

2026 Controlled Waterfowl Hunting Area Dates for Lottery Drawing

Saxe's Creek Pothole & Shad Island (GREEN HEADINGS)

- October 10, 11, 17, 18
- Blinds Available on a First-Come, First-Served Basis on October 12–October 16, and October 19–December 8

Long Marsh Channel & Metcalfe Island (BLUE HEADINGS)

- October 10, 13, 15, 17, 20
- Blinds Available on a First-Come, First-Served Basis on October 22, 24, 27, 29, 31; November 3, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, 28; and December 1, 3, 5, 8

Junior Waterfowl Area - Long Marsh Bay & Charcoal Creek/Patrick Marsh (YELLOW HEADINGS)

- October 28
- Blinds available on a First-Come, First-Served Basis on October 31; November 1, 4, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15, 18, 21, 22, 25, 28, 29; and December 2, 5, 6.
- Blind sites A & B in Patrick Marsh will have floating blinds in place.
These blinds will be available to adult hunters throughout the season also.

Lottery Applications are due no later than 3:30pm, September 7, 2026.

(Note: The mail arrives at the refuge late in the afternoon, so please plan accordingly.)

Drawing is September 9, 2026 at 10:00am.

(\$10 permit fee from successful applicants must be received by 3:30 PM Oct. 8, 2026)

**Please be sure to read the enclosed brochure in order to familiarize yourself with all the varying regulations in each hunt area.*

Zoned Waterfowl Hunt Instruction Sheet

Saxe's Pothole/Creek and Shad Island Pothole

Enclosed is an application to hunt waterfowl on Saxe's Pothole/Creek and Shad Island Pothole Waterfowl Hunting Area for the 2026 season.

This application is for the period from opening day through the first Sunday and for the second weekend of the waterfowl hunting season (October 10, 11, 17, 18). Thereafter, hunting privileges will be on a first-come, first-served basis with self-service sign-in (Oct. 12-16, Oct 19-Dec 8) and permitting at Mac's Bend boat launching area no more than two hours before legal shooting time.

Applications will be drawn until all days requiring pre-registration are filled. Successful applicants will receive a permit for the pre-registered date based on their preference of hunting dates. Each selected hunter may bring one guest.

Please fill in your name, mailing address, daytime phone number, blind preferences and send completed application to:

Refuge Manager

Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge, 29 Tabor Rd., Swanton, VT 05488
(802) 868-4781

Please note the following information:

- Only one application is allowed per hunter.
- A public drawing to award hunting permits will be held at refuge headquarters, five miles west of Swanton, VT on September 9, 2026, at 10:00am. Attendance is not required.
- Only hunters whose applications are selected will be notified.
- A map of the Saxe's Pothole/Creek and Shad Island Pothole area is located in this packet.
- Hunters whose applications are selected will be required to remit a \$10.00 user fee payable by check or money order. The fee must be received by 3:30 PM on October 8, 2026, or the permit will be null and void, and the blind site will become available to standby hunters.
- In an attempt to obtain more accurate harvest data, everyone hunting on the refuge is required to fill out a Harvest Report. This is accomplished by completing sections B & C of the permit and returning it to the Mac's Bend hunt box or mailing it to refuge headquarters. (Other report forms for non-permit areas are available at the Mac's Bend Boat Launch area & Refuge Office).

