

Anahuac and McFaddin National Wildlife Refuges' Alligator Trapping Permit Application 2017

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be conducting an alligator harvest on Anahuac and McFaddin National Wildlife Refuges from September 10-20, 2017. The primary purpose of the harvest is to maintain healthy alligator populations while reducing negative effects on other wildlife species and protecting refuge infrastructure. Two experienced alligator hunters for each refuge will be randomly selected from a pool of qualified applicants. A drawing will be held on Wednesday, August 23, 2017 at 6:00 pm at the Texas Chenier Plain Refuges Complex office, 4017 FM 563, Anahuac, Texas. If selected, the permit is for the 2017 season only. Selected permittees can expect an average of 20 tags this season. Permittees are expected to have at least one active set out per tag every day during the 10 day season until tags are filled. A portion of the sales of harvested alligators will be collected by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This portion will vary based on the size of the alligator.

Please follow instructions carefully, as incomplete or late applications will not be considered for the drawing. Applications must be received in the Texas Chenier Plain Refuges Complex office or visitor center, by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, August 16, 2017.

NOTICE: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44USC 3501, et seq.) and the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) please be advised that:

1. The permitting of economic and public uses on lands of the National Wildlife Refuge System is authorized by the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act (16 USC 668dd ee) and the Refuge Recreation Act (16 USC 460k-n) implemented in regulations in 43 CFR 24.3 and 50 CFR subchapter c.
2. The application form will be used by Fish and Wildlife Service personnel to evaluate the qualifications and conclude the eligibility of the applicant.
3. Routine use disclosures may also be made (1) to the US Department of Justice when related to litigation or anticipated litigation; (2) of information indicating a violation of a statute, regulation, rule, order, or license to appropriate Federal, State, local or foreign agencies responsible for investigating or prosecuting the violation or for enforcing or implementing the statute rule, regulation order, or license; (3) from the record of an individual in response to an inquiry from a Congressional office made at the request of that individual (42 FR 19083; April 11, 1977).
4. The information requested in this application is purely voluntary, but failure to answer questions may jeopardize the eligibility of individuals to receive permits.

Qualifications for Alligator Trapping Permits

1. Permit applicants must demonstrate the skills necessary to take alligators in such a manner that maintain animals in a commercial quality and are attractive to prospective buyers. Applicants are required to have a minimum of two years of experience in alligator trapping and must have harvested a minimum of 20 alligators.
2. Permit applicants must possess the equipment necessary to trap assigned units.
3. Permit applicants must be competent, honest, and of good character. At least two favorable references from past employers or landowners are required.
4. Permit applicants must be present daily during the harvest.
5. Permit applicants must be in good health and be able to withstand the rigorous conditions presented by marsh trapping. Sets must be checked daily.
6. Permit applicants must be 18 years of age or older.
7. Permit applicants and their licensed helpers will be subjected to criminal background investigations.
8. Permit applicants and their helpers will be required to possess a valid state hunting license.
9. Selected permittees must pay deposit and tag fees at the pre-hunt meeting, which will be scheduled individually.

Disqualifications

1. Application not received by deadline.
2. Application incomplete.
3. The applicant has been convicted of a wildlife or refuge regulation violation or other criminal violations within the last five years. Results of criminal background investigation could disqualify successful applicants after they are selected.
4. Applicant fails to attend the drawing or pre-hunt meeting. Only rare exceptions will be granted on a case by case basis. Applicants are required to make arrangements to take off work to be at meetings.
5. Unfavorable references from past employers or land owners as it relates to alligator trapping.

6. Permittee fails to schedule and attend a meeting with refuge staff during normal hours before close of business on August 30, 2017 to pay for TPWD CITES tags.

Trapping Permit Will Be Terminated If:

1. The permittee does not have the proper equipment or fails to demonstrate they can do the job based on normal take, marsh conditions, and workmanship.

2. Violations of any refuge, federal, or state law since the permit drawing, including failure to comply with terms and conditions of the Special Use Permit.

3. The permittee fails to follow instructions or cooperate with refuge personnel as required by the permit.

4. The permittee allows unauthorized helpers to enter the refuge and/or charges any person a fee to help take alligators.

Questions:

Questions regarding the alligator hunt program on both refuges as well as this application can be made to Douglas Head, Refuge Manager of McFaddin NWR. (409) 971-2909.

2017 USFWS Alligator Harvest Application

Applicant must complete entire two-page application. Information provided must be accurate. If any information provided cannot be verified, the application will be rejected.

Print Full Name _____ Date _____
Last First Middle

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Driver's License Number: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Please indicate the refuge you are applying for:

1. Anahuac NWR___ 2. McFaddin NWR___ 3. Both refuges___

If applying for both, indicate your preferred refuge to hunt (select only one):

1. Anahuac NWR___ 2. McFaddin NWR___

1. List names and current phone numbers of two individuals who are not your helpers or immediate family members who are familiar with your trapping experience.

1. _____

2. _____

2. List number of years of experience trapping alligators. _____

3. List locations, names, and current phone numbers of landowners in which you have trapped on during the last five years.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

4. List the number of alligators harvested during each of the last five years and attach supporting documentation (hide tag reports, sales receipts, etc.).

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

5. If your trapping experience is as a helper, provide the years, locations, permittee names, and current phone numbers of trappers you helped.

6. Describe the equipment you have available to you to harvest alligators (i.e. shallow draft boat, airboat, ATV, 4-wheel drive vehicle).

7. Please list the equipment you are prepared to use as a permittee to legally take alligators (i.e. standard hook and line, wooden dowels, bow and arrow, float fishing, etc.).

I certify that I meet all qualifying standards and that I have read, understand and agree to any conditions associated with the refuge use for which I make application. I also certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all of my statements are true and complete, and made in good faith. I understand I may be disqualified if any information on this application is found to be false.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

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All applications must be received by 5:00 pm on Wednesday August 16, 2017 at the Texas Chenier Plain Refuges Complex office.

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 278
Anahuac, Texas 77514

Physical Address:
4017 FM 563
Anahuac, Texas 77514

Phone: 409-267-3337, Fax: 409-267-4314