Light Goose Hunting on Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1939 and is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The refuge encompasses 57,331 acres of desert riparian and upland habitat and protects wintering habitat along the Rio Grande for migratory wildlife.

Public hunting of both large and small game on the refuge is a tool used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to maintain wildlife populations at healthy sustainable levels. Public hunting also provides an opportunity for the public to engage in a traditional wildlife-dependent recreational activity on their national wildlife refuges. At Bosque del Apache NWR regulated hunting is permitted for mule deer, Rio Grande turkey, light geese, quail, white-winged and mourning dove and Desert Cottontail rabbit. All other wildlife is protected.

The General Light Goose Hunt at Bosque del Apache NWR is a managed refuge hunt. Hunters are selected by a lottery drawing.

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE GENERAL LIGHT GOOSE HUNT:
A standardized application (FWS Form 3-2356) has been provided, which allows one hunter per application. Complete the attached application to participate in the drawing.

- https://secure.kinsail.com/secure/register/begin.asp?p=bosque&pt=fws&GroupID=37102&ItemID=816902&SC=True&DNE=True

Eligible hunters can apply only once, if a hunter's name appears on more than one application, those applications will be voided.

A $6.00 application fee is required for each application submitted online.

For the 2015-2016 light goose hunt, up to 30 permits will be issued for each hunt day. Each permit is valid for one day only. **Permits may not be transferred to another person or hunt dates changed.** Unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to show up on each hunt day for possible standby slots. Standby hunters present each morning may be randomly assigned unfilled blinds.

HUNT DATES:

1. Choose **TWO** dates and place by "Preference" in the space provided
2. Only **ONE** date will be selected.
3. **Hunt dates: December 14, 16, 18 2015 <u>AND</u> January 18, 20, 22 2016**

Requirements

- New Mexico Department of Game and Fish small game license.
- Harvest Information Program (HIP) Number

- Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) for hunters over 16 years of age
- Hunter Education certificate for hunters under the age of 18.
- Hunters are responsible for compliance with all State and Federal hunting regulations.
- Report accidents or injuries to the Refuge Manager and State agencies. After hours, call 911.
- Youth hunters (under 18) must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Refuge Hunting Regulations
The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations that govern hunting on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations.

We allow hunting of light geese (Snow and Ross's geese) on designated areas of the Refuge in accordance with the State of New Mexico hunting regulations, subject to the following refuge-specific special conditions:

- Only the person(s) issued a hunting permit will be allowed into the hunt blinds.
- Hunters possessing an Impaired Hunting License, please notify the refuge manager one week before your hunt, if assistance is needed.
- Non-toxic ammunition only.
- Hunters must report to refuge headquarters by 4:45 am on each hunt day for hunter check-in, refuge orientation, and blind selection. Hunters will be transported to field by 5:30 am and the hunt will conclude daily at 11:00 am.
- Hunters are encouraged to bring their own decoys. The number of decoys is not limited; however, everything carried into the hunting area must be packed back out.
- The bag limit is 20 light geese per day. All other wildlife species are protected.
- Hunters are allowed 50 non-toxic shotgun shells.
- The use of hunting dogs for animal retrieval is permitted, but all dogs must be on a leash when not hunting.
- Hunters must check out of their designated hunt areas and have their game checked by Refuge staff prior to leaving the refuge.
- Possession of alcohol on the refuge is prohibited

Permitted Sporting Arms and Non-toxic shot.
Light Geese may be taken with shotguns no larger than 10 gauge firing nontoxic shot, holding no more than 3 shells.

For more information contact:
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