

# News Release

**Department of the Interior / U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Southwest Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex  
Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge  
209 Nature Road  
Lake Arthur, LA 70549  
337-774-5923**

For Immediate Release:  
August 8, 2006

Contact:  
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## **Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge Open to Teal Hunting**

The Louisiana Teal season is scheduled for September 15<sup>th</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge Manager, Larry Narcisse, would like to remind hunters that the portion of the refuge south of the Gulf Intercoastal Waterway and between the Mermentau River and the east bank of the Lacassine Bayou (excluding the Duck Pond area and Unit B) will be open to teal duck hunting. During this special season, hunting is permitted from one half hour before sunrise until noon each day, Wednesday through Sunday. No hunting is permitted on Monday and Tuesday. Hunters may not enter the hunting area earlier than 4:00 a.m. and may not hunt or possess firearms in the area later than noon. There is a federal order prohibiting waterfowl hunting on that portion of Lacassine Bayou that flows through the refuge.

Refuge hunting regulations including the hunt area map may be found on the Refuge Complex website at <http://www.fws.gov/swlarefugecomplex> under the Hunting Regulations link anytime, or picked up at the refuge office and kiosks after August 25, 2006. All refuge hunters are required to possess a refuge-hunting permit. The Southwest Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex Hunting Regulations 2006-2007 brochure will serve as the required permit when it has been signed and dated. The permit must be in the hunter's possession while hunting on the refuge.

Only portable blinds are allowed on the refuge. All boats, blinds, and decoys must be removed immediately following each day's hunt.

Hunters are advised to scout the hunting area during the one week immediately prior to the hunt season, anytime from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset. Scouting is also permitted during the hunting season until one hour after sunset. All firearms are prohibited while scouting. For additional information about hunting at Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge call 337-774-5923.

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The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 95-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System that encompasses more than 540 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands, and other special management areas. It also operates 70 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resource offices and 78 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. The agency also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

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