Zoned Hunting Regulations

Saxe's Pothole/Creek and Shad Island Pothole

Lottery Days: Oct. 10, 11, 17, 18

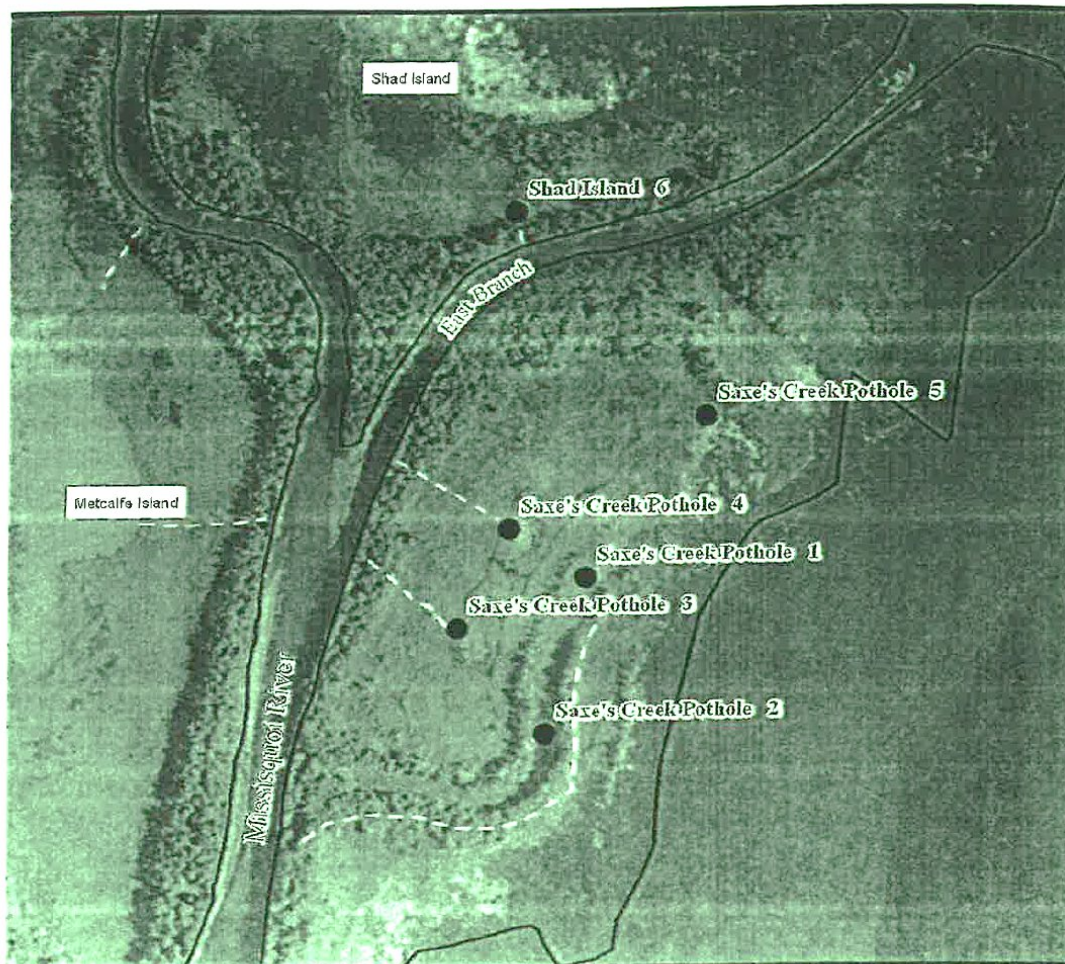
First Come-First Served Days: October 12–October 16 and October 19–December 8, 2026

1. Hunting is by pre-registered permit from opening day through the first Sunday and during the second weekend of the duck hunting season. Thereafter, hunting privileges will be on a first-come, first-served basis with self-service sign in and permitting at Mac's Bend boat launch area, no more than two hours before legal shooting time on the day of the hunt.
2. Hunting areas are zoned in Saxe's Pothole/Creek and Shad Island Pothole. Five parties will be permitted to hunt Saxe's Pothole/Creek sites 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. One party will be permitted to hunt Shad Island Pothole site 6. Hunters in Sites 1 and 2 may hunt only on the east side of Saxe's Creek.
3. A party consists of up to two hunters.
4. Hunters must hunt within 100' of the blind stake.
5. Hunters have until one hour after sunset to check out by dropping their permits, with a report of hunt results, at the Mac's Bend hunt box.
6. Each party is required to use a retriever.
7. Jump shooting is not allowed.
8. Hunters with pre-registered permits must sign in at the Mac's Bend boat launching area by 7:00 a.m. on the date of their scheduled hunt. After that time, other hunters may self-register for a permit and hunt unoccupied blind sites.
9. This area will be open on a first-come, first-served basis with self-service permitting and sign-in at Mac's Bend no more than two hours before legal shooting time to qualified hunters during the annual special Youth Waterfowl Hunter weekend September 26 & 27, 2026. Hunters must submit a report of their hunt.
10. In an attempt to obtain more accurate harvest data, everyone hunting on the refuge is required to fill out a **Harvest Report**. This is accomplished by completing sections B and C of the permit and returning it to the Mac's Bend hunt box or mailing it to refuge headquarters. (Other report forms for non-permit areas are available at Mac's Bend and refuge headquarters).

**Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge Shad Island and Saxe's Pothole/Creek
Controlled Waterfowl Area**



Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge
Shad Island and Saxe's Pothole/Creek
Controlled Waterfowl Hunt Area



FWS Form 3-2357 (Rev. 02/2018)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

OMB Control. No. 1018-0140
Expiration Date 07/31/2021



MIGRATORY BIRD HUNT APPLICATION
National Wildlife Refuge System



Follow instructions in the refuge hunt publication; not all fields may be required. Read and comply with all refuge regulations, including application deadlines.

1. Name of Refuge: Missisquoi NWR 2. Date of Application: _____

3. Full Legal Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Area Code/Phone No: _____

Email Address: _____

4. Method: Saxes Creek/Shad Island

5. Hunt Date Choices

1st Choice: _____

2nd Choice: _____

3rd Choice: _____

4th Choice: _____

5th Choice: _____

6. Hunt Location Choices

1st Choice: _____

2nd Choice: _____

3rd Choice: _____

4th Choice: _____

5th Choice: _____

7. Special Hunt: _____

7A. Youth Hunt Only: Age Limit at Time of Hunt: _____

8. *I have read and understand the refuge hunt regulations and agree to abide by the regulations governing hunting on the refuge.*

Hunter Signature

Print guardian name and signature here
(required for hunters less than 18 years old)

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Date Received: _____

☐ Payment Exempt/No Fee

☐ Payment Required

Payment Amount: _____

Payment Type: ☐ Personal Check

☐ Cashier's Check

☐ Money Order

☐ Other:

Notes: _____

FWS Form 3-2357 (Rev. 02/2018)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

OMB Control. No. 1018-0140
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NOTICES

All information you provide will be considered in reviewing this application. False, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations made in the application may be grounds for revocation of the permit and may be punishable by fine or imprisonment (18 U.S.C. 1001).

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Authority: The information requested is authorized by the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act (16 U.S.C. 668dd-ee) as amended and the Refuge Recreation Act (16 U.S.C. 460k – 460k-4).

Purpose: The collection of contact information is to verify that the individual has an eligible permit to hunt on one of the National Wildlife Refuges that is designated for migratory bird hunting.

Routine Uses: The individual's contact information may be used to verify permit status, provide permittees with permit-related information, and monitor waterfowl hunt activities conducted under a permit. More information about routine uses can be found in the System of Records Notice, Permits System, FWS-21.

Disclosure: Providing the information is required as a condition of maintaining a Federal permit under the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act. Failure to disclose the requested information may be sufficient cause for revocation of the permit. If the information indicates a violation of a statute, regulation, rule, order or license, whether civil, criminal, or regulatory in nature, the information may be transferred to the appropriate Federal, State, local or foreign agency charged with investigating or prosecuting such violations.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT

We are collecting this information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501) to provide the refuge managers the information needed to decide whether or not to allow the requested use, and to respond to requests made under the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act of 1974. The information that you provide is voluntary; however, submission of the requested information is required to evaluate the qualifications, determine eligibility, and document permit applicants. Failure to provide all required information is sufficient cause for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to deny a permit. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. OMB has approved this collection of information and assigned OMB Control No. 1018-0140.

