2012/2013
TRAPPING INFORMATION
(8/15/12)

SENDING IN A FUR CATCH REPORT IS REQUIRED <u>EVEN IF YOU DO NOT TRAP</u>. FAILURE TO ACCURATELY COMPLETE AND RETURN THE REPORT BY THE DEADLINE MAY BE SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR REFUSAL OF FUTURE PERMITS.

Iowa	Opening Time	Refuge Trapping Season *
Muskrat	9:00 am	Nov. 3 – Jan. 31
Mink	9:00 am	Nov. 3 – Jan. 31
Raccoon	9:00 am	Nov. 3 – Jan. 31
Fox (Red or Gray)	9:00 am	Nov. 3 – Jan. 31
Beaver	9:00 am	Nov. 3 – Mar. 15
Otter	9:00 am	Nov. 3 – Jan. 31
Illinois – North Zone		
Muskrat	9:00 am	Nov. 5 – Feb. 15
Mink	9:00 am	Nov. 5 – Feb. 15
Raccoon	9:00 am	Nov. 5 –Jan. 20
Fox (Red or Gray)	9:00 am	Nov. 5 – Jan. 20
Beaver	9:00 am	Nov. 5 – Mar. 15
Otter**	9:00 am	Nov. 5 – Mar. 15

* The opening time for trapping in Closed Areas and No Hunting Zones is 9:00 a.m. on the day after the close of the State duck hunting season.
Iowa duck hunting season (North Zone) closes on December 6.
Illinois duck hunting season (North Zone) closes on December 18.

** Illinois will have an otter trapping season for the 2012-13 Trapping season. **<u>Licensed trappers are allowed to only harvest one otter from the Refuge</u>**. Trappers must follow registration requirements outlined on page 3 of the 2012-2013 Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations.

^ Illinois trapping season for mink and muskrat has been extended to Feb. 15, 2013. See special regulations about trap restrictions outlined on page 3 of the 2012-2013 Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- ► Pool maps showing Federal Refuge lands where trap tags are required are available at the District office or on the Service website http://www.fws.gov/midwest/UpperMississippiRiver/.
- ► State boundaries do not always follow the main navigation channel.
- ► No trapping before 9:00 a.m. on the opening day of the Refuge muskrat trapping season.
- ► No trapping on the Refuge after **March 15.**
- ► Snares (as well as cable-restraints) and multiple-catch (colony) traps are not permitted on the Refuge.
- ► After opening day, trapping hours are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset unless more restrictive hours are set by the State.

- The current Refuge tag must be attached to the trap whenever it is placed on the Refuge, in addition to the State tagging requirements.

- Trapper must carry Refuge permit and State trapping license while trapping on the Refuge.

- Refuge areas posted, "Area Closed" and/or "No Hunting Zone" are not open to trapping until 9:00 a.m. the day after the close of the duck hunting season, except as otherwise noted on the trapping permit.

- Staking trap sites or placing trapping equipment in more than one location on the Refuge before 9:00 a.m. on opening day of any Refuge trapping season is prohibited.

- Placing stakes without a trap attached is prohibited.

- Traps may <u>not</u> be set closer than 3' from the waterline of a muskrat house.

- Traps may <u>not</u> be set closer than 6' of where the beaver lodge or dam meets the water. The 6 foot setback restriction does not apply to bank dens that do not have an associated lodge structure/cache. Dog-proof traps and #110 sized body-grip traps are allowed on beaver dams or lodges. State regulations that are more restrictive apply.

- Traps may <u>not</u> be set closer than 30' from an otter den.

- No carcasses or animal parts may be disposed of on the Refuge.

- Destroying or damaging any animal house, den, lodge, or dam is prohibited.

- You <u>may not</u> tend another person's traps or trap line on the Refuge unless specifically authorized by the Refuge Manager.

- A violation of any state or federal trapping regulation may result in immediate revocation of Refuge trapping permit and/or refusal of future Refuge permits.

- Each trap must be inspected at least once every calendar day <u>except</u> for beaver which must be tended every two calendar days.

- Otter trapping is allowed in MN, IA, WI, and IL. **<u>Only 1 otter may be harvested per trapper on the Refuge</u>**. All other State otter seasons and licensing apply.

- If furbearers are caught out of season or over the Refuge bag limit (1 otter), a Refuge Law Enforcement Officer must be notified prior to the removal of the furbearer or tampering with the set.

- Failure to return the fur catch report by April 15 may result in the loss of trapping privileges for 1 year.

- Refuge Contact Numbers

  Savanna District Office: (815) 273-2732
  Savanna District Refuge Law Enforcement Officer Darryn Witt: cell (815) 541-4607