



**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Sacramento NWR and Delevan NWR**

"JUNIOR WATERFOWL HUNTS"

Junior Waterfowl Hunts are planned for **Saturday, December 12, 2009** at Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and **Saturday, December 19, 2009** at Delevan NWR.

Junior hunters (hunters possessing a junior hunting license) will be selected by a reservation process. Reservation applications will be accepted by mail. They must be postmarked between **September 1 and November 15, 2009**. The procedure for submitting an application for a reservation is as follows:

1. Use only standard U.S. Postal Service postcards (3 1/2" x 5").
2. Type or print clearly.
3. Give full name, address, telephone number, hunting license number for each junior hunter applying. Up to two junior hunters may apply per card.
4. One adult (18 years of age or older) may accompany up to two juniors but no more than four people can occupy one blind.
5. Junior hunters must specify their choice of either Sacramento NWR or Delevan NWR. Junior hunters may apply for both Refuge hunts but must use separate postcards.
6. Mail postcards to: Refuge Manager, Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge, 752 County Road 99W, Willows, CA 95988.

Any person whose name appears on more than one application for the same hunt day will be excluded from the drawing, as will applications that do not meet the guidelines provided above.

Drawing results will be posted on the Refuge website, <http://sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov>, and a letter of confirmation, with a numbered Junior Hunting Permit, will be mailed approximately seventeen days prior to the hunt day. The number on the permit will determine the hunting party's sequence of entry.

Those not receiving a numbered permit (reservation) will be able to enter a **lottery draw held at 5:30 a.m. on the morning of the hunt.**

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This draw will be used to fill reservation no-shows and **refill the blinds**. Blinds tend not to fill by reservations during the junior hunts; therefore, junior hunters are encouraged to enter the lottery.

The procedure for entering the lottery draw is as follows:

1. Junior hunters must fill out only one lottery card per hunting party.
2. Junior hunters may enter the lottery at the check station beginning at 6 p.m. the day before the hunt until 5:30 a.m. the morning of the hunt.
3. After filling out a lottery card, junior hunters may leave the parking area but must be present for the lottery draw.
4. Junior hunters arriving after the lottery draw will be added to a first-come, first-served list.

The Refuge's spaced hunt area will be reserved for the day. Junior hunters will select their hunt sites the morning of the hunt, using the posted hunt site averages (birds harvested/blind) and assistance from Refuge staff. One or two juniors may hunt from a single site but must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Adults will not be allowed to hunt or carry firearms. Retrieving dogs, decoys, and chest waders are recommended since they will enhance the hunt.

Juniors must possess a valid California Junior Hunting License with a Harvest Information Program (HIP) Stamp but duck stamps are not required. There is no entry fee for this special hunt.

Displays and activities, pertaining to waterfowl management, hunting ethics, and hunting techniques will be facilitated by California Waterfowl Association and available weather permitting. Refuge staff views the junior hunts as an excellent opportunity to broaden junior hunters' awareness of the important role hunters' play in waterfowl management and conservation.

For further information call Sacramento NWR at (530) 934-2801.