TO: Greg Sepik, Acting Central Zone Biologist
FROM: Refuge Manager, Montezuma NWR
SUBJECT: Amended Hunt Plan

Attached for your review and approval is the amended Hunt Plan for Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. Following the 1994 hunting seasons, Refuge staff evaluated the administration of the hunts. Based on hunt cost, number of hunters, sufficient baseline biological data, and staffing shortages, we recommend several time and cost saving changes to the firearms deer hunt.

The proposed changes would reduce costs and staff time associated with the firearms hunt by 65%. A cost comparison of the 1994 firearms hunt and the projected cost of the 1995 firearms hunt (using the proposed changes) is provided on the attached page.

The recommended changes are:

1. Eliminate the firearms hunt fee and the associated costs, including the need for daily check-in by Refuge staff.

2. Reduce Check Station operations from the entire firearms season to the four busiest days (opening day, Saturdays, and the last day).

These changes will reduce the cost from $7.37 per hunt visit to $3.23 per hunt visit, and will still provide the opportunity to gather biological data on 68% of the deer harvested by firearms hunters.

GRADY E. HOCUTT
Refuge Manager
DATE: 31 January 1995

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: Acting Central Zone Biologist, Moosehorn NWR, Box 1077, Calais, ME 04619

SUBJECT: Comments on the Hunt Plan for Montezuma NWR

TO: Refuge Manager, Montezuma NWR

I reviewed your Hunt Plan and found it to be clear, concise, and well written. I concur with your proposal to reduce the administrative overhead of the hunt especially since adequate biological information still will be collected. I have a couple suggestions that you might consider for inclusion in the "White-tailed deer hunting Assessment" section of the Plan:

- This section outlines in a narrative format the reasons for conducting a hunt. Although data that supports the need for a hunt are alluded to (i.e., changes in the size of the deer population, increase in the number of vehicle/deer collisions, changes in age and sex ratios) there is no data presented. Presentation of this data in this section would be useful. If the information is presented in another report, citation of that report probably would be adequate.

- The Plan does not indicate at what point there should be an increase (or decrease) in the effort to harvest deer. In other words, is there a "trigger point" reflected in results from vegetation or deer surveys that would indicate when a change in policy or effort might be instituted? A quantitative measurement would be most useful. This information is especially important for new refuge staff who might not be familiar with assessing in a strictly visual manner the damage done by deer.

Thanks for the opportunity to review the Plan and if I can be of any further assistance please feel free to give me a call.
HUNTING PLAN
JANUARY, 1995

Date: 1-20-95

Reviewed: Acting Central Zone Biologist
Date: 1-31-95

Reviewed: Senior Staff Biologist
Date: 2-6-95

Reviewed: Refuge Supervisor
Date: 3-21-95

Approved: Date: 3-22-95
## 1994 AND 1995 FIREARMS HUNTS COST COMPARISON

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*Projected costs after implementing proposed changes.*
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PART ONE: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Location

Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, located at the north end of Cayuga Lake, is in the heart of the Finger Lakes Region of central New York State. The 6,485-acre (3,053-hectare) Refuge lies entirely within the 27th U.S. Congressional District, and is situated within Tyre and Seneca Falls Townships in Seneca County. Refuge headquarters is located on U.S. Routes 5 and 20, near the Menard Memorial Bridge over the Seneca River and Barge Canal. The Refuge is 35 miles (56.3 kilometers) west of Syracuse, 40 miles (64.4 kilometers) north of Ithaca, and 45 miles (72.4 kilometers) east of Rochester. It is bordered on the south, east, and north by segments of the New York Barge Canal system. The western boundary is irregular, following segments of State Route 89, Gravel Road, East Tyre Road, and Lay Road. U.S. Routes 5 and 20, State Route 89, and the New York State Thruway pass through the interior of the Refuge.

B. History

Over ten thousand years ago, a vast sheet of ice plowed slowly southward up the valley of the old Cayuga River. Then, as the glacier slowly melted back, it impounded a vast system of lakes along its southern boundary. At the north end of Cayuga Lake, on the old bed of one of these ancient lakes, there developed a large system of marshes through which the Seneca and Clyde Rivers meandered. The extensive wetlands covered an area of over 80 square miles (207 square kilometers) in a northerly direction from the end of Cayuga Lake almost to Lake Ontario.

