

## United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mandalay/Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuges 3599 Bayou Black Drive Houma, LA 70538

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

## 2008-2009 Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations

According to Refuge Manager Paul Yakupzack hunting regulations have been changed to make access to the refuge easier. As it was last hunting season, Lottery Season Hunting permits will no longer be required for all hunters except for those desiring to hunt deer with modern firearms on November 28, 29, and 30. All hunters will be required to possess a signed refuge hunting permit found on the face of the hunting brochure. All other Refuge visitors including fishermen, birders, and photographers do not need a refuge permit. However, all Refuge visitors are expected to follow all state and federal regulations including those found in the refuge brochure.

Small game and waterfowl hunters will be allowed to hunt 7 days per week except Archery, waterfowl, and small game hunting will not be allowed when the gun deer hunts are held on October 25 and 26 (Youth Only) and November 28, 29, and 30. Other changes include the complete closure of the Franklin Unit to all hunting.

Archery deer hunting will start on October 1, 2008 and extend through January 31, 2009, in the Centerville, Bayou Sale and Garden City –(South of the levee.) only. Archery deer hunting will start on October 1, 2008 and close on November 30, 2008 in Garden City (north of the levee), North Bend-East and North Bend-West units. All gun hunters regardless of age must possess the State Hunter Education Certification Card. All archery hunters must possess the Bow Hunter Education Card. All hunters must use the daily check in –check out cards available at Refuge Headquarters and at each refuge unit check station.

New refuge brochures are available at the refuge office in Franklin (**now at 1725 Willow Street**) and at each of the 6 refuge unit check stations. An application for the Lottery Gun deer Hunt is found within the new brochure. The new brochures can also be found on our webpage at <a href="http://www.fws.gov/bayouteche/">http://www.fws.gov/bayouteche/</a>. These applications will be accepted through October 15, 2008 and can be sent by mail, email, fax or hand delivered at the Mandalay NWR Office, located at 3599 Bayou Black Drive, Houma, Louisiana, 70360. E-mail may be addressed to barret\_fortier@fws.gov

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Contact: Paul Yakupzack 985-853-1078 For Immediate Release August 21, 2008