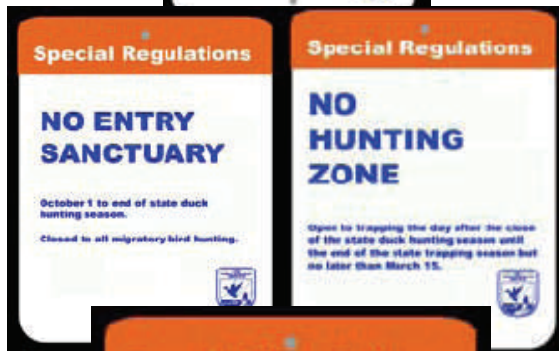


Refuge Signs -



There are Five Closed Areas and Three “No Hunting Zones” on the District where waterfowl hunting is prohibited during designated time periods.

CLOSED AREAS

Pool 12 - Kehough Slough -- Closed Area/No Motor Use: west of Galena, IL, east of river miles 567-568.4; closed to all migratory bird hunting year round; no motors are allowed and voluntary avoidance for all public access from October 15 to the end of IL duck hunting season.

Pool 13 - Pleasant Creek – Closed Area: north of Sabula, IA, west of river miles 548.7-552.7: Closed to all migratory bird hunting year round; voluntary avoidance for all public access from October 15 to the end of the IA duck hunting season.

Pool 13 - Spring Lake -- No Entry Sanctuary: Savanna, IL east of river miles 531.6-536.6: Closed to waterfowl hunting year round. Closed to all access from October 1 through the end of the IL duck season.

Pool 13 - Elk River – Closed Area: south of Sabula, IA, west of river miles 528.0-532.2: Closed to all migratory bird hunting year round; voluntary avoidance for all public access from October 15 to the end of the IA duck hunting season.

Pool 14 - Beaver Island -- Closed Area/No Motor Use: south of Clinton, IA, west of river miles 513.8-515.5; closed to all migratory bird hunting year round; no motors are allowed and voluntary avoidance for all public access from October 15 to the end of IA duck hunting season.

NO HUNTING ZONES

Mesquaki Lake/ Great River Trail – No Hunting Zone: south of Savanna, IL west of Hwy. 84 and south of the Plum River: Closed to all hunting from April 1 to September 30; 150 yard no hunting zone, along bike trail, is in effect from October 1 to March 31.

Frog Pond – No Hunting Zone: Savanna, IL west of Hwy. 84 and south of the Plum River: Closed to hunting year round.

Potter’s Marsh Buffer Zone – No Hunting Zone: Thomson, IL, east of river miles 522.5-525.5: The buffer zone extends 400 yards to the west of Potter’s Marsh Blind Management Zone and is closed to waterfowl hunting.

Game Retrieval in Closed Areas: Retrieving dead or wounded game birds from a Closed Area or a No Hunting Zone is allowed provided the hunter does not take a loaded gun into the area, does not attempt to chase birds from the area and abides by the restrictions of the area, such as “No Motors.” Hunters may not retrieve birds or other game from the Spring Lake - No Entry Sanctuary.

Please Hunt Carefully!

For further information contact:

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge
Savanna District
7071 Riverview Road
Thomson, Illinois 61285
815-273-2732

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



Updated March 3, 2008

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

2008 waterfowl Hunting Regulations



Upper Mississippi River
National Wildlife
and Fish Refuge

Savanna District

Pools 12, 13 & 14

2008 WATERFOWL HUNTING REGULATIONS

New Regulations (Read Carefully!) - Waterfowl hunting regulations on the Savanna District have changed as a result of the Comprehensive Conservation Plan. Permanent blinds and overnight decoys were phased-out of Pool 12 after the 2006 hunt season. Pool 14 blinds and overnight decoys were phased out after the 2007 season. Pool 13 blinds and overnight decoys will be phased out after the 2008 season. If you build a blind in Pool 13 this year, you will be responsible for removing it at the end of the season.

Refuge-Wide Regulations

The use / possession of alcohol while hunting is prohibited. Invasive plants may not be cut or brought onto the Refuge or used for blind-building including phragmites (giant cane). Interfering with any person engaged in the pursuit of an authorized activity on the Refuge is prohibited. In Illinois only, hunters must maintain a minimum 200 yard distance between hunting parties.

