

Frequently Asked Hunting Questions

Q: How do I apply to get a hunting spot?

A: For the Sacramento, Delevan, Colusa, and Sutter NWRs you have three options: 1) apply for a reservation through Department of Fish and Game, 2) register for the lottery the evening before the hunt day between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m., 3) obtain a first-come, first-serve number after 8 p.m. the night before the hunt day. Note: non-reservation hunters may only enter the drawing for one of the following: Sacramento, Delevan, or Colusa NWRs, on any hunt date. Additionally, non-reservation hunters may also enter the Sutter NWR draw. Lottery procedures are posted at the check station and on-line at www.sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov.

Q: How many people can get on a reservation, lottery and first-come, first-serve?

A:

	Sacramento NWR	Delevan NWR	Colusa NWR	Sutter NWR
Reservation*	4 individuals per reservation	4 individuals per reservation	3 adult hunters per reservation, each adult may bring 2 junior hunters or non-shooters or 1 of each (max of 6 individuals)	3 adult hunters per reservation, each adult may bring 2 junior hunters or non-shooters or 1 of each (max of 6 individuals)
Lottery*	4 people per card	4 people per card	4 people per card	4 people per card
First-come, first-serve*	Each person has to be present to receive a number. However, adults can get a number for a junior hunter.	Each person has to be present to receive a number. However, adults can get a number for a junior hunter.	Each person has to be present to receive a number. However, adults can get a number for a junior hunter.	Each person has to be present to receive a number. However, adults can get a number for a junior hunter.
*Adult to Junior Ratio	No more than 2 junior hunters or 2 non-shooters or 1 of each per adult			

Lottery Purge

Q: Will any of the refuges have a lottery purge?

A: Yes, a lottery purge will be implemented on an experimental basis at Sutter NWR. The purge will be conducted the morning of the hunt (time TBA) by check station personnel. The process will be monitored by Refuge staff and re-evaluated at the end of the season.

Q: What is a lottery purge?

A: A lottery purge is the process of removing a hunter's name from the lottery list at a specific point in time during the morning of the hunt. For example, at shoot time the

check station staff may call all of the hunters' names that are still on the list. At this time hunters may request to remain on the list. If hunters do not respond their name will be removed from the list. This purge will help determine the total number hunters on the lottery list and their place in line.

Hunting Times

Q: When do reservations begin to get called on the morning of the hunt day?

A: Sacramento NWR starts 2 ½ hours before shoot time and 2 hours before shoot time at Delevan, Colusa and Sutter NWRs.

Q: When do they stop refills for the hunt areas?

A: No entry permits are issued after 3 p.m.

Hunters with Disabilities

Q: If I have a reservation in the disabled reservation drawing, do I have to use the disabled hunting areas?

A: Yes, through a disabled reservation system you are limited to those facilities.

Junior Hunters

Q: Does the adult whom accompanies a junior hunter need to have a hunting license?

A: No.

Q: Can hunters that are 16 and 17 years old hunt by themselves?

A: Yes, they may hunt by themselves but may not be accompanied by junior hunters.

Q: If I am a junior hunter and I have a reservation for an in-season junior hunt through the Sacramento NWRC, may I bring a fellow junior hunter with me under my reservation?

A: If you get a reservation for the junior hunt at Sacramento or Delevan you may bring another junior hunter with you. Note: there are only two junior hunters allowed per adult.

Q: If I am a junior hunter and I turn 16 during the hunting season am I still be eligible for the in-season junior hunts through the Sacramento NWR Complex?

A: For the in-season junior hunts at Sacramento and Delevan NWRs juniors that possess a valid junior hunting license may apply. Junior hunters who turn 16 during the season or prior to the hunt must possess a Federal Duck Stamp. All juniors must have a Harvest Information Program (HIP) stamp.

Q: If I am a junior hunter and I turn 16 during the hunting season am I still be eligible for the post-season youth hunts?

A: No, only youth 15 years and younger may apply for the post-season hunts. Youth who possess a junior hunting license, but turn 16 years old prior to the post-season youth hunts are not eligible to apply. There will be post-season youth hunts during Youth Hunting Days at Sacramento, Delevan and Colusa NWRs. Hunters must apply through the Department of Fish and Game waterfowl hunting reservation process.

Pheasant Hunting

Q: If I have a reservation and I want to hunt pheasants, which doesn't start until 8 a.m., do I still need to be there prior to shoot time?

A: Yes, reservations must be presented at the check station at least 1 ½ hours before shoot time at Sacramento NWR and 1 hour before shoot time at Delevan, Colusa and Sutter NWRs.

Q: May I hunt pheasants from an assigned pond?

A: No, except on the first Monday of pheasant season. See the California Regulation booklet under the specific hunt area for more details.

If you have **addition questions** please contact the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex at (530) 934-2801.