ESTIMATED BURDEN STATEMENT

Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Service Information Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803, or via email at Info_Coll@fws.gov. Please do not send your completed application to this address.

Zoned Waterfowl Hunt Instruction Sheet

Long Marsh Channel and Metcalfe Island

Enclosed is an application to hunt waterfowl on the Long Marsh Channel and Metcalfe Island Waterfowl Hunting Area for the 2026 season.

Hunting is limited to Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays throughout the waterfowl hunting season. This application is for the first five days of the season when pre-registration is required (October 10, 13, 15, 17, 20). Starting October 22, hunting privileges will be on a first-come, first-served basis with self-service sign-in and permitting at Mac's Bend boat launching area no more than two hours before legal shooting time.

Applications will be drawn until all days requiring pre-registration are filled. Successful applicants will receive a permit for the pre-registered date based on their preference of hunting dates. Each selected hunter may bring one guest.

Please fill in your name, mailing address, daytime phone number, blind preferences and send completed application to:

Refuge Manager
Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge
29 Tabor Rd., Swanton, VT 05488
(802) 868-4781

Please note the following information:

- Only one application is allowed per hunter.
- A public drawing to award hunting permits will be held at refuge headquarters, five miles west of Swanton, VT on September 9, 2026, at 10:00am. Attendance is not required.
- Only hunters whose applications are selected will be notified.
- Hunters whose applications are selected will be required to remit a \$10.00 user fee payable by check or money order. The fee must be received by 3:30PM on October 8, 2026, or the permit will be null and void, and the blind site will become available to standby hunters.
- Access to Long Marsh Channel is by boat or canoe only. Canoes may be carried across from the river. The Jeep Trail is closed to motorized vehicles.
- In an attempt to obtain more accurate harvest data, everyone hunting on the refuge is required to fill out a **Harvest Report**. This is accomplished by completing sections B & C of the permit and returning it to the Mac's Bend hunt box or mailing it to refuge headquarters. (Other report forms for non-permit areas are available at the Mac's Bend Boat Launch area & Refuge Office).

