

NEWS RELEASE



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Moose Pond Partnership Project Enhances Recreational Opportunities

Manila, Utah ... Moose Pond on the Flaming Gorge Ranger District located near mile marker 10 on Utah State Highway 44 along the Flaming Gorge –Uintas National Scenic Byway will be drained during the week of July 6th to increase the depth of the pond, install a trail along the ponds edge and install fishing points adjacent to the deeper portions of the pond.

Since the two-acre pond is currently stocked with a number of hatchery fish, anglers are encouraged to come up and catch a few fish before the pond is drained.

District Ranger Jeff Schramm stated, “Without a combined partnership effort, this project would not have been possible. This project will improve the safety of Moose Pond visitors and a portion of the trail and two fishing points will be universally accessible to wheelchairs. In addition, the improvements will enhance opportunities for fishing, hiking and sightseeing, while improving aquatic habitat.”

The partners in this effort include the USDA Forest Service, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, and the FHWA National Scenic Byway Grant Program.

Initially the pond will be drained and allowed to dry so that construction activities can begin around the middle of August. Construction activities will include dredging portions of the pond, creating an improved trail around the pond, and installing four fishing points along the trail. A portion of the trail and two fishing points will be universally accessible to wheelchairs. Additional activities will include highway signing, interpretive trail signing, and the construction of trail benches and picnic tables.

Once construction activities are completed, the pond will be refilled with water this fall. The pond will then be restocked with fish by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources the following spring in time for the State of Utah annual free fishing day and Moose Pond Fishing Derby. A dedication of the new Moose Pond facilities will be held on that day. .