



News Release

Department of the Interior/ U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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For Immediate Release

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Refuge Hunt Fees to Increase in 2012

Tennessee National Wildlife Refuges Complex is proposing to increase hunt permit fees for the 2012-2013 hunt season. Tennessee refuge opens most of its acreage to hunting white-tailed deer, wild turkey, raccoon, squirrel and resident Canada goose. Cross Creeks refuge offers hunting opportunities for white-tailed deer, wild turkey, squirrel and resident Canada goose. A quota hunt is also offered on both refuges for white-tailed deer. Currently, the complex requires an Annual Hunting Permit be purchased at a cost of \$12.50 for all these hunting opportunities.

The refuge complex is proposing to increase the Annual Hunting Permit fee to \$15.00. The additional funds will be used to maintain the level of law enforcement patrols, maintain refuge public use facilities and facilitate an online quota hunt application process. With the increase in fees, the refuge permit is still well under the hunting permit fees for neighboring public lands such as state wildlife management areas, Land Between the Lakes and Fort Campbell.

The refuge complex Annual Hunting Permit is currently sold through the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency vendor licensing agents using access code 064. This provides fast and easy access to hunters, but has also increased the cost of the refuge hunting program. With this increase in fees, the permit will continue to be sold through licensing agents.

Public comment is invited on the fee increase between December 12- January 13, 2012. Please send written comments to the following: 1) e-mail us at [FW4 RW Tennessee@fws.gov](mailto:FW4RW@fws.gov); or 2) Tennessee NWR, 3006 Dinkins Lane, Paris, TN 38242. For more information, please call 731-642-2091.