No one knows when man first met wildfowl in these marshes, but archeological evidence indicates that the earliest known inhabitants were Algonquin Indians. After the Algonquins disappeared, Cayugas of the Iroquois Confederacy occupied the land. Records of Jesuit missionaries who lived among the Cayuga Indians mention that "the sunlight over the marshes was actually shut off by the clouds of ducks and geese, and the woods abounded with deer". The name "Montezuma Marsh" was derived from the name Dr. Peter Clarke of Montezuma, New York, bestowed upon his hilltop home in 1806. Dr. Clarke compared his home with the palace of the Aztec emperor Montezuma in Mexico City. Subsequently, the village of Montezuma, the marshes, and Montezuma Refuge acquired the name.
Until the 19th century, there were no drastic changes in the marshes. With the development of the Erie Canal, it was inevitable that feeder canals from Seneca and Cayuga Lake would in time link these lakes with the main line. With canal construction, there arose the possibility of draining the marshes. As early as April 5, 1824 an act was passed relative to the draining of the Cayuga Marshes. Work first began on the canal system in 1826 and in 1828 boats passed from Geneva to the Erie Canal at Montezuma. The Erie Canal did not greatly affect the marshes because there was no dam at the north end of Cayuga Lake. The Seneca River still flowed directly from the lake into the marshes. In 1910, construction of the Seneca and Cayuga extension of the New York State Barge Canal altered the marshes. A lock was built at the north end of Cayuga Lake and a dam was constructed at the outlet of the lake. This effectively lowered the level of the river by eight to ten feet (24 to 30 decimeters) and the waters drained from the marshes.

Following drainage, sections of the former marsh were cleared and attempts were made to cultivate crops on the exposed mucklands. Owing to the persistent high water table and shallow depth of the muck, these farming operations were marginal at best. Most attempts at farming were short-lived and the mucklands were often quickly abandoned.

In an effort to restore a portion of the wetlands, the U.S. Bureau of Biological Survey initiated the process of acquiring 6,432 acres (2,603 hectares) of the former marshlands in 1937. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) began work on a series of low dikes to impound the flows of White and Black Brooks and reflood a small portion of the former marshes. Additional land has been and will continue to be acquired through the Northern Montezuma Wetlands Project. This project is part of the Lower Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Basin Joint Venture Project of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

At present, dikes impound some 3,500 acres (1,417 hectares) of freshwater marsh contained within the Main, Tschache, May’s Point, North Spring, and South Spring Pools. An additional 4.5 miles (7.24 kilometers) of dike surround and cross the 600 acres (243 hectares) of forested wetland in Unit 17. The remainder of the Refuge consists of forested wetland, upland hardwood forest, managed grassland, and administrative areas.

C. Physical Resources

Post-pleistocene geologic features dominate the landscape of the region surrounding the Refuge. The topography is represented by formations such as drumlins, eskers, kames, and kettles, and, therefore, can be classified as gently sloping to rolling. The upland soils are derived from calcareous glacial till. The well-drained sandy loams include pockets of Palmyra gravelly loam,
Ontario loam, Poygan silty clay loam, Schoharie silty clay loam, and Wayland silty loam.

The Refuge proper, located on the filled lake bed at the northern end of the Cayuga Lake Basin, is characterized by its flatness. Open water, cattail marsh, swamp and flooded woodland, and odd areas of abandoned field in various successional stages are found within the Refuge boundaries. Elevation of the bottomland is 380 to 385 feet (115.8 to 117.3 meters) above sea level. A soil profile of the Refuge wetlands would reveal an upper layer of deep Carlisle muck and sedimentary peat over a Chara and shell marl. The subsoil in this area of the old lake basin is a compact blue clay.

