

# Byway Fact Sheet

## Quivira National Wildlife Refuge

The first light of sunrise and the last light of sunset is the best chance to see heaven on earth. It's when Quivira is most active. Always changing. Never boring. It's the abundance and diversity of wildlife that tells the story of one of the nation's most unique wetlands.

### Things to know about Quivira.

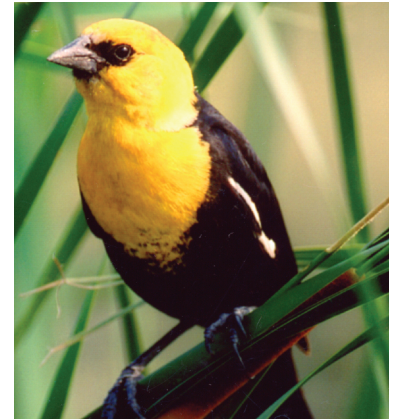
Quivira NWR has two large salt marshes, one located at the south end of the Refuge and the other at the far north end on the wildlife drive. Both are excellent places to look for birds and other wildlife. In February, shorebirds start appearing in Quivira's wetlands on their northward migration. By May, thousands of shorebirds put on a spectacular display. And, in the fall, Quivira is almost standing room only for the ducks and geese who come here by the hundreds of thousands.

**Population:** Always changing but always abundant with wildlife.

"Less than 20 miles away (from Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area), Quivira National Wildlife Refuge is 22,135 acres of prairie grass, saltwater marshes, sand dunes, canals, dikes, and timber. During spring migration, Quivira is a staging area for over 500,000 birds. Big and Little Salt Marshes are ancient basins that have attracted thousands of migratory waterfowl, providing them with food, cover, and a place to rest during exhausting flights between breeding and wintering areas. "

—Kansas Sampler Foundation on why both Quivira and Cheyenne Bottoms are listed as one of the 8 Wonders of Kansas

## Things To See and Do at Quivira



- Whooping Crane migration in the fall and spring
- Bike & Hike with the birds
- Photography
- Wildlife Observation



**National Wildlife Refuge Celebration.....**a day long event, usually the third Saturday in October, to celebrate the history, wildlife and heritage of the Quivira Refuge.

**Children's Fishing Clinic** –first Saturday in June

**Night Tour.....**Discover the Refuge after dark, when many of the creatures not seen during the day can be spotted. Participants ride in vans and SUVs along the Refuge roads using spotting scopes to find deer, beaver, coyotes, bob cats, raccoons and any other nocturnal creature that may be out and about.

**Notable People:** Ellias Pelton – Pelican Pete, Hermit of the Marsh.