

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER REFUGE TRAPPING PERMITS AVAILABLE

Winona, MN -- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announces that trap tags for the 2009-2010 Refuge trapping season on the Winona District of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge will be issued beginning Wednesday, October 14, 2009.

Special Use Permits and trap tags (40 with each permit) may be obtained during the hours of 7:30 am to 4:00 pm only, Monday through Friday, at the Winona District Office, Room 203, Exchange Building, 51 East Fourth Street, Winona, MN. Special extended hours will be available on Tuesday, October 20 when tags will be available, from 7:30 am until 7:00 pm.

Regulations require that trappers possess a Federal permit and trap tags in addition to a State license to be eligible to trap furbearers on the Refuge. Trap tags must be obtained in person and trappers must have a valid 2009-2010 state trapping license in their possession when obtaining trap tags. The Refuge permit will be issued for a fee of \$30.00 for trappers 18 years or older and \$20 for trappers under age 18.

The Furbearer Management Plan approved in 2007 allows for otter trapping in States that have a season (MN, IA, and WI) but with a maximum harvest of 1 otter per Refuge permit in accordance with State seasons and licensing.

The Furbearer Management Plan is available at
www.fws.gov/midwest/UpperMississippiRiver/fur.html

For further information, please contact the District Office at (507) 454-7351.