Zoned Hunting Regulations

Long Marsh Channel and Metcalfe Island

Lottery Days: October 10, 13, 15, 17, 20

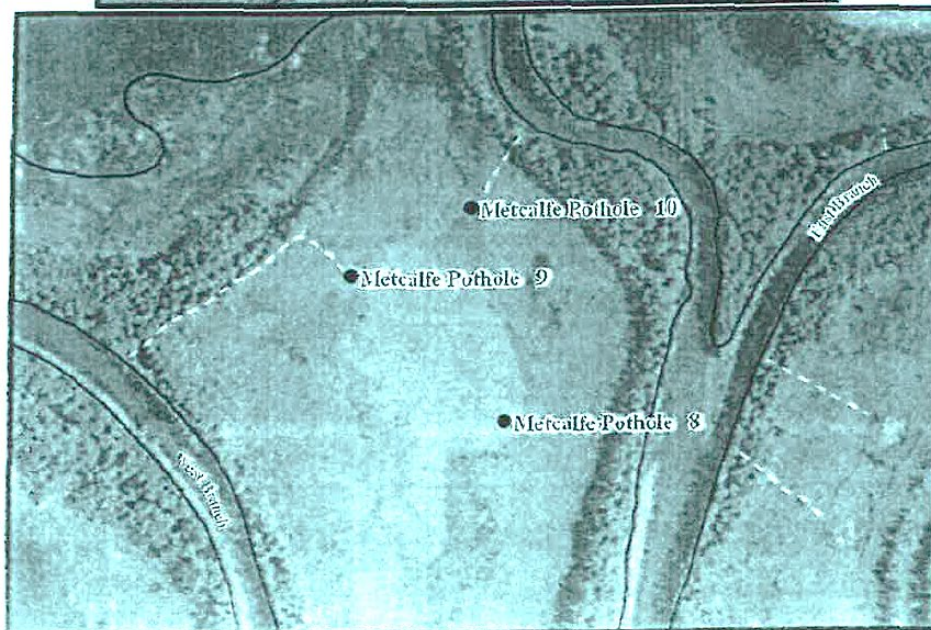
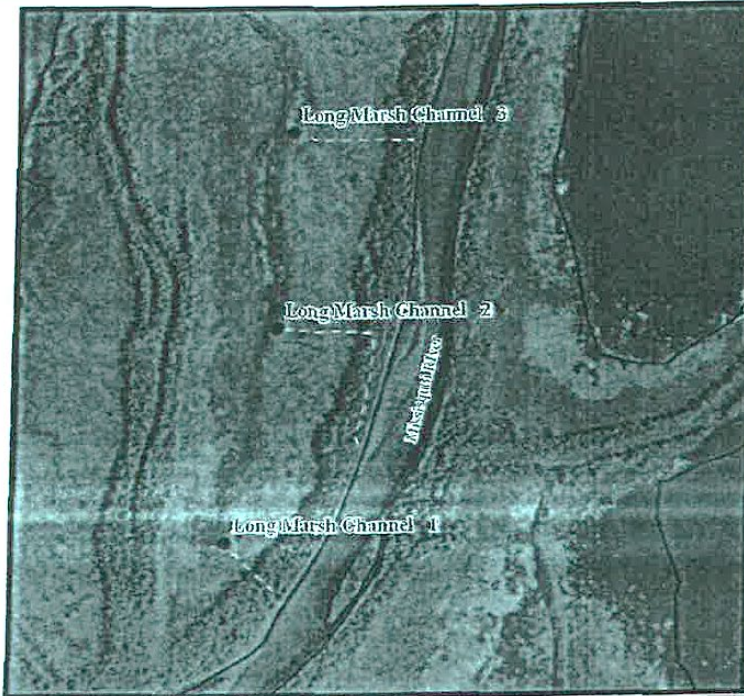
First Come-First Served Days: Oct. 22, 24, 27, 29, 31; Nov. 3, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, 28; and Dec. 1, 3, 5, 8

1. Hunting is limited to Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays throughout the waterfowl season. The first five hunting days of the season will be by pre-season lottery. Thereafter hunting privileges will be on a first come, first-served basis with self-service sign in and permitting at Mac's Bend boat launch area, no more than two hours before legal shooting time on the day of the hunt.
2. Hunting areas are zoned in Long Marsh Channel and Metcalfe Island. Three parties will be permitted to hunt Long Marsh Channel sites 1, 2, 3. Three parties will be allowed to hunt Metcalfe Island sites 8, 9, 10.
3. A party consists of up to two hunters.
4. Hunters must hunt within 100' of the blind stake.
5. Shooting hours will be one-half hour before sunrise until 11:00 a.m. Hunters have until one hour after sunset to check out by dropping their permits, with a report of hunt results, at the Mac's Bend hunt box.
6. Each party is required to use a retriever.
7. A boat or canoe is necessary for access either from the lake or the river. Canoes can be carried across from the river. The Jeep Trail from Mac's Bend is closed to motorized vehicles.
8. Jump shooting is not allowed.
9. Hunters with pre-registered permits must sign in at Mac's Bend Boat Launch area no later than 7:00 a.m. on the date of their scheduled hunt. After that time, other hunters may self-register for a permit and hunt unoccupied blind sites.
10. This area will be open on a first-come, first-served basis with self-service permitting and sign in at Mac's Bend no more than two hours before legal shooting time to qualified hunters during the annual special Youth Waterfowl Hunter weekend September 26 & 27, 2026. Hunters must submit a report of their hunt.
11. In an attempt to obtain more accurate harvest data, everyone hunting on the refuge is required to fill out a **Harvest Report**. This is accomplished by completing sections B & C of the permit and returning it to the Mac's Bend hunt box or mailing it to refuge headquarters. (Other report forms for non-permit areas are available at the Mac's Bend Boat Launch area & Refuge Headquarters).

**Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge Long Marsh Channel & Metcalfe Island
Controlled Waterfowl Hunt Area**



Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge
Long Marsh Channel & Metcalfe Island
Controlled Waterfowl Hunt Area



FWS Form 3-2357 (Rev. 02/2018)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

OMB Control. No. 1018-0140
Expiration Date 07/31/2021



MIGRATORY BIRD HUNT APPLICATION
National Wildlife Refuge System



Follow instructions in the refuge hunt publication; not all fields may be required. Read and comply with all refuge regulations, including application deadlines.

1. Name of Refuge: Missisquoi NWR 2. Date of Application: _____

3. Full Legal Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Area Code/Phone No: _____

Email Address: _____

4. Method: Long Marsh Channel & Metcalfe Island

5. Hunt Date Choices

1st Choice: _____

2nd Choice: _____

3rd Choice: _____

4th Choice: _____

5th Choice: _____

6. Hunt Location Choices

1st Choice: _____

2nd Choice: _____

3rd Choice: _____

4th Choice: _____

5th Choice: _____

7. Special Hunt: _____ 7A. Youth Hunt Only: Age Limit at Time of Hunt: _____

8. *I have read and understand the refuge hunt regulations and agree to abide by the regulations governing hunting on the refuge.*

Hunter Signature

Print guardian name and signature here
(required for hunters less than 18 years old)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _____

☐ Payment Exempt/No Fee

☐ Payment Required

Payment Amount: _____

Payment Type: ☐ Personal Check

☐ Cashier's Check

☐ Money Order

☐ Other:

Notes: _____

Zoned Waterfowl Hunt Instruction Sheet

Junior Waterfowl Area - Long Marsh Bay & Charcoal Creek/Patrick Marsh

This area is set aside as a special training area for youths between the ages of 12 and 17 who use the area under the guidance of an adult mentor for the first four weekends of the duck season. **Hunting by adults** is limited to Wednesday mornings following the second weekend of the season, and weekends after the last youth hunt. Jr. Waterfowl Mentor Day is October 21, 2026.

Enclosed is an application to hunt on the Long Marsh Bay & Charcoal Creek/Patrick Marsh section of the Junior Waterfowl Hunt Area. **Please note that pre-registration lottery is only for October 28, 2026, the second Wednesday following the second weekend of the waterfowl hunting season. Eleven blind sites are available and include: blind sites 4–8 in Long Marsh Bay, blind sites C–F in Charcoal Creek, and blind sites A–B in Patrick Marsh. Please note that blind sites A & B in Patrick Marsh have floating boat blinds in place.** After the pre-registration date, blind sites are available Wednesdays and on the weekends after the last youth hunt on a first come, first served basis with self service sign in and permitting at the Mac's Bend Boat Launch area. Each selected hunter may bring one guest.

Please fill in your name, mailing address, daytime phone number, blind preferences and send completed application to:

Refuge Manager
Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge
29 Tabor Rd.
Swanton, VT 05488
(802) 868-4781

Please note the following information:

- Only one application is allowed per hunter.
- A public drawing to award hunting permits will be held at refuge headquarters, five miles west of Swanton, VT on September 9, 2026 at 10:00am. Attendance is not required.
- Only hunters whose applications are selected will be notified.
- Hunters whose applications are selected will be required to remit a \$10.00 user fee payable by check or money order. The fee must be received by 3:30PM on October 8, 2026 or the permit will be null and void, and the blind site will become available to standby hunters.
- In an attempt to obtain more accurate harvest data, everyone hunting on the refuge is required to fill out a Harvest Report. This is accomplished by completing sections B & C of the permit and returning it to the Mac's Bend hunt box or mailing it to refuge headquarters. (Other report forms for non-permit areas are available at the Mac's Bend Boat Launch area & Refuge Office).

