



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Savannah National Wildlife Refuge 2009 Mobility-Impaired Hunt

Savannah National Wildlife Refuge's 14th annual deer hunt managed for mobility-impaired hunters will be held on November 17 and 18, 2009. Only hunters who are dependent on wheelchairs for mobility are eligible to participate in this hunt. Each hunter must submit the attached permit application and eligibility statement, signed by a physician certifying that the applicant is permanently dependent upon a wheelchair. (This requirement is waived for past hunt participants; their statement is on file.) The permit application and physician's statement must be returned to the Savannah Coastal Refuges office by 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 15, 2009.

Each selected hunter may bring an attendant (if needed) who can assist the hunter. Attendants will not be permitted to hunt. The attendant may serve as the selected hunter's representative at the mandatory pre-hunt orientation program on Monday, November 16 at 5:00 p.m.

For further information regarding the refuge or hunt management, please contact the Savannah Coastal Refuges office at (912) 652-4415 (our offices will be moving some time during late summer; if this number is no longer in service, please call (843) 784-2468)

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Please read the following before completing the permit application for the deer hunt managed for mobility-impaired hunters on Savannah NWR.

The hunt will be limited to 15 hunters who will be selected by drawing. All applications (with signed physician's statements) must be received at the Savannah Coastal Refuges (SCR) office by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 15, 2009. The permit drawing will be held Wednesday, September 16, 2009. Selected hunters will be notified by mail; the refuge does not notify hunters who were not selected.

Eligibility requirements: Applicants for the mobility-impaired hunt shall be restricted to persons permanently confined to a wheelchair.

Only one application may be submitted per hunter. Applicants who apply more than once for the hunt will be rejected. Only complete and correct applications will be eligible for the drawing.

A \$15.00 permit fee is required of successful applicants and must be received at the Savannah Coastal Refuges office by October 15, 2009. Please do not submit payment until you receive notification.

***Accepted payment methods are credit/debit cards (call 912/652-4415, or if not in service, 843/784-2468, to pay by phone), cashiers check or money order (made payable to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.) No personal checks will be accepted.**

Hunt permits are non-transferable and are valid only for the individual whose name appears on the permit.

All hunters, or their designated representatives, must attend a pre-hunt orientation meeting at the refuge maintenance center on Monday, November 16, at 5:00 p.m. Portions of the refuge in both South Carolina and Georgia will be open to wheelchair-dependent hunters; the appropriate state license will be required to hunt in either of these areas.

HUNTING REGULATIONS

Shotguns with slugs and bows are the only weapons permitted.

Hunting will be from designated sites only. Selection of sites will be by drawing at the mandatory orientation meeting on the day before the hunt. All sites will be accessible by ATV or vehicle. Refuge staff, if needed, will assist hunters in getting to designated sites. Portable blinds are also available from the refuge.

Hunters may be accompanied by one able-bodied person who will participate in a non-hunting capacity.

Stand hours will be observed between 1/2 hour before sunrise to 9:00 a.m. and from 2 hours before sunset to sunset.

Bag limit: 5 deer (no more than three antlerless). "Bonus" tags will NOT be issued. Does taken in South Carolina must be tagged with state doe tags. South Carolina antlerless deer tags (\$5 each) can only be purchased from the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources office in Columbia, SC. For tag application, please call (803) 734-3833 or download from the internet at www.dnr.sc.gov/licensing.

All hunters and assistants are required to wear at all times an outer garment above the waist which contains a minimum of 500 square inches of fluorescent orange material.

DIRECTIONS

The Savannah NWR maintenance center is located on S.C. Hwy 170, approximately 7 miles south of Hardeeville, SC, 7 miles north of Savannah, GA, and 2 miles east of Port Wentworth, GA. From I-95, take SC Exit 5 (Hardeeville/Savannah) and go south on U.S. Hwy 17 towards Savannah, GA. Continue for approximately 6 miles to the interchange with S.C. Hwy 170 (there will be a sign to exit right for the Savannah NWR). Once on S.C. Hwy 170, the entrance to the maintenance center is approximately 2.5 miles on the right, directly across from the entrance to the Laurel Hill Wildlife Drive. This is where hunters or their representatives will need to report each day of the hunt, including the orientation meeting held the evening before the hunt.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

We have implemented a new application form this year, which was either mailed with this information packet, or attached to the email you were sent. If you received a printed copy of the form, please fill out by hand. If you received the form electronically (via email), you may either print the form and fill it out by hand, or you can fill it in on your computer and then print it out.

Many of the fields on the application are already filled in. If they are, please do not change the information that is already there. The only fields you need to fill in are the following:

2. Date of application: Write or type today's date

3. Contact Information: Write or type your full, legal name, mailing address, a phone number where you can usually be reached during the day, and your email address, if you have one.

8. Acknowledgement and signature: Once you have completed all fields and printed the form, please sign here

All applications must be received by September 15, 2009 at the following address:

**Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex
1000 Business Center Drive
Parkway Business Center, Suite 10
Savannah, Georgia 31405**

Additional applications and hunt information may be obtained from the following web address or by calling the Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex office at (912) 652-4415 (if no longer in service; please call (843) 784-2468): <http://www.fws.gov/savannah/hunting.html>

****Please see next page for Physicians Statement.****



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
SAVANNAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
1000 Business Center Drive, Suite 10
Savannah, Georgia 31405



HUNTING PROGRAM FOR THE MOBILITY-IMPAIRED

Instruction to the examining physician:

This statement which you are being asked to verify will allow the individual identified to participate in refuge-sponsored hunting programs for those who are dependent on wheelchairs for mobility. The program is designed to accommodate only those individuals who would otherwise not be able to participate in hunting activities on Savannah National Wildlife Refuge. In order to qualify, the individual must be permanently confined to a wheelchair. A wheelchair must be the only form of mobility available for the permit applicant. This form is intended only to establish eligibility for an individual permit applicant to participate in the Savannah Refuge hunting programs for the non-ambulatory (wheelchair-dependent) individual.

**STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY FOR
NON-AMBULATORY HUNT PRIVILEGES AT
SAVANNAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

I hereby verify that _____ (Applicant's name) is restricted to the use of a wheelchair for mobility. The applicant is not mobile without the aid of a wheelchair, and would be unable to participate in hunting activities on Savannah National Wildlife Refuge except through those activities and privileges granted to non-ambulatory hunters.

The use of a wheelchair by the applicant is permanent in nature. I understand that this is only a statement of eligibility for the applicant to apply for non-ambulatory hunting privileges at Savannah National Wildlife Refuge.

Signatures

Physician: _____

Applicant: _____

Refuge Officer: _____

Due Date: September 15, 2009