The Refuge receives water from direct precipitation, run-off from the hilly areas bordering the west side of the Refuge, three streams originating to the west of the Refuge, and several springs within Refuge boundaries. Two streams, Black Brook and White Brook, flow directly into Tschache Pool. Black Brook is the major contributor with a drainage area of 12,580 acres (5,091 hectares). White Brook has a drainage area of 5,760 acres (2,331 hectares). Esker Brook, which has a drainage area of 2,090 acres (846 hectares), flows into North Spring Pool.

D. Biological Resources

The Refuge consists of various wildlife habitats, including open marsh, cattail marsh, swamp woodland, and small areas of upland woods and grassland fields totalling 6,485 acres (3,053 hectares). Montezuma serves as a resting and feeding area for migrating ducks and geese, and as a summer nesting area for Canada geese and several species of ducks. It also provides seasonal or year-round habitat for many other waterbirds, songbirds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, white-tailed deer, and small mammals.

The marshes in the three principal pools (Main Pool, May’s Point Pool, and Tschache Pool) are characterized by stands of cattail. Purple loosestrife, an introduced species that reached Montezuma in the 1950’s and covered over 1,500 acres (607 hectares) of marsh by the mid-1970’s, has receded steadily due to judicious manipulation of water levels. However, it is still present in sizeable stands in some locales. Other major plant species found in the aquatic beds include white water lily and sago pondweed.

Tree species dominant in the Refuge’s forested wetlands include red maple, ash, swamp white oak, and blue beech. American elm, a former major component, was essentially lost to disease. Tschache Pool was a forested wetland prior to being flooded. Over 90% of the trees have fallen, and those that remain standing are dead and widely dispersed.
Upland forested sites, including Clark’s Ridge and Esker Brook, are dominated by hickory, black walnut, and white ash.

On the Refuge’s grassland areas, vegetative types are principally remnants of tame pasture and hayland plantings over the last 40 years. These include timothy, orchardgrass, birdsfoot trefoil, fescue, and reed canary grass. A wide variety of forbs and herbs are also present in the grassland fields. Approximately 300 acres (121 hectares) of grass dikes and fields are mowed according to a multi-year rotation schedule. Mowing maintains suitable habitat for ground nesting birds by preventing encroachment of woody stemmed plant species.

Water levels are manipulated in five Refuge pools encompassing 3,500 acres (1,417 hectares) to favor growth of a desirable mix of aquatic and emergent plant communities, and open water. These habitats, in turn, support over 65,000 Canada geese and 12,000 snow geese during spring migration. Late fall use by mallards has annually approached or exceeded 100,000 birds. Use by American black ducks in the fall often reaches 25,000. These are among the largest concentrations of waterfowl in the Atlantic Flyway.

Blue-winged teal, mallard, wood duck, and Canada geese are the most abundant nesting waterfowl. Approximately 1,200 ducks and geese are produced annually.

Many other species of ducks are seasonally present, as are great numbers of wading and other waterbirds. A great blue heron rookery, consisting of 50 to 70 nests, is protected from disturbance and monitored for productivity. A large black-crowned night-heron colony occurs on Main Pool. Young are produced from nests scattered throughout cattail and purple loosestrife stands.

The water level in the 200-acre (81 hectare) May’s Point Pool is drawn down each spring and fall to expose mudflats used as resting and feeding habitat by sixteen species of migrating shorebirds. The species most often seen include killdeer, lesser yellowlegs, spotted sandpipers, and pectoral sandpipers. Benning Marsh was created in 1991 to provide five additional acres (two hectares) of shorebird habitat.

In 1976, a program designed to reestablish nesting bald eagles in New York was initiated at the Refuge. A hacking tower was used to release young birds into the wild. This bald eagle hacking program was the first of its kind on the North American Continent. From 1976 to 1980 a total of 23 immature bald eagles were released at the Refuge.

Active bald eagle nests are currently located in the Tschache Pool area of the Refuge. The first nest was discovered in 1987, and it represented the first nesting success on the Refuge since
1956. The second nest was constructed in 1992, and first produced young in 1994. Presently, five adult bald eagles nest at Montezuma. The resident bald eagles, as well as a few migrants and exploring immature eagles, can be observed on or around the Refuge throughout the year.

