

**POTTER'S MARSH  
HUNTING REGULATIONS  
2008**

**Important Note:** Permanent blinds within Potter's Marsh will be eliminated after the 2008 waterfowl hunting season. The 2008 blind permittee must remove all blind materials from the Refuge. Blind materials can be removed as early as December 1, but no later than May 1, 2009. If blind materials are not removed, a Notice of Violation will be issued.

1. All Federal and State regulations apply.
2. Waterfowl hunting must be conducted from a legal permitted blind, having platform construction with 4 side walls, and appropriate camouflaging materials. Minimum blind dimensions are 4' x 8' and must be able to withstand daily wear and tear. Each blind must include an attached boat hide with a minimum size of 18' x 6', except for blinds 57, 58, and 59. At blind sites 18, 31, 33, 53, and 54, hunters may, at their option, construct either a combined blind/boat hide or a boat hide alone and hunt from a boat anchored inside. If any of the above conditions cannot be met, advise the District Office.
3. Blind and boat hide construction materials must be biodegradable to help reduce litter on the Refuge. STEEL, METAL, PLASTIC, FIBERGLASS, AND OTHER NON-BIODEGRADABLE MATERIALS ARE PROHIBITED. Fasteners, such as screws and nails are allowed. Only willow, cattail, bulrush, lotus, and/or arrowhead vegetation may be cut from Refuge lands for biodegradable building materials. Non-native species may not be cut or brought onto the Refuge for brushing blinds. Example - Phragmites (giant cane). If emergent vegetation is too dense to

allow placement of decoys in front of blinds, then permittee may cut (not pull) vegetation from the immediate water (not land) area to allow decoy placement.

4. Blinds must be constructed within 25 feet of the blind site marker. The marker must remain intact through the season but may be covered with burlap or other material. If you build the blind at a site different from where the blind was located previously, then all materials (including submerged materials) must be removed from the old blind site.
5. No decoys, boats, or other equipment may be left unattended on the area between 1/2 hour after the close of waterfowl shooting time until one hour before shooting time.
6. A maximum of 4 people may hunt from one blind. The use of trained dogs is encouraged at all blind sites to reduce the loss of crippled waterfowl.
7. Successful applicants or their hunting partners must occupy their blind 1/2 hour before the opening shooting time each day to claim the blind for that day. After this time, **UNOCCUPIED BLINDS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO OTHER HUNTERS.** (*Opening shooting time is 1/2 hour before sunrise.*) Interfering with any person engaged in the pursuit of an authorized activity on the Refuge is prohibited.
8. Conviction of a violation of Refuge regulations or State or Federal game laws is sufficient cause for refusal of future Potter's Marsh blind applications or permits. The use / possession of alcohol while hunting is prohibited.
9. Each successful blind applicant will be sent a Harvest Information Card. This form will be used by hunters to identify their waterfowl har-

vest for the 2008 season. This information will be used to assist Refuge staff in future planning efforts. Failure to file this report will disqualify the blind permittee for the next year's hunt.

10. Equal opportunity to participate in, and benefit from, programs of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex or disability. Persons who believe they have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should contact:

U.S. Department of Interior  
Office for Equal Opportunity  
1849 C Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

11. The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552) and the Privacy Act (5 USC 552a) prohibit the release of information on the successful applications.

For further information contact:  
District Manager  
Upper Mississippi River National  
Wildlife and Fish Refuge  
7071 Riverview Road  
Thomson, Illinois 61285  
815-273-2732

<http://midwest.fws.gov/UppperMississippiRiver>

Hunters,  
look for  
this sign!



**BLIND SITE SIGN**

Revised March 3, 2008

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

**POTTER'S MARSH  
BLIND MANAGEMENT ZONE  
Waterfowl Hunting Pool 13  
ILLINOIS  
2008 APPLICATION AND  
REGULATIONS**

# Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge - Savanna District



**2008  
POTTER'S MARSH  
APPLICATION REGULATIONS**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Waterfowl blind sites at the Potter's Marsh area of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, Illinois, are allocated to waterfowl hunters by an annual drawing.

**BLIND SITE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

**Same day registration and drawing will be held on July 26, 2008** at the House of Events, 108 Main St., Savanna, IL. **Applications will be accepted from 10:00am to 2:00pm, with drawing at 2:00pm.** You must be present at the time of the drawing to receive a blind.

Complete the application for the drawing. A non-refundable \$10 application fee will be charged to each applicant. Only one application per person will be accepted. Applicants must be at least 16 years of age as of July 26, 2008. You will not list your blind choices on the application but at the time of the drawing will select your blind site from available blinds. Applicants are required to show the following: picture identification, 2008 Hunting or Sportsman's license, 2008 Federal waterfowl stamp, 2008 State duck stamp, and Firearm Owners Identification (FOID) card, if applicable. The applicant will receive a lottery ticket with a matching ticket to be placed in the drawing.

Non-residents can provide a current year license and stamp from their resident state.

Illinois residents are required to have an Illinois Firearm Owners Identification (FOID) card. Residents under 21 who are accompanied by an adult (21 or older who has a valid card) do not need the FOID card. Non-residents do not need the FOID card.

The use of the blind and/or permit obtained through the sale or trade of blinds sites, and hunting right or other fraudulent means is prohibited and will void the permit.

**BLIND DRAWING**

The ticket holder must be present for the lottery drawing that will begin at 2:00pm to receive a blind. When your ticket is drawn in the lottery, you will select your choice from available blinds. A non-refundable \$100 blind fee will be charged for each applicant that receives a blind.

**BLIND SITE Information**

Blind site locations will be identified by a numbered marker. If you cannot locate the assigned site, please contact the District Office. Blind site markers have been marked by GPS. If a marker is moved, the blind is in violation.

Blind construction, including camouflaging, must be completed by September 19, 2008. After inspection by Refuge staff for compliance with Refuge regulations, a blind permit will be issued to the permittee BY MAIL.

Potter's Marsh Blind Management Zone Pool 13, Illinois – River mile 525.0

