

News Release

National Wildlife Refuge System



Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge

McGregor District
401 Business Highway 18 N
McGregor, IA 52157

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
09/15/2008

Contact: Tim Yager (563) 873-3423
District Manager

Refuge Trapping Permits Available

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced that the lands and waters of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge (Refuge), McGregor District in Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin will be open to trapping by federal permit during the 2008-2009 season. Trapping permits will be available at offices of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge to persons possessing a current state trapping license. The permit and 40 trap tags will be issued for a fee of \$30.00 (\$20.00, under 18 years of age).

Trapping permits will be available from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office located in McGregor, Iowa starting October 14, 2008 through the last day of the season.

Normal office hours are Monday – Thursday, 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. Trappers are encouraged to call to verify that the office is open before making any lengthy trips.

Trapping is not permitted in posted closed hunting areas on the refuge until 9:00 A.M. the day following the close of the regular duck hunting season. The closed hunting areas in Iowa will be open to trapping at 9:00 A.M., December 12, 2008 and those in Wisconsin will open at 9:00 A.M., December 8, 2008. The Refuge has several new Closed Areas that trappers should become familiar with.

Trappers are reminded that State game laws and regulations are in force on the Refuge and must be complied with in addition to Refuge regulations. No Refuge trapping seasons start until the respective state muskrat season starts. All tracked and all-terrain vehicles are prohibited for use by trappers on refuge lands. The use of exposed flesh or carcass baits including fish is prohibited on the refuge in order to protect bald eagles and other birds of prey. Trappers are prohibited from placing traps, stakes, other equipment, or materials in more than one location before 9:00 A.M. on the opening day of the trapping season.

A new Youth Trapping Area has been established within the John Deere Marsh area and will be available to youth trappers (under 18 years old) exclusively during the first two weeks of the regular trapping season.

For additional information contact District Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 460, McGregor, Iowa 52157. Telephone (563) 873-3423.