Osprey, a state listed threatened species, nest on the Refuge each year, a rare occurrence for the interior of New York.

E. Public Use

Public use associated directly with fish, wildlife, and their habitats is encouraged on the Refuge. Interpretation, environmental education, and wildlife-oriented recreation are the major uses. Approximately 140,000 persons visit the Refuge annually. In addition to a stop at the Visitor Center, visitors may drive the 3.5-mile (5.6-kilometer) Wildlife Drive or walk the Esker Brook Nature Trail.

Educational programs are available to groups throughout the year. Some 5,200 area school students are annual recipients of formal on-site and off-site wildlife education programs by trained teachers, volunteers, or Refuge staff. The Refuge provides area teachers and students with three outdoor classroom sites for environmental education. Many teachers are involved each year in Refuge-affiliated workshops. These enable teachers to effectively use the resources of the Refuge during scheduled field trips.

A carefully managed waterfowl hunt is permitted on a portion of the Refuge during part of the New York State Western Zone season. Waterfowl hunting has occurred on the Refuge since 1966. The Refuge also manages archery and firearms white-tailed deer hunts. Deer hunting is a necessary management tool designed to maintain deer populations within habitat carrying capacities. White-tailed deer hunting has occurred on Montezuma since 1956.
II. CONFORMANCE WITH STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

A. Authority


2. The Refuge Recreation Act of 1962 (16 U.S.C. 460K) authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to administer such areas for public recreation as an appropriate incidental or secondary use only to the extent that it is practicable and not inconsistent with the primary objectives for which the area was established. In addition, the Refuge Recreation Act requires: (1) that any recreational use permitted will not interfere with the primary purpose for which the area was established, and (2) that funds are available for the development, operation, and maintenance of the permitted forms of recreation. This determination is based upon consideration of, among other things, the Service’s Final Environmental Statement on the Operation of the National Wildlife Refuge System published in November of 1976. Funds are available for the administration of the recreational activities permitted by these regulations.

3. Title 50 CFR, Section 31.2(e) lists hunting as a method of surplus wildlife population control.

4. Title 50 CFR, Section 31.15 states that the privilege of hunting may be extended to the general public.

5. Title 50 CFR, Section 32.1 states that the opening of a wildlife Refuge area to hunting will be dependent upon the provisions of law applicable to the area and upon a determination by the Secretary of the Interior that the opening of the area to hunting of migratory game birds, upland game, or big game will be compatible with the principles of sound wildlife management and will otherwise be in the public interest.

6. Title 50 CFR, Section 32.2 provides provisions which apply to each person while engaged in public hunting on a wildlife Refuge area.

7. Title 50 CFR, Section 32.3 explains the procedure for publication of special regulations.
B. General Policy

Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge was established on September 12, 1938 by Executive Order 7971 as a Refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife in order to effectuate further the purposes of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1909 (45 Stat 1222). The three major provisions of the Act are summarized below:

1. Establish a Migratory Bird Conservation Commission to review and approve proposals of the Secretary of the Interior for the purchase or rental of areas under the Act.
   a. The authority of the Secretary of the Interior to initiate acquisition proposals was originally vested in the Secretary of Agriculture. Both Secretaries serve on the Commission, as does the Secretary of Transportation and 2 members each from the Senate and the House of Representatives. For purposes of considering the acquisition of areas within a particular state, the ranking officer of the game agency of that state is an ex officio member of the Commission.

2. Refuges are to be operated as "inviolate sanctuaries" (amendments in 1948 and 1958 allow hunting).

3. Requires the consent of the state in which the lands to be acquired are located before acquisition can be carried out.

The Service recognizes hunting as an acceptable, traditional, and legitimate form of wildlife-oriented recreation that can be used as a management tool to effectively control wildlife population levels. It has been determined that public hunting, in accordance with State regulations, will not interfere with the purpose for which this Refuge was established. This determination was based on:

1. A harvestable surplus of white-tailed deer and waterfowl within and adjacent to the Refuge;

2. Expected improvement in habitat that will enhance breeding and feeding opportunities for several species of mammals, resident birds, and migratory birds; and
3. No language is contained within the establishing order that precludes the Secretary of the Interior from opening the Refuge to hunting.