Zoned Waterfowl Hunt Regulations

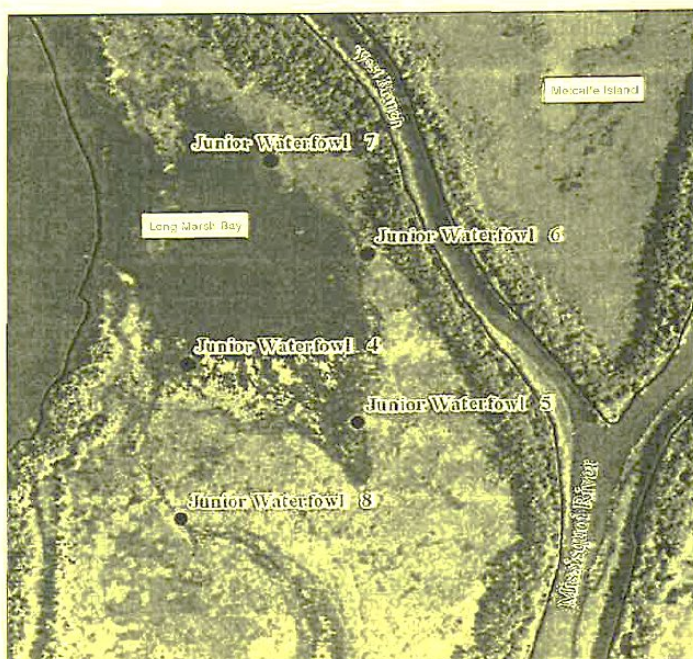
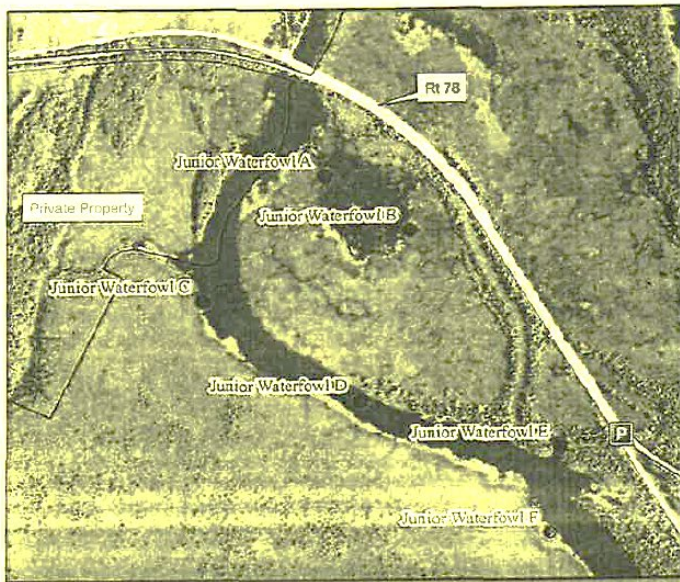
Junior Waterfowl Area - Long Marsh Bay & Charcoal Creek / Patrick Marsh

Lottery Day: OCTOBER 28, 2026

First Come-First Served Days: October 31; November 1, 4, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15, 18, 21, 22, 25, 28, 29; and December 2, 5, 6.

