Conservation Pledge

I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully to defend from waste the natural resources of my country—its soil and minerals, its forests, waters and wildlife.

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LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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PASS-A-LOUTRE MANAGED HUNTS

A pre-season hunt was conducted on the Pass-a-Louitre Waterfowl Management Area in early September by "Betsy" and she bagged three duck hunting camps. In addition to the camps, she also bagged hundreds of acres of aquatic waterfowl food plants, numerous hunting boats, mattresses and other hunting gear from our main headquarter facility storage area.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, realizing the importance of providing a public waterfowl hunting area, has decided to conduct the public hunting program again this year even though it will be on a curtailed basis as compared with past years. The Commission began the public hunting program in 1953, and it is with considerable pride that this Commission has played the role of host to thousands of duck hunters over the years.

At the present time it appears that six of the nine public camps can be repaired before the opening of the duck season, and every effort will be made to repair the three camps damaged by "Betsy".

In spite of the five to six foot storm tides experienced on Pass-a-Louitre, it appears that marsh conditions will be relatively good for the hunting season. Many of the important waterfowl food plants such as the delta duck potato and fresh water 3-square had matured prior to "Betsy's" visit and will be available to wintering waterfowl. In many areas, stands of aquatics were protected by the large roseau cane.

Hunting will be permitted again this year on Tuesday-Wednesday and Saturday-Sunday of each week thus providing a rest period between hunts so that the ducks will have an opportunity to resume their normal activities. This has proven to be very desirable in past years in holding large numbers of waterfowl on Pass-a-Louitre throughout the season.

The Commission has encouraged the use of waterfowl retrievers as a good conservation practice on Pass-a-Louitre and encourages anyone who has a retriever to bring it along.

In addition to the 20,000-acre area on Pass-a-Louitre utilized by the public camp hunting program, the Commission has a portion of the area open to the general public for hunting and issues season-long permits at no cost to the hunters. On the entire area east of South Pass hunting is restricted to morning shooting only. On the west shore of South Pass shooting is permitted all day in order to utilize the limited goose shooting available on this portion of the area during afternoon hours. Hunters who wish to utilize the public camp facilities at Pass-a-Louitre must first submit an application in accordance with the procedures outlined.

In addition to transportation from Venice to the Pass-a-Louitre area, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will again furnish camp, duck boat, decoys and cooking utensils.

The applications will be numbered upon arrival at the office and on designated days each week a selection of the hunters will be made by drawing names. Representatives of various sportmen's groups will be requested to assist during the drawings. Each group of selected hunters will be picked up by Wild Life and Fisheries Commission boats at Venice on the day prior to their two-day hunting trip and will be returned to Venice when the hunt is over.

All hunters must provide their own transportation to Venice in addition to food, bed linens, and hunting gear. Eight men will be assigned to each camp. Hunting areas near each camp will be suggested. Duck boats and decoys will be provided, as well as all cooking utensils.

The schedule for the drawings for each hunt during the season is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Drawing</th>
<th>Hunting Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 15-22</td>
<td>Nov. 24</td>
<td>Dec. 4 &amp; 5; 7 &amp; 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 22-29</td>
<td>Dec. 2</td>
<td>Dec. 11 &amp; 12; 14 &amp; 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 29-Dec. 6</td>
<td>Dec. 9</td>
<td>Dec. 18 &amp; 19; 21 &amp; 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 6-13</td>
<td>Dec. 16</td>
<td>Dec. 28 &amp; 29; Jan. 1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 13-20</td>
<td>Dec. 23</td>
<td>Jan. 4 &amp; 5; 8 &amp; 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Letters must be postmarked between the dates specified in the application period for applicable hunts and received prior to the drawing.

The rules governing the public shooting ground program are as follows:

1. The area will be open to hunters through application: preference in drawing will be given to resident hunters, although any spaces unfulfilled by residents will be made available to nonresident hunters for the standard set fee.
2. After the drawing and up to one week prior
Although hurricane “Betsy” inflicted severe damage to many of the installations at Pass-A-Loutre, six
of the public camps will be repaired before opening date.

to the hunt, any spaces unfilled may be had by
applying to the New Orleans office.

3. Transportation from Venice to the hunting
grounds and return will be furnished.

4. Bed, cooking utensils, fuel, stove, drinking
water, and lights will be furnished, but no linens,
fishing equipment, guns, shells, or food—bring
your own.

5. One duck boat, paddles, pushpoles and
decos will be furnished for every two hunters.

6. Camps will be assigned by the supervisor in
charge.

7. Duck, goose and coot shooting only will be
permitted. Waterfowl retrievers only are permitted
on the hunt.

8. All hunting or shooting on the Pass-a-Loutre
area is limited to morning hours and must stop
by 12:00 o’clock noon. Violation of this provision
will result in the immediate expulsion from the
area and denial of the privilege of returning to
the area in the future.

9. Applicants may apply for the hunts
throughout the season, but no more than one
application per hunt.

10. A fee of $5.00 will be charged each hunter
selected for the trip. The full amount must ac-
company each application. Reimbursement of the
full fee will be made if the hunter is not selected.

11. All hunters will be required to sign an
agreement releasing the Commission from the re-
sponsibility for any bodily harm or personal loss
and agreeing to pay for any Commission property
lost or destroyed.

12. Permits may be transferred from one per-
son to another upon endorsement. No refunds
will be made for permits which have been issued.

13. Hunting is restricted to men only 16 years
or older; if anyone is under 18 years of age, he
must be accompanied by his father or guardian.

14. No alcoholic beverages will be allowed on
the boats or the camps.

15. Valid Louisiana hunting license or over age
permit and waterfowl stamp will be required.

16. No boats, motors, or rifles are permitted on
the area.

17. Simple camp rules must be observed.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Make application direct to Ted Joanen, Loui-
siana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, 400
Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70130.

2. You may apply in a group not to exceed
eight (8) persons, naming each person in the
application. Full remittance of fee at $5.00 per
hunter must accompany the application. (Send
personal check or money order—no cash). Re-
imbursement in full will be made within three
days after the drawing if the hunter or group is
not selected.

3. Submit only one application per hunt; if the
name of any person is received in more than one
application for the same hunt, it will be dis-
qualified.

4. Applications for the hunts must be made in
advance, THROUGH THE MAILS and post-
marked during the application dates according to
the schedule in order to be considered for the
drawing.

5. Specify the dates desired, and indicate
whether or not the other hunt during the week
of your request will be acceptable if your pre-
ferred dates are filled.

6. The quota for each hunt will be selected by
public drawing in the Refuge Division office, be-
tween 10 A.M. and 12 noon, on the designated
dates. Decisions of supervisory personnel are
final.

7. Permits and specific instructions will be
mailed to selected hunters within three days after
the drawing.

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