C. Refuge Objectives

Primarily, the Refuge is to provide habitat and protection for waterfowl, other migratory birds, and endangered species and to make these resources available to the American people for their enjoyment now and in the future. As an integral component of the National Wildlife Refuge System, the Refuge strives to attain the following proposed objectives:

1. Maintain and, when possible, enhance resting, feeding, and nesting habitat for migratory waterfowl and other migratory waterbirds.

2. Provide resting, feeding, and nesting habitat for bald eagles and ospreys (a state designated threatened species).

3. Within the constraints imposed by the two objectives above, efforts shall be made to provide adequate habitat diversification to permit the presence of self-sustaining populations of other life forms that are typical of central New York State.

4. Provide opportunities for public wildlife education and enjoyment when these opportunities are compatible with the above objectives and the reasons for the area’s establishment.

D. Funding Statement

The costs of all hunt programs, based on the 1994 hunting seasons, are as follows:

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<th>Hunt Type</th>
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<td>Waterfowl Hunt</td>
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Within the annual Refuge budget of approximately $500,000, the necessary funds are available for the administration of the hunting programs. Projected annual costs of administering all Refuge hunting programs represents 1.3% of the total annual Station budget.
PART TWO: WHITE-TAILED DEER HUNTING

I. WHITE-TAILED DEER HUNTING OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the white-tailed deer hunting program are:

1. To maintain the deer population at a level compatible with the quality and diversity of habitats not only for deer, but also for those species which share portions of those habitats and interact with deer;

2. To protect forested and scrub/shrub habitats by controlling the size of the Refuge's pre-wintering deer population; and

3. To provide the general public with a safe, quality wildlife-oriented recreational experience, and an opportunity to harvest a renewable natural resource.

Deer hunting is consistent with the proposed Refuge objectives of managing habitat for wildlife. In the case of white-tailed deer, this means trying to improve deteriorating deer habitat conditions as evidenced by an obvious browse line on many areas of the Refuge. A browse line becomes evident as, primarily during the winter months, deer consume all palatable vegetation within their reach, including stems, seedlings, and herbaceous vegetation. Overbrowsing results in an understory that is virtually void of new growth. Then, not only do deer lack the necessary food plants, but other species that require a well-developed understory are also affected. The Refuge must manage the deer population to maintain diverse habitats for all wildlife species.
II. WHITE-TAILED DEER HUNTING ASSESSMENT

Deer are abundant on and around the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. This assessment is based on the following factors:

1. Overbrowsed condition of vegetation throughout all observed upland portions of the Refuge;

2. Frequent deer/vehicle collisions on public roads surrounding the Refuge (personal communication, Bruce Penrod, Senior Wildlife Biologist, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation);

3. Steadily increasing deer harvests in New York State Deer Management Unit (DMU) 86, which presently includes the Refuge. State population objectives have been raised in DMU-86; and

4. Frequent landowner complaints of crop depredation by deer on farms adjacent to the Refuge.

The deer population, after fawning, is estimated at 300 to 400 animals. The deer are transitory, constantly moving on and off the Refuge on a daily and seasonal basis. The two most important factors affecting Refuge deer numbers and movements are farming practices on adjacent agricultural lands and the severity of winter weather.

Throughout the year, deer leave the Refuge on a daily basis to feed in surrounding agricultural lands. During severe winters the Refuge serves as a yarding area for deer from a distance of eight to ten miles (13 to 16 kilometers). The Refuge’s 2,000-acre (3,218-hectare) tract of hardwood bottomlands and cattail swales provide escape cover not only for Refuge deer, but also for deer from adjacent, non-sheltered farmlands. The deer seek out the thermal protection afforded by the bottomland hardwoods and cattail marshes.

A lengthy series of mild winters, decreasing numbers of archery hunters, and minimal number of harvested deer through the 1970s and 1980s resulted in deer populations that exceeded habitat carrying capacities. The critical nature of this problem manifested itself in a marked increase in nuisance deer complaints by area farmers. According to highway sources, deer/car accidents around the Refuge were among the highest in the state. Predictably, the average weights of, and measurements from, fawn and yearling deer on the Refuge were reduced when compared to state averages.

