

# News Release

## *National Wildlife Refuge System*



### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Prescribed Burning at Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge**

Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Zone Fire Staff, local fire departments, and the Delaware Forest Service, will continue its landscape burning program at the refuge. The final area to be burned will be 500 acres of successional field(s) and impounded wetlands, which will take place beginning February 19, 2018, through the week of April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018, contingent upon optimal burn conditions.

The purposes for this year's burn will be to set back succession to early stages to benefit grassland dwelling birds, counteract against undesired non-native plant species and remove accumulated wildland hazardous fuels. The use of prescribed fire is an effective and cost efficient method to accomplish these objectives. Trained prescribed burning specialists will conduct the burns.

Due to the location of the burn, the entire refuge will need to be closed to the public until all burning activities are completed. Weather conditions such as rainfall and wind speed and direction will determine when the burning will occur. Bombay Hook Refuge's website will be updated frequently to inform the public regarding daily plans.

The Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge consists of over 16,251 acres of marsh, forest and uplands along the Delaware Bay between Woodland Beach and Port Mahon, east of Smyrna.

For more information, please call (302) 653-9345 or visit Bombay Hook's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/bombayhookwildliferefuge>. Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge is located just off Route 9 near the Town of Leipsic at 2591 Whitehall Neck Rd, Smyrna, DE.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov).

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