PLEASE REVIEW REGULATIONS BELOW ON HUNTING THE REFUGE. CHAMPION LAKE ENTRY IS BY BOAT ONLY (10 HP OR LESS) AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS APPLY ON THIS GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.

Trinity River Refuge Duck Hunt Announcement

(Directions and map to Champion Lake are at the bottom of this page)

Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge will be accepting applications for a public waterfowl hunt from September 8, 2008 and POSTMARKED by October 4, 2008 (**Any application received before or after these dates will NOT be accepted**). If you are selected through a lottery drawing, you will be able to hunt waterfowl for two consecutive weekends on Champion Lake during the regular waterfowl season. Review the <u>application form</u> for fees. Access to hunt areas is by boat (10 hp or less) only. A total of 20 hunters for each 2 consecutive weekend slots will be drawn. If drawn, the hunter will be allowed to bring 1 guest and 1 youth OR 2 youths. Hunters may list November, December, or January in any order they want. If no priority is selected when drawn, you will be placed in the first available slot for two consecutive weekends.

Only one application per person is allowed. You must be 18 or older to apply. The permitted hunter will be allowed to bring 1 guest and 1 youth OR 2 youths. If you are selected you will not have to pay any additional fees for you or your guests.

A public drawing will be held at the Refuge office located at 1351 N. Main, Liberty, TX on October 10, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. You do not have to be present to be selected. Those persons selected will be notified by mail within 10 days and given a refuge hunt permit with a full list of refuge regulations and map.

Regulations:

Hunting will be in accordance with all applicable Federal and State regulations.

Access to waterfowl hunting on Champion Lake is by boat only. You must hunt within the confines of the lake as defined by the map on the reverse side. Hunters must stay 400 yards or more from the shoreline. Hunters are encouraged to scout area before season starts to avoid problems. Champion Lake is open daily from sunrise to sunset. A compass or GPS unit should be carried with you.

Youth hunters must be under the direct supervision of an adult 18 or older. Hunters must stay as a group in or around the same boat/blind and hunt within 100 feet of your boat or hunt area. Minimum distance between hunt parties is 150 yards. If you are not hunting in a numbered area, you must be at least 150 yards from an established area.

Hunters may enter the Refuge no earlier than 5:00 a.m. <u>All hunters must check in at boat ramp</u>. Hunting starts at legal shooting time and you must be **out by noon**. Hunts are on Saturday and Sunday during the Regular Waterfowl hunting season.

Only temporary blinds are allowed. Blinds, decoys, boats, and all other equipment must be removed daily. Only small limbs (less than one inch diameter) and grass type vegetation can be used for temporary blinds. **No cypress tree limbs are to be cut.**

Motors are limited to 10 HP or less. If boat has larger motor, only a trolling motor or paddles can be used.

- Retrievers are allowed but must be under control of the owner.
- All shotguns must be unloaded and encased while in transit through the Refuge. No other firearms are allowed.
- Hunters must be in possession only of shells containing approved non-toxic shot.
- Use, possession, or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages while hunting, accessing or returning from the field is prohibited.

Vehicles, boats and trailers must meet all State/Coast Guard regulations before entering the Refuge. **Non-compliant** equipment will NOT be allowed to enter or hunt.

After unloading boat and equipment, ALL TRAILERS AND VEHICLES MUST PARK IN REFUGE PARKING LOT AT THE TOP OF THE HILL.

Alligators, poisonous snakes, mosquitoes, and fire ants live in the lake. Be aware of these potential hazards. Cell phones may not work.

CLICK HERE FOR THE DUCK HUNT APPLICATION

CLICK BELOW FOR DIRECTIONS AND MAP TO CHAMPION LAKE

Caution - the following file is large. For best results, right-mouse click and select "Save Target As". Save to your local drive and open when download is complete.