Of even greater importance than the overall health of the deer herd is the effect of excessive deer numbers upon the overall vigor and diversity of the Refuge’s plant communities and the
animal populations which depend upon these communities. Vast areas of the Refuge’s treed and/or shrubbed acreage assumed the appearance of a landscaped park because deer had browsed most plant species up to a height of six feet (1.8 meters).

Severe overbrowsing alters plant species composition, distribution, and abundance, and reduces understory structural diversity (due to the inability of seedlings to establish themselves). These changes, over time, have a deleterious impact on local animal communities, which depend on healthy vegetative systems for food and cover. Not only are white cedar, spicebush, and other shrubs lost or damaged, but their ecologic links are broken to dependent species such as field sparrows, brown thrashers, rufous-sided towhees, ovenbirds, and fall migrant birds. Many of these bird species have demonstrated almost 20 years of serious statewide and regional population declines.

The Refuge deer hunts were designed to provide ecologically and economically sound techniques which allow the Service to meet its objective of providing vigorous, diverse ecosystems for all Refuge life forms. As a migratory bird Refuge, we are concerned about all 314 species of birds which rest, feed, or nest during some time of the year in these ecosystems. We cannot permit white-tailed deer, or any species, to disproportionately dominate, or direct, the Refuge’s overall balance of diversity in plant communities and animal populations. Since deer have this potential, it is likely that deer hunts will continue at an ecologically appropriate level for the foreseeable future.

The 1994 firearms hunt was the seventh Refuge gun hunt in the last 30 years. Archery hunting, permitted for most of that period, was only marginally successful in maintaining deer populations within acceptable limits. The firearms hunt was initiated to implement a more aggressive and proactive program of managing the Refuge’s deer population.

The long, hard winters of the early 1990s and the increased number of harvested deer, resulting from the firearms hunt, has reduced the deer populations on and around the Refuge. This is supported by the biological data (age, sex, fawn weights, antler beam diameter, and total number of antler points) gathered from deer harvested on the Refuge. Continuation of current Refuge hunts should maintain the Refuge deer population at a level commensurate with available habitat.

The potential for deer populations to exceed carrying capacity, to impinge on the well-being of other plant and animal species, and to conflict with land-use practices as well as human safety necessitates effective herd management. There are sufficient numbers of deer to continue present hunts and still maintain a viable population within and around the Refuge. The hunts are necessary to prevent continued deterioration of Refuge habitats.
III. DESCRIPTION OF WHITE-TAILED DEER HUNTING PROGRAM

The Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge white-tailed deer hunting program consists of both archery and firearms hunting. Deer hunting is allowed Mondays through Saturdays, in compliance with New York State regulations, shooting times, and seasons. The most effective method of reducing the Refuge deer population has been the firearms hunt. As a result, the Refuge firearms hunt program has evolved to attract more hunters and to establish the Refuge as the primary hunting area for the majority of Refuge hunters. The Refuge deer harvest has been most successful when the Refuge season includes the first week and last three days of the state season. Every attempt is made to include these days in the Refuge firearms season. The Refuge is in Deer Management Unit (DMU) 86 and firearms hunters are encouraged to apply for DMU 86 permits and use the permit to harvest antlerless deer on the Refuge.

The Refuge archery season generally opens on the first weekday in November and continues through the Saturday immediately preceding the state firearms opener. Archers have four additional hunt days (the last four days of the state archery season) following the conclusion of the Refuge firearms season. Archery hunters are also encouraged to harvest antlerless deer.

White-tailed deer hunting is allowed, in accordance with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Law, on the entire Refuge with the exception of the following no hunting zones and closed areas:

- The Wildlife Drive up to the New York State Thruway.
- Open water areas of Refuge pools.
- Safety zones around observation towers, the Visitor Center, subheadquarters, and the Refuge office complex.

A map of the hunting area is provided in Appendix I, Exhibit 4.

