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NEWS RELEASE



[Department of the Interior](#) • [U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service](#) • [64 Maple Street](#) • [Burbank, Washington 99323](#) • [\(509\) 546-8300](#)

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Columbia National Wildlife Refuge To Host Youth Hunt for Canada Goose, Duck, and Coot

The Columbia National Wildlife Refuge will open a popular area south of O'Sullivan Dam for the annual Youth Canada Goose, Duck, and Coot Hunt on September 26 and 27. The area, designated Marsh Unit I, includes 8 ponds that are created by diverting Lower Crab Creek into shallow wetlands. Marsh Unit I will be the only area open for the Youth Hunt on the Columbia Refuge.

The Youth Hunt is open only to hunters under 16 years of age. Youth hunters must be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old who is not hunting. Canada geese, ducks, and coots can be hunted in accordance with regulations issued by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife two-day Youth Hunts for pheasant, quail and partridge are not available on Columbia Refuge. For additional information about the Refuge, visit the website: <http://www.fws.gov/columbiarefuge/home/>.

For further information on the Youth Hunt, contact: Kelly Chase or Randy Hill or Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge, 735 E Main Street, Othello, Washington 99344, (509) 488-2668.

– FWS –

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The FWS manages the 95-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, which encompasses 542 national wildlife refuges—including two national monuments—thousands of small wetlands, and other special management areas. It also operates 70 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resources offices, and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid Program, which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.