

Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge



Lake Lowell Unit - Controlled Deer Hunt Permit & Regulations

Deer hunting is permitted at the Lake Lowell Unit of Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Hunters must comply with all applicable State Regulations, Refuge Regulations, and the following Special Conditions.

Permit - Deer hunters must carry a valid Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) hunting license and deer tag as well as this signed permit.

Weapons, shot, and shells - Hunters are allowed to use only short-range weapons. These weapons currently include muzzleloaders, archery equipment, crossbow, shotgun using slugs or shot of size #00 buck or larger, or a handgun using straight-walled cartridge not originally developed for rifles.

Access - The deer hunting area is defined on the north by the southern shoreline of Lake Lowell, on the east by the New York Canal, on the south by the southern boundary of the Refuge, and on the west by Riverside Road. See map on reverse.

Hunters may only access the deer hunting area from designated parking areas (Parking Areas 1-8). Access into the deer hunting area is walk-in only. Boat and vehicle access is prohibited.

Only hunters carrying a valid Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) deer tag and this permit are allowed in the area between Parking Area 1 and the New York Canal and only during the period listed on their IDFG tag. Except hunters retrieving downed deer from this area, who may be assisted by up to 2 people.

A refuge employee, State Game Warden, or local law enforcement officer must accompany hunters to retrieve a wounded or dead deer from any area closed to deer hunting.

Tree Stand/Platform - Hunters may only shoot while hunting from an elevated tree stand/platform. Ground stalking and still hunting from the ground are prohibited. Shooting a firearm or bow while on the ground is prohibited except to kill a downed deer.

A hunter may place stands/platforms on the Refuge no earlier than the beginning date of the assigned hunting tag and must remove stands/platforms no later than the tag end date. Each stand/platform must bear the

hunter's name, address, and telephone number so that it is legible from the ground. Hunters may not use unattended stands without the permission of the owner.

A hunter may place up to two portable deer stands (including elevated platforms). Using nails, wires, screws, or bolts to attach a stand to a tree, or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven to support a hunter (e.g. screw-in steps), is prohibited.

A hunter must place stands/platforms by hand. Hunters may use a wheeled hand cart but not a motor vehicle.

While hunting from a tree stand, hunters must use a Fall-Arrest System (FAS)/Full Body Harness meeting Treestand Manufacturer's Association (TMA) Standards.

Deer Drives - Deer drives are prohibited.

Deer Hunting Hours - Hunters may enter no earlier than two hours before official hunting hours (1/2 hour before legal sunrise) and must leave the area within 2 hours after official hunting hours (1/2 hour after legal sunset). Successful hunters may reasonably extend their departure to retrieve dead deer.

Hunting Aids - Distribution of any bait such as feed, salt, or other mineral, or using electronic devices, including game cameras, is prohibited.

Guiding - No person will provide assistance, services, or equipment on the Refuge to another person for compensation unless such guide, guide service, outfitter, club, or organization has obtained a Refuge Special Use Permit.

Trail Markers - Using flagging tape or other trail marking devices is prohibited, with the exception of small reflective markers (tacks, ties, etc.) to help hunters locate their stands/platforms in the dark. Hunters must remove all markers by the end date of their IDFG tag.

For more information, contact:
Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge
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