The area available for white-tailed deer hunting consists of approximately 95% of the Refuge's upland and forested habitat. This constitutes almost 50% of the Refuge. The Refuge provides hunting opportunities for disabled hunters (as defined by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation hunting regulations).

All hunters are required to pick up and completely fill out daily Refuge hunting permit cards. It is necessary, in the interest of safety and to promote a quality hunt, to limit the number of permits issued for each day of both the archery and firearms deer hunts. Five hundred permits are available for each day of the Refuge archery season, and 115 permits are available for each day of the Refuge firearms season. All permits are issued on a first-come first-served basis.
Refuge staff with law enforcement authority will be the primary law enforcement officers during the hunt season. Assistance will also be provided by FWS Special Agents and by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Officers.

A deer check station is operated on the opening day of the Refuge archery season and the four or five busiest days of the Refuge firearms hunt (opening day, Saturdays, and the last day). Information collected on each deer includes sex, age, antler beam diameter, total number of antler points, and fawn weights.

The breakdown of the costs for the archery and firearms white-tailed deer hunts is as follows:*

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* Information is based on the 1994 archery and firearms deer hunts on the Refuge.
IV. MEASURES TAKEN TO AVOID CONFLICTS WITH OTHER MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

A. Biological Conflicts

1. Endangered/Threatened Species - In 1976, a program designed to reestablish nesting bald eagles in New York was initiated at the Refuge. A hacking tower was used to release young birds into the wild. This bald eagle hacking program was the first of its kind on the North American Continent. From 1976 to 1980 a total of 23 immature bald eagles were released at the Refuge.

Two active bald eagle nests are presently found on the Refuge. The first nest was discovered in 1987 with three adults tending to two young. This represented the first nesting success on the Refuge since 1956. An adult, female bald eagle began construction of the second nest in 1992. A sub-adult male joined her in 1993, and the two began forming a pair bond. These two birds first produced young in 1994.

Bald eagle activity is closely monitored by both State and Refuge biologists. Any significant changes to the Hunt Plan will be reviewed by endangered species personnel within the Service's Division of Fish and Wildlife Enhancement. Consultations have been held with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation endangered species biologists concerning Refuge hunting. Hunters are reminded that bald eagles are in the area.

2. Waterfowl - Some disturbance to waterfowl may occur during the firearms season. The disturbance is not expected to be significant because deer hunting will primarily occur on upland portions of the Refuge, hunters will be limited to 115 by permit, and much of the wetlands area will be available for waterfowl.

All biological factors will be monitored and, if necessary, changes will be made in the Hunt Plan to minimize conflicts.

B. Public Use Conflicts

Aside from the fundamental philosophical conflict of hunting versus anti-hunting, every effort has been taken to minimize public use conflicts. As with biological conflicts, all factors will be monitored, and if a public
use conflict were to arise, appropriate changes would be implemented to resolve the conflict.

Over the last several years the Refuge has developed a deer hunting program that maximizes the harvest of deer while still providing public use opportunities for non-hunting visitors. Throughout the hunt season, the Refuge is separated into hunting and non-hunting areas. The general public can still use the Visitor Center, Observation Towers, and 3/4 of the Wildlife Drive. The only public use area closed to the non-hunting visitor is the Esker Brook Nature Trail. Signs at the Visitor Center and the Trail parking lot inform visitors of the closure. Refuge personnel are available to address questions from non-hunting visitors concerning the deer hunts.

C. Administrative Conflicts

No administrative conflicts are anticipated.
V. CONDUCT OF WHITE-TAILED DEER HUNT

A. Refuge-Specific Deer Hunting Regulations

Deer hunting will be permitted in designated areas of the Refuge, and only in accordance with applicable New York State Department of Environmental Conservation regulations, Refuge regulations, and subject to the following deer hunting regulations:

1. All hunters must possess and return at day’s end a valid daily hunt permit card.

2. Hunting of deer is permitted on designated portions of the Refuge by archery, shotgun, or muzzleloader only during established Refuge seasons set within the general State deer season.

