If you have questions or comments about the area or its management, please contact the St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area - Harsens Island DNR Wildlife Office, at: 1803 Krispin Road, Harsens Island, MI, 48028 ; phone: (810) 748-9504.

1. From September 15 through January 1, you may not enter any part of the game area posted "STATE GAME AREA - Hunting by Permit Only" without a valid local permit (all area rules apply during this period). Permits are issued at the area office, located at the corner of Columbine and Voakes Roads. If you have questions or need more information, contact the area office (details listed above).

2. On the first and second day of the waterfowl season, hunting will be limited to groups of 2 or 4 persons holding a hunting reservation. For reservation information, contact the local DNR office between August 10 and September 2.

3. Youth Hunting Days: On the first Saturday of the duck season (p.m. only), hunting permits received through the mail are reserved for parties of at least 1 youth, 12-16 years old, accompanied by one or two parents, guardians or other person(s) (maximum of 2 adults per hunting party) authorized by the parent or guardian who is 17 years of age or older, with appropriate licenses and stamps.

The date for the second youth hunting day in early November (non-reserved and P.M. only) will be posted at the check station headquarters.

4. Throughout the season, individuals and parties numbering up to 4 persons may apply in the drawing for permits. Any special rules and regulations for cropped hunting zones will be posted by the Area Manager at the Area Headquarters office building.

5. You must use a retriever dog to hunt in designated areas that will be posted in the check station Headquarters. In party permits numbered 1 - 30, you must hunt in your designated corn strip (see map for location of strips). If you are hunting in area 40 - 104, you may hunt anywhere within your assigned unit.

6. In all areas, hunters are limited to 18 shells. All persons must use and have in their possession only shells loaded with steel shot or other State and federally approved non-toxic shot (see "Prohibited Item A", below): No. 1 is the largest shot size permitted in the Area.

7. Because the Harsens Island area is part of the Great Lakes Coastal Marsh ecosystem, water levels fluctuate within the Great Lakes, and consequently affect the levels in the wildlife area. With lower lake water levels, the marsh areas become pools of very shallow water for recreational users. These periodic and natural low water conditions are healthy for the ecosystem, but may be a temporary inconvenience for recreational users.

8. Camp or attempt to camp on designated parking areas or on any land posted "State Game Area – Hunting by Permit Only" during the period October 1 to the end of the migratory bird season.

CAUTION: Use care near all open water areas; some of areas may contain deep water, depending on season and recent rainfall.

PROCEDURES:

1. According to Part 435, 1994 PA 451: "A person shall not hunt waterfowl or deer where deer hunting is regulated by permit in an area designated by the Department as a managed waterfowl area without an annual or daily managed waterfowl area permit and any other license, permit, or passbook required by this part." Check the waterfowl digest for necessary stamps and shot information, or call a DNR office if have questions.

2. Permits are issued for a MORNING HUNT and an AFTERNOON HUNT. For the A.M. hunt, participants must be registered or in line for registration at 5:30 A.M. local time. For the P.M. hunt, participants must be registered or in line for registration at 11:30 A.M. local time. A drawing will be held following registration that will determine each party's or individual's place in line to secure a hunting permit. To hunt together as a party, all members of the group must register together as a party prior to the drawing, except that a single hunter may join a party of two or three if that hunter's fully completed registration card is filed in the check station prior to the drawing.

Exception: A parent may register their child age 12-17, only when school is in session, by completing their registration card prior to the drawing.

3. Morning permits are valid from opening hour to 12:00 noon; afternoon permits from 1:00 p.m. to closing hour. You must personally return your permit from the morning hunt to the checking station by 2:00 p.m. and afternoon permits must be returned within one hour of closing time.

4. Any permits left following the drawing, will be issued on a first-come and first-served basis. No permits will be issued for the morning hunt after 10:00 a.m., nor after 5:00 p.m. (EDT) or 4:00 p.m. (EST) for the afternoon hunt.

5. On any day you have participated in a drawing and are issued a hunting permit (during or after drawing), you may not participate in another drawing.

6. For further information or details, call the local headquarters office at (810)748-9504.

BE A SAFE HUNTER - A safe hunter obeys laws governing hunting and boating, is alert to any conditions hazardous to personal safety of the hunter and others. (Rev. 9/23/2012 – WLD/MLS)