

Attachment A

Proposed Openings and Expansions for the 2026-2027 Hunting/Sport Fishing Season

To supplement the proposed 2026-2027 Station-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations, this attachment provides a detailed account of the proposed openings and expansions on 111 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) field stations across 32 states (Table A-1). Specifically, the Service is proposing to add additional hunting or sport fishing opportunities on 107 national wildlife refuges (NWRs) and four national fish hatcheries (NFHs). The Service categorizes “openings” as when a new species is added on a station for the first time and “expansions” occur when an existing opportunity is expanded on a station. The Service distinguishes openings from expansions based on whether or not a new species is added. An “opportunity” is defined as a species, on one field station, in one state. The Service does not track multiple species for sport fishing, but just counts a single opportunity for “fishing” on stations open to sport fishing.

Title 50 in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) parts 32 and 71 defines the opportunities open to hunting and sport fishing and requirements that may differ from state regulations on refuges and hatcheries, respectively. Opportunities in the CFR are organized into four major categories: 1) migratory bird hunting, 2) upland game hunting, 3) big game hunting, 4) sport fishing. The Service develops migratory game bird hunting regulations by establishing the frameworks, or outside limits, for season lengths, bag limits, and areas for migratory game bird hunting. Migratory birds include waterfowl and other migratory birds that are included in the terms of bilateral treaties between the United States and other nations for the protection of migratory birds (16 U.S.C. § 703-712). Because state wildlife agencies manage fish and game species, the opportunities under the other categories will be determined by state regulations. For example, some states consider turkey to be a big game species, while in other states it is considered upland game. Generally big game will include ungulates (e.g., deer, elk), while upland game will include non-migratory game birds (e.g., pheasant, partridge) and small game (e.g., squirrel, rabbit). Sport fishing covers species that can be legally taken with a state fishing license in that state.

Table A-1. Proposed Openings and Expansions for the 2026-2027 Hunting/Sport Fishing Season

State	Station Name	Migratory Bird Hunting	Upland Game Hunting	Big Game Hunting	Sport Fishing
MN	Agassiz NWR	Open	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	C
ND	Arrowwood NWR	C	Open	Open	O
LA	Atchafalaya NWR	Open	Open	O	O
ND	Audubon NWR	C	Open	Open	O
TX	Balcones Canyonlands NWR	Expand	Expand	Open/Expand	C
WY	Bamforth NWR	Open	O	Open	C
OR	Bandon Marsh NWR	Expand	C	C	O
LA	Bayou Cocodrie NWR	Open/Expand	O	Open/Expand	Expand
LA	Bayou Sauvage Urban NWR	O	O	O	Expand
ID	Bear Lake NWR	Open	Open	C	O
LA	Big Branch Marsh NWR	Expand	Expand	Expand	O
MN	Big Stone NWR	Open	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	Expand
WA	Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually NWR	Open	C	C	O
MD	Blackwater NWR	Expand	O	Expand	O
LA	Bogue Chitto NWR	Expand	Expand	Expand	O
AR	Cache River NWR	Expand	Expand	Expand	Expand
AL	Cahaba NWR	C	Expand	Expand	O
WV	Canaan Valley NWR	Open	Expand	Expand	O
NJ	Cape May NWR	O	O	O	Expand
LA	Cat Island NWR	O	Expand	O	O
OH	Cedar Point NWR	Open	Open	Open/Expand	O
IL	Chautauqua NWR	Open	Open	C	O
IL/MO	Clarence Cannon NWR	Open	Open	Open	O
WY	Cokeville Meadows NWR	O	Open	O	O
WA	Columbia NWR	Open	Expand	O	O
IL	Crab Orchard NWR	Expand	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	O

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State	Station Name	Migratory Bird Hunting	Upland Game Hunting	Big Game Hunting	Sport Fishing
ME	Craig Brook NFH	New Station	New Station	New Station	O
NE	Crescent Lake NWR	O	Expand	Expand	O
IL	Cypress Creek NWR	Expand	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	O
LA	D'Arbonne NWR	Open	Open	O	Expand
OK	Deep Fork NWR	O	O	Expand	O
LA	Delta NWR	O	Expand	O	O
ND	Des Lacs NWR	C	Open	Open	C
MI	Detroit River IWR	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	Expand	C
IA	Driftless Area NWR	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	Expand	O
VA	Elizabeth Hartwell Mason Neck NWR	C	C	Open	O
PA	Erie NWR	Open	O	O	O
AR	Felsenthal NWR	Expand	Expand	Expand	O
ND	Florence Lake NWR	C	New Station	New Station	C
MN	Glacial Ridge NWR	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	C
AL/MS	Grand Bay NWR	Expand	Expand	Expand	Expand
MT	Grass Lake NWR	New Station	New Station	New Station	C
ID	Grays Lake NWR	Open	Open	Open	New Station
IL/MO	Great River NWR	Expand	O	Open	O
ME	Green Lake NFH	New Station	New Station	New Station	C
CA	Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes NWR	C	C	C	New Station
IL/WI	Hackmatack NWR	Expand	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	Expand
MT	Hailstone NWR	O	O	Open	C
OR	Hart Mountain NAR	Open	O	O	O
MS	Hillside NWR	O	Open	O	O
AR	Holla Bend NWR	C	Expand	Open/Expand	Expand
MS	Holt Collier NWR	Open	Open/Expand	O	Open
ND	J. Clark Salyer NWR	O	Open	Open	O
VA	James River NWR ¹	O	Open	O	O

