

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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 1, 2016

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

Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge Fix Unit Closed to All Hunting During the 2016 Hunting Season due to Habitat Restoration Project.

GROSSE ILE, MICHIGAN –

The Fix Unit of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) is undergoing habitat restoration this fall. In partnership with Ducks Unlimited, the refuge will be creating more habitat for waterfowl and other wetland and grassland dependent wildlife. Due to the construction activities, the entire unit will be closed to all hunting during the 2016 hunting season.

The following units of the Refuge are open to big game, small game and migratory bird hunting: Humbug Island, Calf Island, Sugar Island, and the Strong 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 for migratory bird hunting by special permit assigned through lottery. The popular permit hunt is managed in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the lottery drawing occurs at the Pointe Mouillee State Game Area as part of their managed waterfowl hunt drawing. All hunting for the Brancheau lottery will be morning hunts only. No afternoon hunting permits will be issued for the Brancheau hunt units. Drawings for the Managed Hunting Units will occur at 5:30 AM on October 8, 2016 (opening day) and every Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday thereafter through the regular waterfowl season. Open water areas such as Humbug Marsh, Mama Juda Shoal, and waters surrounding Mud Island, Grassy Island, Humbug Island, Calf Island and the coastal wetland areas of the Brancheau Unit that are open to Lake Erie 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.

For more refuge specific information regarding the hunt program at the Refuge, please visit the refuge website: [www.fws.gov/uploadedFiles/DTR.Hunt12web\(2\).pdf](http://www.fws.gov/uploadedFiles/DTR.Hunt12web(2).pdf)

The Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge includes more than 6,100 acres along 48 miles of the lower Detroit River and western Lake Erie. The Refuge focuses on conserving, protecting, and restoring habitat for 29 species of waterfowl, 23 species of raptors, 31 species of shorebirds, over 100 species of fish, and over 300 species of birds. It is the first international refuge in North America and one of a few urban refuges in the nation. Unique habitats being managed within the Refuge include islands, coastal wetlands, marshes, shoals and waterfront lands.

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.

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

- END -