

# POLICY FOR HUNTERS WITH DISABILITIES

## Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge

### Special Use Permits

Special Use Permits allowing All-terrain vehicle (ATV/UTV) use for people with a disability will be granted to those individuals who are able to show proof of a disability with an Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) "Standing Vehicle Permit" (available from the Cypress Creek refuge office or the IDNR website at <http://dnr.state.il.us>). Non-resident hunters who want to participate in fishing and hunting under this program will be required to show equivalent documentation from their state of residence or obtain an IDNR Standing Vehicle Permit.

In order to qualify for a disability ATV/UTV access permit, hunters must meet one of the following criteria to obtain a Standing Vehicle Permit from IDNR with appropriate disability certification by a licensed physician:

1. Have a permanent or irreversible physical disability, are unable to ambulate and require: a wheelchair, walker, one leg brace or external prosthesis above the knee, two leg braces or external prosthesis below the knee, two crutches or two canes for mobility.
2. Suffers significantly from lung disease, to the extent that forces expiratory volume for one second when measured by spirometry is less than one liter or arterial oxygen tension is less than 60 millimeters of mercury on room air test.
3. Suffers significantly from cardiovascular disease, to the extent that functional limitations are classified as severity as class 3 or 4, according to standards accepted by the American Heart Association on May 3, 1988, and where physical activity causes discomfort, fatigue, palpitation, dyspnea or angina pain.
4. Have a temporary disability and have restricted ambulation due to: a) a leg, hip or back, or any part thereof casted by a licensed physician. b) post-surgical effects of leg, hip or back surgery. c) illness or injury.

### Stipulations Necessary to Ensure Compatibility

All-terrain vehicles (ATV/UTV's) will be limited to existing non-vehicular roads and trails including dirt, grass, and gravel surfaces within the Refuge. Hunters may park their ATV/UTV and use it as a hunting platform up to 100 feet off existing roads and trails. ATV/UTV's may not be taken more than 100 feet off existing roads and trails except to retrieve game. Use of an ATV/UTV is limited to disabled hunters with a Refuge Special Use Permit. Accompanying non-disabled hunters may not ride on the ATV/UTV. ATV/UTV's must have a spark arrester, and the permittee must ride according to the ATV/UTV manufacturer's instructions. It is suggested that a helmet be worn as protective gear.