

Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge Waterfowl Hunt Regulations 2020-21

Hunting is permitted in accordance with all State and Federal seasons and regulations and is subject to the special regulations on this sheet. Hunters should refer to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife publication "Hunting Regulations- Waterfowl" and the hunting plan of the CCP available on the refuge website, www.fws.gov/refuge/humboldt_bay/ **Hunting Hours-** Hunting hours will coincide with California State Regulations, except on the Salmon Creek Unit.

Ammunition & Firearms- Non-Toxic shot is required on all refuge units. Shot size is restricted to "T" for steel shot and "BB" for all other non-toxic shot. Firearms must be unloaded while being transported between parking areas and hunting sites.

Teal Island, Egret Island and Hookton Slough- Boat-in access only. Open for hunting on Saturdays, Sundays, Wednesdays, and holidays and the opening and closing days during the prescribed open season.

Jacoby Creek, Eureka Slough and Table Bluff Units- Jacoby Creek and Eureka Slough units are designated as boat-in access only. The portions of these units adjacent to the shoreline are open daily for hunting during the California waterfowl season. Those portions within 100 yards of any roadway are retrieval zones only.

Species- Hunting of geese, ducks, coots and snipe is permitted.

Dogs- Trained retrievers are strongly encouraged while hunting, in order to minimize lost birds. When not hunting, dogs must be in vehicles or on a leash and kept under control at all times. Dogs are not allowed to enter closed areas for any reason.

Temporary Blinds- Hunters may use only portable blinds or temporary blinds constructed of natural materials. Hunters must dismantle or remove all blinds from the refuge after each days hunt.

Parking-Vehicle parking is permitted only in designated areas.

Littering- Hunters must remove all decoys, shot shell casings and other personal equipment from the refuge following each day's hunt. Littering is unlawful. **PACK OUT LITTER.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT-

Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge

1020 Ranch Road, P.O. Box 576

Loleta, CA 95551

Telephone: 707-733-5406

Waterfowl Hunter Update: 707-733-5518

Web: www.fws.gov/refuge/humboldt_bay/

To Report Poaching: 888-DFG-CALTIP

Salmon Creek Unit Only

Salmon Creek Unit- Hunting within the controlled waterfowl hunt permit area is allowed on Tuesdays and Saturdays. This unit is closed on Federal Holidays. The Salmon Creek hunting unit is located adjacent to the Refuge headquarters on the west side of Highway 101, approximately half way between Eureka and Fortuna, Hookton Road exit. *See map for designated hunt area.* **Please drive 25 mph or less while on the Salmon Creek Unit.**

Permit Required- The Refuge check station opens 2 hours before legal shoot time. A random drawing for available permits will take place at the check station 1 1/2 hours prior to shoot time before each daily hunt. Hunters must be present to be eligible for the draw.

Permit Fee- The Refuge's controlled waterfowl hunt is operated under the Federal Recreation User Program. The fee for hunters between the ages of 18 and 61 is \$10.00 for paired, or \$20.00 for single. There is no fee for Jr. hunters (under the age of 18), but they must be accompanied by an adult. Holders of Golden Age (62 and older) or Golden Access (disabled) Passports pay half price.

Spaced Blinds- Hunting on the Salmon Creek unit is from designated blind zones only. Free roam hunting is not allowed. Hunters are required to remain with designated blind zones except while retrieving downed birds. Hunting is not allowed while retrieving birds outside the blind zone. Party size is limited to 4 individuals per site. Blind availability is determined by habitat conditions. A descriptive list and map is available in the check station and refuge office.

Ammunition and Firearms- Hunters may possess and use, while in the field, no more than 25 shells per day. Firearms must be unloaded while being transported between parking areas and the blind sites.

Refills- The Refuge check station will re-open between the hours of 10:00am and 12:00pm to refill blinds that may be available. A blind is considered available when all hunters vacate the blind. Hunters who are present during the early morning drawing have the option of choosing an available blind or selecting a refill number. A second random drawing at 10:00am will prioritize other potential refill hunters. Hunters with refill priority may choose to pass an available blind to the next group in line. Refills will not be made after 12:00pm.

Check Out- Cease fire is at 3:00pm. Hunters must return their harvest report card at the check station by 4:30pm.

Mobility Impaired Access – A mobility impaired hunt blind is available. A "mobility impaired hunter" is defined as any person who has been issued a "DMV Disabled license plate, or a permanent parking placard identification card," or a valid "Mobility Impaired Disabled Persons Motor Vehicle Hunting License" (FG form 1460) The blue plastic "Disabled Parking Placard" **may not be substituted** for the required "Identification card" which bears the name of the mobility impaired person. Disabled hunters must provide the registration certificate for DMV issued disabled license plates.

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Hunt Area

