

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Large Lakes Research Station
9311 Groh Road
Grosse Ile, MI 48138
Phone: (734) 365-0219
Fax: (734) 692-7603
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Detroit_River

News Release



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Contacts: Steve Dushane (734) 692-7604
Jody DeMeyere (734) 692-7649

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES FOR HUNTERS IN SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

GROSSE ILE, MICHIGAN – Portions of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge are open for the remainder of the hunting season.

The following units are open to big game, small game and migratory bird hunting: Humbug Island, Calf Island, Sugar Island, the Strong Unit and the Fix Unit. Portions of the Plum Creek Bay Unit only accessible by boat will be open to migratory bird hunting only. The Brancheau Unit will be open solely to waterfowl hunting by special permit assigned through lottery. The unit will be open on opening day of the regular waterfowl season and Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday mornings thereafter for the remainder of the regular waterfowl season. The popular permit hunt is managed in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources at the Pointe Mouillee State Game Area. Open water areas such as Humbug Marsh, Mama Juda Shoal, and waters surrounding Mud Island, Grassy Island, Humbug Island, Calf Island and the Brancheau Unit are open to waterfowl hunting below the ordinary high watermark in accordance with State laws and Regulations. Hunting from shore and entry onto uplands of Mud Island and Grassy Island or the mainland portion of the Humbug Marsh Unit above the ordinary high watermark are prohibited.

The annual Humbug Marsh (mainland) lottery deer hunt was postponed until the 2019 hunt season. Interested hunters for the 2019 season should look for application announcements in mid-July 2019.

As a reminder, all baiting is prohibited on National Wildlife Refuge land. Violators will be ticketed.

For more refuge specific information regarding the hunt program at Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, please visit the refuge website: www.fws.gov/refuge/Detroit_River.

In addition, please note three units are open for self-guided exploration year round, including hunting. The Gibraltar Bay Unit is located on East River Road on Grosse Ile. The Strong Unit is off Port Sunlight Road in Newport. The Fix Unit is located southwest of the intersection of Langton and Leroux in Newport. All of these are open sunrise to sunset. Additional units will be opening in the new year.

For additional information, contact Deputy Refuge Manager Steve Dushane at 734-692-7604 or Visitor Services Manager Jody DeMeyere at 734-692-7649.

The Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge is proud to not only be the only international refuge in North America, but one of only 14 priority urban refuges in the nation charged with bringing conservation to cities. It covers 48 miles of shoreline along the lower Detroit River and western basin of Lake Erie -- stretching from southwest Detroit to the Ohio-Michigan border. The Refuge focuses on conserving, protecting and restoring habitat for 300 species of birds and 117 species of fish. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service currently owns or cooperatively manages 6,202 acres of unique habitats and partners with Michigan Department of Natural Resource on conservation of 7,897 acres of state-owned land. A Canadian registry of lands now includes 3,797 acres of Essex Region Conservation Authority lands and 981 acres of City of Windsor lands. In total, 18,877 acres of land in southeast Michigan and

southwest Ontario are now being cooperatively managed for conservation and outdoor recreation for nearly seven million people living in a 45-minute drive.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is, working with others, to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service is both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation. Visit www.fws.gov to learn more.

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