1. Adult hunters will be allowed to hunt from eleven blind sites on the Junior Waterfowl Hunt Area. Five blind sites in Long Marsh Bay and six blind sites in Charcoal Creek/Patrick Marsh are available to the public by pre-registered permit on the second Wednesday following the second weekend of the hunting season.
2. **Thereafter, blinds are available Weekends and Wednesdays starting October 31, 2026 on a first come first served basis** with self-service sign in and permitting at Mac's Bend Boat Launch, no more than two hours before legal shooting time on the day of the hunt.
3. Hunting areas are zoned in Patrick Marsh and Charcoal Creek. Two parties will be permitted to hunt in Patrick Marsh and four parties in Charcoal Creek. **(Avoid private property line south of Blind F).**
4. Hunting is zoned in Long Marsh Bay to allow five parties.
5. A party consists of up to two hunters.
6. Hunters must hunt within 100' of the blind stake.
7. Shooting will be permitted until 11:00 a.m.
8. A boat or canoe is necessary for access.
9. Jump shooting is not allowed.
10. Hunters with pre-registered permits must sign in at Mac's Bend Boat Launch area no later than 7:00 a.m. on the date of their scheduled hunt. After that time, other hunters may self-register for a permit and hunt unoccupied blind sites.
11. In an attempt to obtain more accurate harvest data, everyone hunting on the refuge is required to fill out a **Harvest Report**. This is section B of your permit. (Other report forms for non-permit areas are available at the Mac's Bend Boat Launch area & Refuge Office).

**Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge Junior Waterfowl Areas
Long Marsh Bay and Charcoal Creek/Patrick Marsh
Controlled Waterfowl Hunt Areas**



Missisquoi NWR Junior Waterfowl Program: Fournier Tract



Produced at Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge
June 18, 2018
Photograph: 2018/2019

0 0.13 0.25 0.5 Miles

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U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge

29 Tabor Road. Swanton, VT 05488

FWS Form 3-2357 (Rev. 02/2018)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

OMB Control. No. 1018-0140
Expiration Date 07/31/2021



MIGRATORY BIRD HUNT APPLICATION
National Wildlife Refuge System



Follow instructions in the refuge hunt publication; not all fields may be required. Read and comply with all refuge regulations, including application deadlines.

1. Name of Refuge: Missisquoi NWR 2. Date of Application: _____

3. Full Legal Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Area Code/Phone No: _____

Email Address: _____

4. Method: Junior Waterfowl Area-Long Marsh Bay/Patrick Marsh Charcoal Creek-Fournier Tract

5. Hunt Date Choices

1st Choice: October 28, 2026

2nd Choice: XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

3rd Choice: XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

4th Choice: XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

5th Choice: XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

6. Hunt Location Choices

1st Choice: _____

2nd Choice: _____

3rd Choice: _____

4th Choice: _____

5th Choice: _____

7. Special Hunt: _____

7A. Youth Hunt Only: Age Limit at Time of Hunt: _____

8. *I have read and understand the refuge hunt regulations and agree to abide by the regulations governing hunting on the refuge.*

Hunter Signature

Print guardian name and signature here
(required for hunters less than 18 years old)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _____

☐ Payment Exempt/No Fee

☐ Payment Required

Payment Amount: _____

Payment Type: ☐ Personal Check

☐ Cashier's Check

☐ Money Order

☐ Other:

Notes: _____

Fournier Tract Jr. Waterfowl Hunt Area

New to the Missisquoi NWR Jr. Waterfowl hunt program is the Fournier Tract. This property was generously donated to the refuge by the Fournier family in memory of their son who loved to hunt waterfowl.

This property is open, consistent with refuge policy for other controlled Jr. waterfowl hunting areas. The following rules apply to the new Fournier Jr. Waterfowl hunting tract:

- Only Jr. hunters and their mentors are permitted to hunt the tract during the refuge's Jr. Waterfowl hunt season. Following the Jr. season, it will be open to waterfowl hunters first come, first served following refuge regulations.
- **One blind site** will be available to Jr. hunters and their mentors and will be assigned by lottery for the first four weekends of the waterfowl hunting season.
- Access to the site:
 - Jr. waterfowl hunters and their mentors may access the site either by boat or by car. If driving to the site, drive north on Campbell's Bay Road ~0.6 miles. Turn right on a dirt road just past the North End Cemetery. Follow this road to the end where two cars are permitted to park. Walk north along the shore to access the hunting area.
 - **Following the Jr. Season public waterfowl hunters using the site are not permitted to drive and park and must access the site by boat.**
 - **Due to the small area available hunters are permitted to set up in any location within the Fournier Tract. No stake will be provided.**