Savannah National Wildlife Refuge’s 16th annual youth waterfowl hunt is scheduled for three Saturdays in November (11/18/17), December (12/16/17) and January (1/20/18). Participants in the youth hunt will be selected by random drawing. No more than two youths may apply as a party with one adult supervisor. There will be three separate hunt days: November 18 and December 16, 2017 and January 20, 2018. Adult supervisors will not be allowed to hunt.

For further information regarding hunt management, please visit www.fws.gov/refuge/savannah or contact the Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex office at 843/784-2468.

APPLICATION INFORMATION & INSTRUCTIONS
Please read the following rules and regulations before completing the permit application for the youth waterfowl hunt on Savannah National Wildlife Refuge.

The hunt will be limited to a maximum of 12 youth hunters (two per blind) per day who will be selected by drawing. All applications must be received at the Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex (SCRC) office by September 30, 2017 to be entered in the drawing which will be held on October 5, 2017.

Eligibility requirements: Applicants for the youth waterfowl hunt must be 15 years of age or younger at the time of the hunt.

To Apply: Request or download the Savannah NWR Youth Waterfowl Hunt Application (FWS Form 3-2355). Fill in the application date and all personal information requested in the top half of the form (name, address, phone number, email address). Also fill in the three “Hunt Date Choices” ranked in the order you prefer (most hunters will be selected for at least one of the three available dates). All other fields should be left “as is”. Both youth hunter and adult guardian need to sign the application. If you received the form electronically, please print it out. Mail all applications to:

Hunt Program, Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex, 694 Beech Hill Lane, Hardeeville, SC 29927

(DEADLINE: September 30, 2017)

Only one application may be submitted per youth hunter; applicants who apply more than once for the hunt will be rejected. Only complete and correct applications will be included in the drawing.

Two youths may apply together as a party however, each youth must fill out his/her own application. Once the applications are complete, staple or clip them together and mail in the same envelope. Any two applications received in this way will be entered as a party.

A $5.00 application fee per hunter is required at the time the application is submitted.

*Accepted payment methods are credit/debit cards (call 843/784-9911 to pay by phone), check or money order (made payable to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.)

Hunt permits are non-transferable, valid only for the individual whose name appears on the permit.

SPECIFIC HUNTING REGULATIONS
All South Carolina waterfowl hunting regulations will apply in addition to more restrictive, specific refuge regulations which are listed.

Each youth hunter or youth party (two youths) must be accompanied by one adult who will participate in a non-hunting capacity. The supervising adult must be 21 years of age or older, and must remain in sight and normal voice contact with the youth hunter/hunters. The adult may supervise no more than two youths.

Access to hunt blinds may require wading or paddling a flat bottom boat (provided by the refuge). Hip-waders are recommended.

Shooting hours will be from ½ hour before sunrise until noon. Hunters are responsible for removing all used shells.

Dogs may be used to retrieve waterfowl, but they must be under control at all times.

Decoys may be used but cannot be left on the refuge overnight.

Specific details on the location(s) and logistics of the hunt days will be provided to successfully drawn youth hunters upon notification of being drawn. Please feel free to contact Amy Ochoa at the Savannah NWR Visitor Center any time prior to this date if you have questions or concerns (843/784-9911).