices. The Refuge has a picnic area, and drinking water is available at Refuge headquarters. Tours can usually be arranged for organized groups if Refuge staff is contacted ahead of time. Individuals or groups interested in participating in Refuge activities are encouraged to contact the Refuge manager.

## ACCESSIBILITY

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service seeks to afford persons with disabilities full accessibility or reasonable accommodation. A wheelchair accessible rest room, located at Refuge headquarters, is open at all times. The picnic area is accessible to the mobility impaired and is equipped with a wheelchair-accessible toilet. An accessible waterfowl hunting site is available during the waterfowl season by reservation. Contact Refuge headquarters for more information or to address accessibility problems. For the hearing impaired, use your State Relay System for the Deaf.

