

# News Release

## *DeSoto & Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Services*

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712/388-4800 Fax: 712/642-4808 <http://fws.gov/refuge/DeSoto>

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 28, 2012

#### Contact:

Mindy Sheets, 712.388.4802, [mindy\\_sheets@fws.gov](mailto:mindy_sheets@fws.gov)

### **Deer Hunting Opportunities at DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges**

**Missouri Valley, Iowa** - DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge will have an antlerless deer hunts on October 20-21, 2012 and January 12-13, 2013. The January hunt may be expanded at DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges depending on habitat and deer population conditions. For the October and January hunts, the hunters will hunt the entire refuge and be allowed to take two antlerless deer. The October hunt will have two hundred hunters and the January hunt will be unlimited. Muzzleloaders will be used during all hunts.

A third muzzleloader hunt will be held December 8-9, 2012. This hunt will allow 135 hunters to harvest two deer, one of either sex and one antlerless. Nebraska residents can apply for the hunts through the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission office for the October and December hunts.

For the January hunt, interested Nebraska hunters will use a Season Choice – Wahoo license. Interested Iowa residents can apply for each hunt by dropping off at DeSoto, or sending in, a card with their name, address, phone number and which hunt or hunts they are applying for. The information can also be emailed to [mindy\\_sheets@fws.gov](mailto:mindy_sheets@fws.gov). Interested Iowa hunters should apply by September 1.

Any unfilled slots will be available after the drawing on a first come basis. For Iowa residents, the October hunt will only require antlerless licenses that are specific for the DeSoto hunts and will not count against the hunters take. The December hunt will require a second season shotgun license and a doe tag if desired. The January hunt will use Harrison or Pottawattamie County doe tags. Specific information concerning the licenses will be provided to those drawn.

Hunter can apply by mailing their requests to DeSoto Refuge, 1434 316<sup>th</sup> Lane, Missouri Valley, IA 51555. If you have further questions about hunting, contact Mindy Sheets at 712-388-4802.

Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge will have a deer hunt from December 15-23, 2012 and January 12-13, 2013. These hunts will be refuge wide and antlerless only. Hunters can buy unlimited permits through Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. These will be muzzleloader only hunts. Hunters that come to the refuge to hunt will need to pick up a free Access Permit that has specific refuge regulations concerning the hunt. The permits will be available during the hunts at the main entrance gate to Boyer Chute. Prior to the hunts, the permits will be available on the Boyer Chute website at [http://www.fws.gov/refuge/boyer\\_chute/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/boyer_chute/)

Archery deer hunting is also available on the refuge and is open to the public. The archery season on the refuge runs from October 1, 2012 until January 18, 2013. Hunters must be properly licensed and carry a free Archery Deer Access Permit from the refuge. The permit has a map showing the areas that are open to archery deer hunting and explains the refuge regulations. The Access Permits can be picked up at the refuge visitor center or off the refuge website at <http://www.fws.gov/refuge/desoto/>

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge is located 25 miles north of Omaha, Nebraska on U.S. Highway 30, between Missouri Valley, Iowa and Blair, Nebraska. The visitor center is open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, except federal holidays. For more information contact 712/388-4800 or look us up on the web at <http://fws.gov/refuge/DeSoto> or email the refuge at [desoto@fws.gov](mailto:desoto@fws.gov)

*The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov).*

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