



2014 Deer Hunting Regulations

Deer (Firearm): Only hunters with a Sand Lake NWR permit (available through SD GFP) may hunt. Hunters are allowed on the refuge only during days covered by their deer license. Unlicensed persons are not allowed in refuge hunting zones at any time during the refuge hunting seasons. Season dates: **SL1- Muzzleloader only (Nov 8-Nov 12); SL2 (Nov 13-17); SL3 (Nov 18-Nov 23); SL4 (Closed); SL5 (Dec 1-Dec 7); Unused antlerless tags Dec 27-Jan 4, 2015**

Deer (Archery): The refuge archery season is open **Oct 18-Nov 7 & Dec 8-Dec.26, 2014**. A special permit from the refuge is not needed. Hunters with a valid statewide or East River Any Deer state archery license (available through SD GFP) may hunt in the refuge with the exception of an Antlerless Archery tag. **Antlerless Only Archery tags are not valid in Sand Lake NWR.**

Hunting Hours: Deer hunters may enter the refuge one (1) hour before shooting time. No hunter may remain in the refuge later than one (1) hour after shooting time ends. For special situations, contact refuge personnel.

Parking: Archery hunters hunting in the headquarters area may not park in the headquarters parking lot or driveway, and must use other parking lots designated for hunters.

Closed Areas: See map on reverse for locations of closed areas. **Please note additional *new* closed area as of 2012. The area from 117th St. north to Sand Lake Drive and from Brown County Highway 16 east to the James River channel is now closed to all hunting.**

Deer Retrieval: Vehicles are allowed in the refuge **only** for retrieving harvested deer and **only** during the following times: **9:30-10:00 AM; 1:30-2:00 PM;** and **from the end of shooting time to one (1) hour after the end of shooting time.** Vehicles are allowed only on established roads & trails (**snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles are not permitted**). Some roads may be closed due to flood damage. Barricades have been placed at these areas. **Do not drive around barricades.**

Dates to Place Deer Stands: ***New Regulation as of 2012*** Hunters may place their deer stands or blinds during their designated licensed season only. Tree stands and blinds can only be placed on the refuge during your license period and must be removed when your licensed season has ended. **Early tree stand placement is no longer allowed.** Archery hunters cannot leave stands on the refuge during the deer firearms season.

Tree Stand/Portable Blind Requirements: **The use of nails, screws, bolts, or screw-in type steps is prohibited on National Wildlife Refuges.** The name and address or the year and current deer tag number of the owner or user must be on the stand and must be legible from the ground. Other elevated platform devices (not attached to a tree) and all portable blinds must conform with the date and labeling requirements. The construction or use of permanent tree stands is prohibited.

The placement of portable blinds and stands in unharvested row crops is not allowed until November 1. Please be aware that the refuge has an annual fall prescribed burning program October 16-31. Adjust your hunt/position accordingly. Boundaries of the proposed burn sites will be posted/marked. If unsure, check with the refuge headquarters personnel for exact locations.

Hunter Orange: All refuge firearm deer hunters must wear a minimum of 400 square inches of **solid** hunter orange material on the head, chest, **and** back which must be visible at all times. A vest and hat meets this requirement. **Camouflage orange material is not legal.**

Party Hunting: **Party hunting is illegal.** Each hunter may take only his/her permitted number of deer. After filling their tag(s), hunters may accompany members of their party in the field, **but must be unarmed.**

Bicycles & Boats: Bicycles are not allowed. Motorized and non-motorized boating is not allowed. Access is by walk-in only.

Littering: Do not discard garbage or gut piles in or near parking lots!

Trail Monitor Cameras: Are not allowed on the refuge.

Camping: Camping is not allowed on the refuge or surrounding SD GFP lands.

Ice Conditions: Ice conditions on the James River can be extremely unstable and weak. Use Extreme Caution!



Deer Hunting Map

