

# News Release

## *Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex*

Block Island NWR □ John H. Chafee NWR at Pettaquamscutt Cove □ Ninigret NWR □ Sachuest Point NWR □ Trustum Pond NWR

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge Temporarily Closed During Youth Hunt December 6<sup>th</sup> to December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014**

The Ninigret Pond Unit of the Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) will be closed to the public from December 6<sup>th</sup> until December 21<sup>st</sup> for the second annual youth hunt (see attached map.) The refuge staff initiated a hunting program at Ninigret NWR for deer management, which led to this unique youth hunting opportunity. To assure a safe and successful experience for the participating youth, all trails and parking access to the refuge will be closed during the youth hunting season.

This youth opportunity is a lottery hunt that allows eight youth hunters and their mentors the unique opportunity to hunt Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge. This program is designed to fall within the state's shotgun season. Therefore, permitted hunters are allowed to use shotguns and muzzleloaders on the refuge.

In addition to the youth hunt, the refuge also hosts an archery hunt for licensed hunters. This is a lottery hunt that allows for a maximum of four hunters per week from December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014, to January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. Ninigret Refuge parking lot and trails will remain open to the public during this archery only hunt. The wearing of blaze orange during the hunting season is highly recommended for the safety of the public and the hunters.

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