Pools 12 & 14 – Illinois & Iowa

Hunters may hunt from a seasonal blind, temporary blind, boat blind, scull boat, or along the shoreline. The construction of permanent hunting blinds or blinds made from rocks placed for shoreline protection (rip rap) are prohibited.

You are allowed to leave only seasonal blinds, made entirely of natural vegetation, and biodegradable twine, on the Refuge. All such blinds are considered public property and open to use by any person on a first-come basis.

Natural material may be used for seasonal blinds, with these restrictions: You may gather grasses and marsh vegetation from the Refuge for blind-building materials. Trees or other plant parts,

including dead wood on the ground, greater than 2 inches cumulative in diameter may not be gathered or brought onto the Refuge or used for blind-building.

Manmade material may be used for temporary blinds, with these restrictions: No lumber, pipe, posts or timbers greater than 2 inches in diameter. At the end of each day's hunt, you must remove all manmade blind materials, including boat blinds. Any blinds containing manmade materials left on the Refuge are subject to immediate removal, disposal and hunter citation. Manmade materials include, but are not limited to, wooden pallets, metal fence posts, wire, nails, staples, netting or tarps.

Hunting equipment and decoys may be placed and left on the Refuge only during the time 1 hour before the start of legal shooting hours until ½ hour after the close of legal shooting hours.

Pool 13 - Illinois

Early Teal and Early Canada Goose Season: Hunters may wade or stand along the shoreline to hunt. You do not have to hunt from a permanent blind.

Regular Duck Season: Hunters may only hunt from a permanent blind, boat blind, or scull boat. A permanent blind is made of biodegradable materials, with platform construction, camouflage material, and able to withstand daily wear and tear.

Tag Day, in Illinois, is the first Saturday in August. Blinds cannot be claimed prior to Tag Day which begins at 8:00AM on August 2, 2008.

Blind claiming or selecting is defined as any staking, flagging, or method of identifying an existing blind, blind remnant structure, or po-

tential blind site. The occupancy of a blind structure or potential blind site by people, materials, or personal equipment is an act of claiming.

A blind site marker must include name, complete mailing address, date, time, and telephone number of person(s) tagging the blind site.

The blind must be completely built and camouflaged by September 1 or the site marker and remaining blind material must be removed. Blinds may still be constructed after September 1, however, blind site markers and left-over materials cannot be left in place after this date. Any partially constructed blinds remaining after September 1 are available on a first-come basis.

All remnant blind debris that is located within a 100 yard radius of a blind must be removed by the blind builder.

Pool 13 - Iowa

Hunters may hunt from a permanent blind, boat blind, scull boat or along the shoreline. Blinds may be built on a first-come basis any time of year. There is no spacing requirement between blinds or hunting parties.

Pool 13 - Illinois & Iowa

During the 2008 waterfowl season, both permanent blinds and overnight decoys are allowed.

All permanent blinds (Illinois and Iowa) **must be registered** by placing a waterproof identification card inside the blind identifying the hunter's name, complete mailing address, and telephone number. If blinds are not registered with this information prior to the opening day of the waterfowl hunting season, they may be removed by Refuge staff. Hunting from a non-registered permanent blind is prohibited.

The clearing of vegetation within 50 yard radius of a blind site is prohibited. Willow, cattail, bulrush, lotus and /or arrowhead may be cut from Refuge lands for camouflage.

Hunters must occupy their blind one-half hour before the opening shooting time each day to claim the blind for the day. After this time unoccupied blinds will be available to other hunters.

PERMANENT BLINDS AND OVERNIGHT DECOYS WILL BE PHASED-OUT OF POOL 13 AFTER THE 2008 HUNTING SEASON.

All permanent blind material, including materials located within a 100 yard radius of the blind, must be removed from the Refuge by May 1, 2009. The cutting of wooden support poles or any other blind materials (including boat hide) at the water line is prohibited, you must remove all materials from the site to prevent a boating hazard.

A Notice of Violation will be issued to the registered blind holder if all permanent blind (and boat hide) materials located within a 100 yard radius of the blind are not removed from the Refuge by May 1, 2009.

Other Hunting Opportunities

See additional brochure for special regulations in effect at the Lost Mound Unit, formerly Savanna Army Depot, Savanna IL.

See additional brochure for the random draw hunt at Potter's Marsh, Thomson IL.