



## News Release

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(HOLDREGE, Neb.) – The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District will once again provide eagle-viewing opportunities to the public this winter.

Because Christmas and New Year’s Day fall on weekends, the eagle-viewing facility at the Johnson No. 2 (J-2) Hydroplant will be open to the public on Fri., Dec. 23 and Fri., Dec. 30. The facility will not be open on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day.

Following the holidays, the J-2 facility will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (CDT) through at least the last weekend in February. The facility is located south of Lexington near the intersection of County Roads 749 and 750.

Central’s second eagle-viewing facility is at Kingsley Dam near Ogallala. The freestanding building below the south end of the dam will open for the season on New Year’s Eve, Dec. 31, from 8 a.m., to 2 p.m. It will not be open on New Year’s Day, and then will follow the normal weekend schedule: open on Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (MST) through the end of February.

A limited number of binoculars are available at the facilities, but visitors are encouraged to bring their own viewing equipment.

Central has been providing eagle-viewing opportunities at J-2 since 1988 and at Kingsley Dam since 1990. The eagles - as well as other wildlife – are attracted by the open water below the hydroplants, particularly when rivers and lakes in the area are covered with ice.

Several factors influence the number of eagles seen from the facilities on any given day, including climatic conditions, ice coverage on area bodies of water, the number of forage fish for feeding, how many eagles are wintering in the general area, and whether the hydroplants are on-line. The best viewing time is normally earlier in the day. There is no charge to visit the facilities.

For more information about eagles and viewing opportunities for groups, visit Central’s web page at [www.cnppid.com](http://www.cnppid.com) or call (308) 995-8601.

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