



National Park Service
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Tuzigoot National
Monument

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Tuzigoot National Monument News Release

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Interim Guidelines for Expanded Public Access and Use in Tavasci Marsh

(Clarkdale, AZ, Oct. 16, 2009) – The National Park Service will be allowing additional public access to Tavasci Marsh areas before the release of the Tavasci Marsh Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment. Prior to today, per 36 CFR §1.5 and the Superintendent’s Compendium, visiting hours for public use of Tavasci Marsh were limited to the posted hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the period of Labor Day through Memorial Day, and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the period of Memorial Day to Labor Day).

Kathy Davis, Superintendent for Montezuma Castle and Tuzigoot National Monuments, is now allowing public use of Tavasci Marsh from sunrise to sunset in order to provide access for recreation and bird watching. Access to the ridge where the Tuzigoot ruins and Tuzigoot Museum are located will continue to be prohibited outside the posted hours listed above. The ridge is fenced and will be signed as closed after hours. Camping will still not be allowed anywhere in Tuzigoot National Monument.

Bicycles and horses will also now be allowed to travel on designated, signed trails in Tuzigoot National Monument that parallel the Verde Greenway State Natural Area in order to connect the Verde Greenway route. Prior to today both bicycle use and horseback riding were prohibited on trails in Tuzigoot National Monument per 36 CFR §1.5, 36 CFR §2.16, and the Superintendent’s Compendium. This change is consistent with allowing horse use on a designated trail within Montezuma Castle National Monument that parallels the entrance road and allows access to US Forest Service lands. Montezuma Well remains closed to horses.

These are interim measures to allow for public use in Tavasci Marsh prior to the release of the Tavasci Marsh Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment. Public review of these interim public use and access changes for Tavasci Marsh will occur for the plan/environmental assessment.

For more information on Tavasci Marsh and Tuzigoot National Monument, please call Ed Cummins at 928-567-3322, x 27.

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