U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Savannah National Wildlife Refuge 2023-24 Youth-Only Hunting Program

Savannah National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) offers hunting opportunities annually that are open <u>only</u> to youth hunters. Please refer to the table on pages 3 and 4 for details specific to each hunt. These hunts do not require the purchase of the Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex Annual Hunt Permit; however, youth hunters must obtain a free hunt permit from the refuge headquarters prior to hunting. Permits may be requested Monday thru Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by phone (843-226-5738) or by email (<u>savannahcoastal@fws.gov</u>). These hunt permits are non-transferable and are valid only for the individual whose name appears on the permit. Each permit must include the name and signature of the supervising adult, and a new permit must be obtained any time there is a change in the name of the supervising adult.

There are three quota youth hunts that require a lottery drawing; the youth waterfowl hunt, the youth waterfowl "Hunt & Learn", and the youth turkey "Hunt & Learn". To be entered into the drawing for any of these hunts, the appropriate hunt application must be submitted by the specified deadline, and a \$5 application fee will be charged. Separate information packets and applications may be requested by phone (843-226-5738) or email (<u>savannahcoastal@fws.gov</u>) or downloaded from the refuge website (<u>www.fws.gov/refuge/savannah/visit-us/activities/hunting</u>).

<u>Age Requirements</u>: Hunters participating in the general youth hunting at the Solomon Tract must be 15 years of age or under. Hunters ages 17 and under may apply for the youth quota hunts.

Youth hunters must be supervised by an adult, 21 years of age or older, who will participate in a non-hunting capacity. Youth hunters must remain within sight and normal voice contact with the adult at all times. During waterfowl, mourning dove, and small game hunting, the adult may supervise two youths. During deer, turkey, and feral hog hunting, the adult may supervise only one youth. Adult supervisors are not allowed to hunt, and therefore not required to have valid state hunting licenses or refuge hunt permits while supervising a youth hunter at the Solomon Tract.

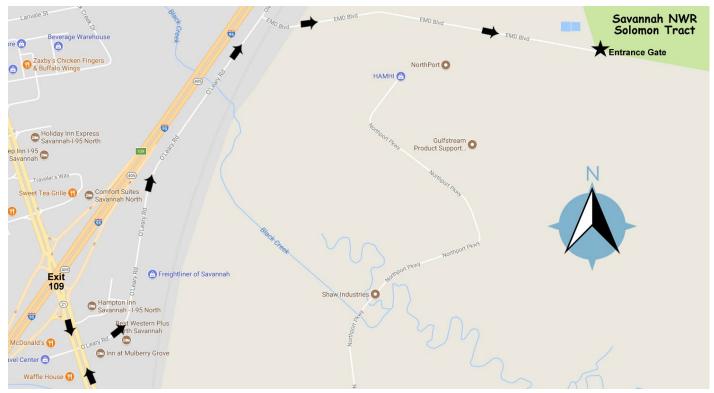
All non-quota youth hunts take place on the Savannah NWR's Solomon Tract, which is located in Chatham County, Georgia. The map included in this information packet provides an aerial view of the Solomon Tract, and a vicinity map with directions to the entrance gate accessible from GA Hwy 21. Youth supervisors are cautioned that private property bordering the refuge is closed to hunting; be familiar with signs that mark the refuge boundary.

Check-in/check-out is <u>not</u> required for non-quota youth hunting at the Solomon Tract. Transportation is not provided to, from, or on the refuge. Any movement within the refuge must be by foot or bicycle. Access to the Solomon Tract is <u>not</u> permitted by boat; access at the designated entrance is permitted by foot and bicycle only.

Dogs are <u>only</u> allowed for waterfowl hunting and must remain under control at all times. Dogs and other pets are not permitted on the refuge at any other time.

Youth hunters and their adult supervisors are required to read and follow all regulations contained within the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations. These regulations can be downloaded at www.fws.gov/refuge/savannah/visit-us/activities/hunting or requested via email to savannah/visit-us/activities/hunting or savannah/visit-us/activities/hunting or savannah/visit-us/activities/hunting or <a href="mailto:savannah/visit-us/savannah/visit-us/savan

Solomon Tract Directional Map



Solomon Tract Youth Hunt Area Map



State hunting regulations and license/tag requirements apply to all hunting on the refuge:

Hunt Type	Season Dates	Method of Take	Bag Limit	Hunt Unit(s)	Other Regulations
Deer	GA private land season	All state authorized weapons (buckshot prohibited)	5 deer (no more than 2 antlered)	Solomon Tract (Youth Only)	Youth hunt permit required
					Open to hunters 15 and under
					State regulations apply
Turkey – Hunt & Learn Weekend (Quota)	March 15, 16 & 17, 2024	Non-toxic ammunition required	1 Gobbler	Designated areas in GA and SC	Application required by February 28, 2024
					Open to hunters 17 and under
					Check-in required
					State regulations apply
Turkey	GA private land season	All state authorized weapons	State bag limit	Solomon Tract (Youth Only)	Youth hunt permit required
					Open to hunters 15 and under
		Non-toxic ammunition required			State regulations apply
Squirrel & Rabbit	GA private land season	Non-toxic ammunition required	State bag limit	Solomon Tract (Youth Only)	Youth hunt permit required
					Open to hunters 15 and under
					State regulations apply
Raccoon & Opossum	During state WMA seasons (not private lands)	Non-toxic ammunition required	State bag limit	Solomon Tract (Youth Only)	Youth hunt permit required
					Open to hunters 15 and under
					State regulations apply
Mourning Dove	GA private land season	Non-toxic ammunition required	State bag limit	Solomon Tract (Youth Only)	Youth hunt permit required
					Open to hunters 15 and under
					State regulations apply
Waterfowl	GA private land season	Non-toxic ammunition required	State bag limit	Solomon Tract (Youth Only)	Youth hunt permit required
					Open to hunters 15 and under
					State regulations apply

Waterfowl "Hunt & Learn" (Quota)	November 17 & 18, 2023 December 15 & 16, 2023	Non-toxic ammunition required	State bag limit	North Impoundments (Youth Only)	Application required by September 30, 2023 Open to hunters 17 and under Check-in required State regulations apply
Waterfowl (Quota)	January 13, 2024	Non-toxic ammunition required	State bag limit	North Impoundments (Youth Only)	Application required by November 15, 2023Open to hunters 17 and under Check-in required State regulations apply
Feral Hog, Coyote, Beaver & Armadillo	January 1 – March 10, 2024 AND Incidental take on all scheduled refuge hunts	If taking incidentally during other refuge hunts, only weapons authorized for those hunts.	No limit	Solomon Tract (Youth Only)	Youth hunt permit required Open to hunters 15 and under State regulations apply

In addition to all the youth-only hunting opportunities listed in this document, youth hunters are also permitted to hunt with an adult supervisor during any general public refuge hunt.