

News Release

National Wildlife Refuge System



Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge

**Savanna District
7071 Riverview Road
Thomson, IL 61285**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Upper Mississippi River Refuge Closed Area Regulations

The Fish & Wildlife Service would like to remind everyone about Closed Areas and No Hunting Zones on the Upper Mississippi River Refuge in Pools 12, 13 & 14. These areas cover a small percentage of the Refuge and are subject to special regulations relating to access and waterfowl hunting. The following areas are included:

Pool 12: Kehough Slough near Galena IL - closed to all migratory bird hunting year round; no motors are allowed from October 15 to the end of the IL duck hunting season (December 16), and; voluntary avoidance for all public access from October 15 to December 16.

Pool 13: Pleasant Creek near Bellevue IA - closed to all migratory bird hunting year round and voluntary avoidance for all public access from October 15 to the end of the IA duck season (December 11).

Lost Mound Unit (formerly Savanna Army Depot) near Savanna IL - the main channel of Crooked Slough is closed to all hunting. All land and water east of Crooked Slough is closed to all public access.

Spring Lake Sanctuary near Savanna IL - closed to all migratory bird hunting year round and closed to all public access from October 1 to the end of the IL duck hunting season (December 16). The public is allowed to walk to the observation deck during this time. In addition, the Refuge would like to emphasize that no migratory bird hunting is allowed in the Spring Lake Sanctuary at any time of the year. The Ingersoll Wetlands Learning Center area lies within the Spring Lake Sanctuary and is closed to all hunting year round.

Frog Pond near Savanna, IL - closed to all hunting year round.

Elk River near Sabula IA - closed to all migratory bird hunting year round and voluntary avoidance for all public access from October 15 to the end of the IA duck season (December 11).

Potters Marsh Buffer Zone near Thomson IL - extends 400 yards to the west of the Potters Marsh Blind Management Zone at river miles 522.5 - 525.0 and is closed to all waterfowl hunting during the regular waterfowl hunting season.

Duck Foot Marsh near Thomson IL - is closed to hunting and fishing.

Great River Bike Trail near Thomson IL - a 50 yard no hunting zone is established along the bike trail to provide a safe passage for walkers and cyclist. Hunters and cyclists/walkers are encouraged to use caution and be considerate of each other during the fall months.

Great River Bike Trail near Mesquaki Lake at Savanna IL - No Hunting Zone extends 150 yards paralleling the bike trail from the Plum River south to Frog Pond.

Pool 14 - Beaver Island - closed to all migratory bird hunting year round; no motors are allowed from October 15 to the end of the IA duck hunting season (December 11), and; voluntary avoidance for all public access from October 15 to December 11.

For additional information and maps, you can contact the Upper Miss Refuge office at 815-273-2732.

The Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge is the most visited refuge in the United States. The refuge extends 261 miles along the Upper Mississippi River from Wabasha, Minn. to Rock Island, Ill., protecting and preserving habitat for migratory birds, fish, and a variety of other wildlife. This 240,000 acre refuge was established in 1924.
