

# 2015-2016 Waterfowl Hunting Season

## Reminders: Refuge Regulations

- Legal hunting hours for waterfowl (ducks, mergansers, coots, and geese) are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset each day of the hunting season
- **SWANS are protected** – your responsibility is to know the species to legally hunt
- Hunters must sign-in before each hunt and sign-out after each hunt is complete at designated hunter parking area
- **Hunters must enter and exit at designated hunter parking areas - ONLY**
- No overnight parking or camping
- Hunters may enter the hunting area 2 hours prior to legal hunting hours and shall exit no later than 2 hours after legal hunting hours.
- No camping / warming fires
- All trash, including food products, animal parts, spent shotgun shell casings, and paper and plastic products, must be removed from the Refuge
- Mechanized vehicles (including bicycles) are not allowed in the hunting area (game carts and sleds are permitted).
- **The use of mechanical decoys powered by battery or solar power is prohibited.**
- Possession and consumption of alcohol and controlled substances while hunting is prohibited
- All hunting must be conducted from within the blind
- Blinds 1, 2, 7, 14, and 15 do not have a decoy requirement; however, a minimum of six decoys are required for all other blinds.
- Waterfowl hunting with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells is prohibited (one in the chamber and two in the magazine tube).
- There is a limit of 25 shotgun shells per hunter per day.
- Non-toxic shot is required. **NO LEAD**
- All hunters must have visible means of retrieving waterfowl such as a float tube, waders, or a dog capable of retrieving.
- **DOGS MUST BE ON A LEASH** in the parking area, while traveling to your designated hunting blind, and when returning to your vehicle from the blind.

### Pacific Flyway

The Pacific Flyway includes Hill, Chouteau, Cascade, Meagher and Park counties and all counties lying west of these.



### Ducks (Including Mergansers)

Bag limit: Daily bag limit shall be 7 ducks or mergansers. Daily bag limit shall not include more than 2 hen mallards, 2 pintails, 2 redheads, 2 canvasback and 3 scaup. Scaup season closes Dec 27. The possession limit may not exceed three times the daily bag limit of any species and sex.

#### Open Season:

- Sept 26 - Sept 27 – Only youth ages 15 and under.
- Oct 3 - Dec 27 – Standard bag limit. Please note Pacific Flyway exceptions.
- Dec 28 - Jan 10 – Standard bag limit excluding scaup. Please note Pacific Flyway exceptions.
- Jan 16 - Jan 20 – Standard bag limit excluding scaup. Please note Pacific Flyway exceptions.

### Coots

Bag Limit: 25 daily and in possession.

#### Open Season:

- Sept 26 - Sept 27 – Only youth ages 15 and under.
- Oct 3 - Jan 10 – Please note Pacific Flyway exceptions.
- Jan 16 - Jan 20 – Please note Pacific Flyway exceptions.

### Geese

Daily limit: 20 white geese (Snow, Blue, Ross's) and 4 dark geese (all other geese).

The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit.

#### Open Season:

- Sept 26 - Sept 27 – Only youth ages 15 and under.
- Oct 3 - Jan 10 – Please note Pacific Flyway exceptions.
- Jan 16 - Jan 20 – Please note Pacific Flyway exceptions.