Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 540 national wildlife refuges. The primary goal of a national wildlife refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. The harvest of surplus animals is one tool used to manage wildlife populations at a level compatible with the environment, provide wholesome recreational opportunities and permit the use of a valuable renewable resource.

The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on wildlife refuge areas as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State regulations, except where otherwise stated.

#### **General Hunt Regulations**

Public hunting on Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge is permitted on about 42,000 acres. Certain areas (as shown on the reverse map) are closed to hunting. Such areas are conspicuously marked with "No Hunting" or "Closed" signs.

Any person violating any refuge regulation may be required by the Refuge Manager to forfeit the privilege of hunting on the refuge for the remainder of the hunting season and may be ineligible to apply for permits the following year.

GTR 1 will be closed to all types of hunting, except waterfowl hunting, on each Saturday and Wednesday morning of the state waterfowl season. At times other than these mornings, it will be open to all other types of hunting permitted on the refuge.

GTR's 1, 2 and 4 are non-toxic shot zones. Shotgun hunters in these zones must use and possess only approved non-toxic shot for small game hunts.

During all deer gun hunts, all hunters and scouters (including small game hunters, excepting waterfowl hunters) must wear a minimum of 500 square inches of fluorescent orange-colored material above the waistline at all times, even while in a tree stand.

No ATVs (all terrain vehicles) allowed.

The use or possession of alcohol while hunting is prohibited.

Boats may not be left on the refuge overnight.

No person may capture, kill or destroy any game bird, game mammal or game fish and remove the head, claws, teeth, hide, antlers or any or all of such parts from the body with the intent to abandon the body.

The use of artificial light, including headlights, to spot or locate any animal, except authorized nighttime hunting of raccoons and opossums, is strictly prohibited.

Handguns must be in compliance with State regulations. All firearms including muzzleloaders transported on roads and waters within the refuge boundary must be unloaded and either dismantled or cased.

Target shooting and camping are not permitted on the refuge.

Motor vehicles are only allowed on roads shown on the map on the reverse side unless the road is closed by sign or gate. Vehicles must be parked adjacent to these roadways, and may not block gates.

Beaver, nutria and coyote may be taken during any refuge hunt, and feral hogs may be taken by any refuge deer hunter with weapons legal for that hunt.

#### Youth Hunt Regulations

The following youth hunts will be held. A no-cost permit (this brochure) is required for all youth hunters. Youth up to age 15, are eligible to participate in all youth hunts; however, they must be accompanied by an adult age 21 or older. Both adult and youth must be together (in sight) at all times. Only the youth may handle, carry, transport, or discharge firearms.

Deer - November 11-17. State bag limit applies. Any deer harvested must be checked in.

*Turkey* - March 8-14. State bag limit applies and turkey must be checked in.

Squirrel - October 7-13. State bag limit applies.

A youth waterfowl workshop and hunt will be held in conjunction with Mississippi State University. Twenty youth hunters, ages 10-17, will be allowed this unique opportunity. Once selected, participants will attend a classroom session on a Saturday in late October, or early November, 2006. After completion of the classroom session, a special hunt will be held the first weekend of waterfowl season. Contact Extension Wildlife Specialist, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 9690, Mississippi State, MS, or call 662/325 3174.

#### Fee Permits

Deer Hunt Permit

A \$12.50 permit is required for all deer hunting on Noxubee Refuge. These permits will be issued beginning September 1, 2006.

Permits may be purchased by mail or in person at the refuge office. Applications must include the following:

- Hunter's full name and residence address (including zip code)
- Valid 2006 Mississippi hunting license number
- \$12.50 permit fee (Personal check or money order, made out to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, is acceptable method of payment when applying by mail.) Cash will be accepted when applying in person at the refuge office.

Permits are non-transferable and all signature blocks must be signed and in possession at all times while hunting.

Incomplete or illegible applications will be rejected. Only one application per hunter.

#### Waterfowl Permit

Waterfowl hunt permits (\$12.50 each) will allow the permit holder and up to two companions to hunt from a refuge blind until 12 noon on the specified hunt day. Applications shall include name, address, current hunting license number, and three hunt dates in order of preference. Each application shall be accompanied by a \$12.50 money order or personal check made out to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. On the first Monday in November, a drawing will be held, and successful applicants will be notified as to the date(s) they have been chosen to hunt. A permit is required for each day selected, so if selected for more than one day, the selectee will be notified for additional payment. Unsuccessful application deposits will be returned. Shot size restriction for small game does not apply to waterfowl hunt.

### **Specific Refuge Regulations**

Deer

Permits must be carried at all times while hunting. All deer (bucks and does) must be tagged in the field immediately upon harvest, before moving them. All harvested deer must be checked-in at the refuge check station the day killed and before leaving the refuge.

Hanging and/or cleaning deer is prohibited within the refuge's picnic areas, boat ramp, parking lot, and other public use areas.

Man-driving is prohibited.

Portable stands only may be placed on the refuge from September 1–January 15. It is unlawful to drive a nail, spike or other metal object into a tree or to hunt from any tree in which such an object has been driven.

Special deer hunting blinds for persons who require the use of a wheelchair will be available by permit. Contact refuge office for information.

Archery

September 30 - November 18. (Fee permit required.) The use or possession of any drugged arrow or associated equipment is prohibited.

Gun

November 18 - December 1, and December 26 - January 1. (Fee permit required.)

Primitive Weapon

December 2 - 15. (Fee permit required.)

Waterfowl

(Fee permit required.) Until 12 noon on each Wednesday and Saturday of State waterfowl season.

Turkey

Gobblers Only — March 15 - May 1.

(No-cost permit required.)

All turkeys must be checked in at the check station the day killed and before the hunter leaves the refuge.

Turkey hunters are not required to use non-toxic shot in the non-toxic shot areas (GTRs).

Small Game

(No-cost permit required.) Weapons for small game are restricted to shotguns with shot size no larger than No. .2 or rifles no larger than .22. standard caliber (.22 magnums not allowed). State bag limits apply.

Squirrel Hunt

October 14 - February 28.

Dogs allowed beginning January 2.

Rabbit Hunt

October 14 - February 28.

Dogs allowed beginning January 2.

 $Quail\, Hunt$ 

November 25 - March 5. Dogs allowed.

Woodcock Hunt State season.

Raccoon and Opossum Hunt October 1 - February 28. Dogs required.



## Signs Protect Visitors and Resources This girm delinentes the refuge

This sign delineates the refuge boundary. Entry is permitted only for authorized uses (hunting, fishing, sightseeing, etc.) in accordance with refuge regulations.



This area is closed to all entry. No hunting, fishing or sightseeing is permitted. No roads or trails are open to the public (See map.)



This area is closed to all entry due to proximity of eagle nest. No hunting, fishing or sightseeing is permitted.



This area is closed to **all** hunting. Firearms and archery equipment are strictly prohibited. (See map.)



designated as Steel Shot Zones to protect waterfowl feeding in these areas. All small game hunters using shotguns in these zones may use and possess **only** approved non-toxic shot shells. (See map.)

GTR's #1, 2 and #4 have been

Refuge Office/Visitor Center Hours: Monday - Friday: 8 am - 4:30 pm Saturday - Sunday: 10 am - 4 pm







U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# **Noxubee**

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations 2006-2007



Signature on this brochure is required to validate it as a permit to participate in all small game, turkey, and youth deer hunts. By signing, permittees agree that they have read and understand all regulations contained within. Hunters are required to keep their signed permit in possession at all times while hunting.

Signature block