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State	Station Name	Migratory Bird Hunting	Upland Game Hunting	Big Game Hunting	Sport Fishing
MI	Jordan River NFH	O	Open	Open	C
OR	Julia Butler Hansen Refuge for the Columbian White-tailed Deer	Expand	C	C	O
IL	Kankakee NWRCA	Open	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	New Station
SD	Karl E. Mundt NWR	C	C	New Station	C
ID	Kootenai NWR	O	O	O	Expand
TX	Laguna Atascosa NWR	Open	C	Expand	O
ND	Lake Alice NWR	O	Open	Open	O
ND	Lake Nettie NWR	C	Open	Open	C
WA	Little Pend Oreille NWR	Expand	Expand	Expand	O
ND	Long Lake NWR	C	Open	Open	O
ND	Lostwood NWR	C	Open	Open	C
CA/OR	Lower Klamath NWR	Expand	Open/Expand	C	C
OR	Malheur NWR	Expand	Expand	O	O
MS	Mathews Brake NWR	O	Open	O	O
ND	Mclean NWR	C	New Station	New Station	C
MT	Medicine Lake NWR	O	O	Open	O
IL/MO	Middle Mississippi NWR ²	Expand	O	O	Expand
ID	Minidoka NWR	Expand	Open/Expand	O	O
MN	Minnesota Valley NWR	O	Open	Open	O
MS	Morgan Brake NWR	Open	Open	O	O
IA	Neal Smith NWR	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	Expand	New Station
TX	Neches River NWR	Expand	Expand	Expand	C
IA/MN	Northern Tallgrass Prairie NWRCA	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	Expand	Expand
VA	Occoquan Bay NWR	C	Open	Open/Expand	O
KY/PA/WV	Ohio River Islands	O	Open	O	O
OH	Ottawa NWR	Expand	Open/Expand	Expand	Expand
MS	Panther Swamp NWR	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	Expand	Expand

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State	Station Name	Migratory Bird Hunting	Upland Game Hunting	Big Game Hunting	Sport Fishing
IN	Patoka River NWR	Expand	Expand	Expand	Expand
MI	Pendills Creek NFH	New Station	New Station	New Station	New Station
IA/IL	Port Louisa NWR	Open	Open/Expand	Open	O
VA	Presquile NWR	C	Open	Expand	O
VA	Rappahannock NWR	O	Open/Expand	Expand	O
LA	Red River NWR	Expand	Open/Expand	Expand	Expand
WA	Ridgefield NWR	Open	C	C	O
CO	Rocky Flats NWR	C	C	New Station	C
MN	Rydell NWR	Open	Open	Open/Expand	O
WY	Seedskaelee NWR	O	Open	O	O
NM	Sevilleta NWR	Expand	Open/Expand	Open	New Station
MI	Shiawassee NWR	Expand	Open/Expand	Expand	O
ND	Slade NWR	C	Open	Open	O
MS	St. Catherine Creek NWR	Open	Open	O	Open
ND	Stewart Lake NWR	C	New Station	New Station	O
ND	Tewaukon NWR	C	Open	Open	O
MS	Theodore Roosevelt NWR	New Station	New Station	New Station	New Station
OR	Tualatin River NWR	Open	C	C	C
CA	Tule Lake NWR	O	Open	C	C
WA	Turnbull NWR	Open	C	Expand	C
IL	Two Rivers NWR	Open	Expand	Open	O
OR/WA	Umatilla NWR	Expand	Expand	O	O
IA	Union Slough NWR	Open	Open	O	O
OR	Upper Klamath	Expand	C	C	O
LA	Upper Ouachita NWR	Expand	Open/Expand	Expand	Expand
ND	Upper Souris NWR	C	Open	Open	O
OR	Wapato Lake NWR	Open	C	C	C
ND	White Lake NWR	C	New Station	New Station	C

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WA	Willapa NWR	O	Expand	Expand	O
MS	Yazoo NWR	Open/Expand	Open/Expand	Expand	Open

¹James River NWR is proposing to close 160 acres within one hunt unit for public safety of adjacent residential housing.

²The sport fishing expansion at Middle Mississippi NWR is in the State of Missouri.

KEY

New Station = Open a station to hunting or sport fishing for the very first time.

Open = Open additional species on a station that is already open to hunting or sport fishing.

Expand = Expand hunting or fishing on a station that is already open (e.g., add new lands/waters, extend season dates, extend hunting hours, add a targeted hunt, etc.).

O = Station already open, with no changes proposed.

C = Station closed, with no changes proposed.