

Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge

39650 Sand Lake Dr. Columbia, South Dakota 57433 605/ 885-6320



2011 Deer Hunting Regulations

Deer (Firearm): Only hunters with a Sand Lake NWR permit may hunt. Hunters are only allowed on the refuge during the days covered by their deer license. All unfilled refuge tags will be valid for antlerless deer **December 31, 2011 – January 8, 2012**. Hunters should be aware that the refuge pheasant season will overlap with the refuge antlerless deer season on December 31 & January 1. Season Dates: **SL1- Muzzleloader only (Nov 12-16); SL2 (Nov 17-21); SL3 (Nov 22-27); SL4 (Nov 28-Dec 4); SL5 (Dec 5-11).**

Deer (Archery): The refuge archery season is open **October 15-November 11, and December 12-30**. It will also reopen **January 9-15, 2012** for antlerless only. Hunters with a valid state archery license may hunt on the refuge. No special permit is needed.

Hunting Hours: Deer hunters may enter the refuge one (1) hour before shooting time. No hunter may remain in the refuge later than one (1) hour after shooting time ends. For special situations, contact refuge personnel.

Parking: Archery hunters hunting in the headquarters area may not park in the headquarters parking lot or driveway, and must use other parking lots designated for hunters.

Camping: No camping is allowed on the refuge, in the refuge parking lots, or on state Game, Fish and Parks game production areas adjacent to the refuge.

Party Hunting: Party hunting is illegal. Each hunter may take only his/her permitted number of deer. After filling their tag(s), hunters may accompany members of their party in the field, **but must be unarmed.**

Deer Retrieval: Vehicles are allowed in the refuge **only** for retrieving harvested deer and **only** during the following times: **9:30-10:00 AM; 1:30-2:00 PM;** and **from the end of shooting time to one (1) hour after the end of shooting time.** Vehicles are allowed only on established roads & trails (**snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles are not permitted**). Some portions of roads are closed due to flood damage. Barricades have been placed at these areas. **Do not drive around barricades.**

Dates to Place Deer Stands: Hunters may place their tree stands/portable blinds on the refuge starting August 25 through October 15. It's recommended that hunters remove their tree stands and portable blinds at the end of their licensed season. All tree stands/portable blinds must be removed from the refuge by February 15, 2012. Refuge roads are closed due to recent flooding so hunters must walk in from parking areas to place deer stands.

Tree Stand/Portable Blind Requirements: The use of nails, screws, bolts, or screw-in type steps is prohibited on national wildlife refuges. The name and address or the year and current deer tag number of the owner or user must be on the stand and must be legible from the ground. Other elevated platform devices (not attached to a tree) and all portable blinds must conform with the date and labeling requirements. The construction or use of permanent tree stands is prohibited.

The placement of portable blinds and stands in unharvested row crops is not allowed until November 1. Please be aware that the refuge has an annual fall prescribed burning program October 16-31. Adjust your hunt/position accordingly. Boundaries of the proposed burn sites will be posted/marked. If unsure, check with the refuge headquarters personnel for exact locations.

Hunter Orange: All refuge firearm deer hunters must wear a minimum of 400 square inches of **solid** fluorescent orange material on the head, chest, **and** back which must be visible at all times. A vest and hat meets this requirement. **Camouflage orange material is not legal.**

Bicycles: Bicycles are not allowed. Access is by walk-in only.

Boats: Motorized and non-motorized boating is not allowed.

Trail Monitor Cameras: Are not allowed on the refuge.

Ice Conditions: Ice conditions on the James River can be extremely unstable and weak. Use Extreme Caution!



Deer Hunting Map

