Greeting Everyone,

I hope everyone is having a great summer; we have a lot of information to give you so here we go….

Opening Weekend:

The Klamath Basin Refuges will be conducting opening weekend drawings for all areas on Tule Lake and Lower Klamath Refuges this year. There will be no access to hunt units without an opening weekend permit.

➢ The website to apply for opening weekend and purchase passes is https://klamathrefuges.recaccess.com
  o If you have not already done so, you will need to create an account and obtain a hunter ID or “RAID” number, you will use this ID # to apply for opening weekends and purchase passes. The process is very simple . . .
    ▪ Go to the website, in the upper right corner click on “Crate Account”, complete the form and click submit; your new ID number will appear on the page when completed.
      • Remember to keep your username and password in a safe place.
    ▪ Your account is yours; you may change your password, your email or any other information you like. You will also be able to look up results, purchases, and check your draw results.
  o When you apply as a party for opening weekend, all party members must have a RAID number. Make sure your hunting partners register prior to applying for the opening weekend. We cannot add party members after you apply.

➢ Applications for opening weekend will be available August 1 through August 31 (Remember you may not apply for opening weekend at Klamath Basin Refuges and Modoc Refuge in the same year). The drawing will be conducted and results emailed out no later than the 13th of September; please do not call the office for result information, this is an automated drawing system and Refuge staff will not have results. If you have not received an email by September 16 please log into your account and check that your email address is correct.
  o Hunters will be able to list their first, second and third choices on the application; choices are: Tule Lake Fields (includes spaced-blinds and Frey’s Island), Tule Lake Marsh (Sump 1A), Tule Lake Sump 1B, Lower Klamath Fields, Lower Klamath Wetlands, and the Oregon Straits.
    ▪ There are 2 additional choices – “Any” which will add your name to a randomly selected area; and “No Selection” which means your name will not be added to any additional areas.
    ▪ Application fees are $5 per applicant, due at the time the application is filed.
    ▪ The number of hunters drawn for each area will be dependent on the amount of available habitat anticipated for opening
weekend. These numbers will be determined at the end of August.

**Hunting Season Information:**

- Many changes have been made to the Tule Lake NWR hunt areas, please make sure to review the 2019 hunting map before you plan your hunting trips.

- Season Dates – Opening day for both Oregon and California waterfowl season is October 5th. For additional information on season dates, shoot times and bag limits please visit the State Fish and Wildlife websites listed below.
  
  - California Fish and Wildlife - [https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Hunting/Waterfowl](https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Hunting/Waterfowl)
  

- Pre-season Youth hunt – Klamath Basin will be holding the annual youth hunt two weeks prior to the opening weekend (September 21 & 22).
  - Cal-Ore Wetlands and Waterfowl Council will be holding their annual BBQ on Saturday starting at 11:00 a.m.
  - All areas open to waterfowl hunting during the regular season will be available to youth hunters without reservation or drawing – some field units may be closed depending on crop harvest.

- Ladies Hunts – we added a second women’s hunt last season, all women’s hunts will be in conjunction with the youth hunts on the second and third Saturdays of the season.

**Habitat and Water**

Water levels on the Tule Lake NWR are anticipated to be good this season. Sump 1A and 1B will have normal water levels and several fields should be flooded prior to opening weekend.

Water on the Lower Klamath NWR is unknown at this time. Currently we have water in Unit 2 and Unit 6A, 6B2 and 6C. Temporary transfer water from the Upper Klamath NWR has kept these units flooded over the summer but the deliveries are ending. At this time, managers do not know when the next deliveries will come, stay tuned.

*For information on hunting not addressed above, please go to the hunter web page and read the general information and the regulation links. If you have additional questions, ideas or comments about the hunt program please contact me at the Refuge at 530-667-2231 or send me an email at stacy.freitas@fws.gov*