



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge

## *2018 Waterfowl Hunt Information and Regulation Sheet*

**NEW For 2018:** In 2018, Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge (NWR or refuge) approved a new hunt plan. The waterfowl hunt has expanded from a goose only hunt to include all migratory birds that are legally allowed to be harvested during the State of Michigan's regular waterfowl season for the southern zone.

### General Information

The 2018 waterfowl hunt at Shiawassee NWR will be held four mornings per week (Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday) during the State of Michigan's regular waterfowl for the southern zone. The hunt will run during the State of Michigan's regular waterfowl season for the southern zone from October 13<sup>th</sup> - November 13<sup>th</sup> and November 20<sup>th</sup> - December 9<sup>th</sup>. There will not be a hunt on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, or 18<sup>th</sup>. In addition, the refuge will not be open for the late split (December 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>), early teal, early goose, or late goose hunting. The refuge will offer 5 hunting areas (see the 2018 Waterfowl Hunt Area map) and will be available on a lottery basis for individual hunters or parties of up to 4 hunters (each area has a set number of parties per area). Hunt area maps can be found at the refuge's hunting website

([https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Shiawassee/visit/visitor\\_activities/hunting.html](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Shiawassee/visit/visitor_activities/hunting.html)). The lottery will be held at the refuge headquarters, located at 6975 Mower Road, Saginaw, Michigan at 5:30 a.m. Doors will open at 5:00 a.m. to register for the drawing. All State and Federal waterfowl regulations apply as well as the refuge specific regulations (see page 2). Information about waterfowl hunting in Michigan can be found in the annual Michigan Waterfowl Digest ([https://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/waterfowl\\_hunting\\_digest\\_530152\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/waterfowl_hunting_digest_530152_7.pdf)).

### Open Lottery Drawing

In 2018, the refuge **will not** offer a pre-registered hunt for opening weekend, but may do so in the future. Hunters wishing to waterfowl hunt on the refuge would be selected by random lottery and choose their hunt area location each morning. All hunters must be present prior to the lottery which will occur promptly at 5:30 a.m. and present their State hunting license and Federal duck stamp to register for the drawing. You can register as an individual or a party of up to four hunters per party. **No hunters can be added to a party after the draw.** These procedures and associated regulations are listed below under proposed refuge specific Waterfowl Hunting regulations.

**Please review refuge waterfowl hunting regulations and hunt zone conditions on back.**

## Proposed Hunt Zone Conditions

- *Area A* - walk in area and available for one hunting party. Hunters are encouraged to park at the Michigan DNR parking lot at the end of Miller Road and use the field entrance to access the field to the east of the parking lot. The waterfowl hunting portion of the area is wetland consisting of open water and cattails.
- *Area B* – scramble area located at the confluence of the Flint and Shiawassee Rivers and would be available for a maximum of four parties. The area consists of a mix of open water and emergent wetland vegetation (cattails, rushes, and shrubs). Hunters who choose to hunt the main channel of the Flint River (i.e., the southern river portion of the unit) must hunt from the east bank of the River, the refuge does not own land on both sides of the river. The unit is accessible only by boat and hunters are encouraged to use the Cass River boat launch on M-13 or the boat launch on Miller Road.
- *Area C* –scramble area on the Shiawassee River (from the confluence of Flint/Shiawassee Rivers to the confluence of the Shiawassee River/Spaulding drain) and available for up to five hunting parties. The area consists of a mix of open water and emergent wetland vegetation, primarily cattails. The unit is only accessible by boat and hunters are encouraged to use the Cass River boat launch on M-13 or the boat launch on Miller Road.
- *Area D* –scramble area including the Spaulding drain (from the refuge property line on the southern end of the drain) and the Shiawassee River (from the confluence of the Shiawassee River/Spaulding Drain) to the confluence of the Shiawassee and Cass Rivers and is available for up to four hunting parties. This area is primarily open water hunting. The unit is only accessible by boat and hunters are encouraged to use the Cass River boat launch on M-13 or the boat launch on Miller Road.
- *Area E* –scramble area on the Cass River and is available for two hunting parties. The area is primarily open water hunting. The unit is only accessible by boat and hunters are encouraged to use the Cass River boat launch on M-13 or the boat launch on Miller Road.

### **All Michigan State Hunting Rules Apply. The Following Are Proposed Refuge Specific Waterfowl Hunting Regulations:**

1. You must possess and carry refuge permits which are issued at the lottery drawing.
2. We allow waterfowl hunting four mornings per week (Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday) during regular goose season after September 30th.
3. We allow hunter access 1½ hours before legal shooting time.
4. We allow hunters to shoot ½ hour before legal sunrise until 12:00 p.m. (noon).
5. Hunters must possess and use only non-toxic shot for waterfowl hunting.
6. We allow hunting with dogs.
7. You may possess no more than 25 shotgun shells while hunting in the field.
8. Retrieval zone is up to 50 yards or 150 feet from the river's edge or the toe of the dike into a managed unit. No guns are allowed within retrieval zones but dogs may be used.
9. Hunters must be within 10 yards or 30 feet of the water, with the exception of when hunting along a dike in which a hunter's feet must be in the water (No hunting from dike slopes or dike tops).
10. Area B hunting is restricted to the east side for the channelized portion of the Flint river/Mistequay.
11. Hunters must return their hunt card to a drop box which will be located at the refuge headquarters/check station, Cass River boat launch, or Miller Road boat launch at the end of each hunt.

Updated: 10 September 2018