3. Hunters are permitted on the Refuge one hour before legal sunrise and one hour after legal sunset.

4. Only portable tree stands may be used and must be removed from the Refuge each day.

5. All firearms must be unloaded before legal sunrise and after legal sunset.

6. All bows must be disassembled, locked, or cased before legal sunrise and after legal sunset.

7. Hunters during the Refuge firearms season must wear, in a conspicuous manner on the head, chest, and back, a minimum of 400 square inches (2,600 square centimeters) of solid-colored blaze orange clothing or material.

B. Anticipated Public Reaction

The Refuge anticipates some objection to deer hunting from the general public. Some visitors use a literal or dictionary definition of the word Refuge and they do not understand how we can permit hunting. All Refuge volunteers are instructed to refer questions about the appropriateness of hunting on the Refuge to Refuge personnel. These questions are addressed with an explanation of the purpose for which the Refuge was established and how the current deer population exceeds existing biological carrying capacity and in turn decreases the quantity and quality of habitat available for other wildlife species. The vast majority of non-
hunting visitors leave the Refuge with a better understanding of the reason why deer hunting is necessary on the Refuge.

The potential for a protest by anti-hunters exists and the Refuge has developed several strategies to handle such a situation. Protesters would be permitted to demonstrate in designated areas that would not interfere with the deer hunt.

C. Hunter Application and Registration Procedure

All the daily Refuge hunt permits (500 archery and 115 firearms permits) are available on a first-come first-served basis. Permits are available on a self-service basis for the entire firearms and archery seasons, except opening days when permits are directly issued by Refuge personnel.

D. Description of Hunter Selection Process

A lottery type system is not used to pre-select hunters. All permits are available on a first-come first-served basis.

E. Media Selection for Announcing and Publicizing Hunt

All area newspapers will receive press releases in a timely manner (see Appendix I, Exhibit 1). Deer hunt information sheets are available by mail or they can be picked up in person at the Refuge Visitor Center, office, or Check Station.

F. Hunter Orientation

Informational sheets available to all hunters include a map identifying locations of open and closed areas, the Refuge Check Station, the Refuge office, and the Visitor Center. A poster size hunting map is displayed at the Check Station kiosk. When registering, opening day archery hunters and all firearms hunters are reminded of the location of all no hunting areas. Information sheets and Refuge maps are made available to all deer hunters each day.

G. Hunter Requirements

See Appendix I, Exhibits 2 and 3.
PART THREE: WATERFOWL HUNTING

I. WATERFOWL HUNTING OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the waterfowl hunting program are:

1. To provide the general public with a safe, quality wildlife-oriented recreational experience, and an opportunity to harvest a renewable natural resource.
II. WATERFOWL HUNTING ASSESSMENT

As identified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services' Office of Migratory Bird Management, there are sufficient populations of migratory waterfowl for hunting within the seasons and limits as defined by State and Federal regulations.
III. DESCRIPTION OF WATERFOWL HUNTING PROGRAM

Waterfowl hunting is permitted on a portion of Tschache Pool; the decision to hunt will be conditioned by Refuge management objectives. The observation area at the southern end of Tschache Pool is closed to hunting to protect the non-hunting public and to separate the two user groups.

The huntable area of Tschache Pool consists of 600 acres (243 hectares) of open water and 500 acres (202 hectares) of emergent cattail marsh. The water area is comprised of 40% interspersed cattail and purple loosestrife and 60% flooded dead timber stumps and fallen trees. This area represents approximately 17% of the entire Refuge.

To maintain quality waterfowl hunting, the number of hunters is limited and all hunters are required to have successfully completed the New York State Waterfowl Identification Course. Non-resident hunters can either complete the Refuge's correspondence Waterfowl Identification Course or complete a state approved Waterfowl Identification Course from their home state. Hunters must present proof of completion (certificate) at the time of check-in.

Waterfowl hunting is permitted on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, traditionally during the first split of the New York State Western Zone season. Hunting hours are from legal shooting time until 12:00 noon. Each hunter is limited to 15 steel shot shells. A maximum of 20 parties of two hunters may hunt on any given hunt day.

In order to acquire Refuge waterfowl hunting permits, hunters must make telephone reservations from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays for the next hunt day (make reservation on Tuesday to hunt on Thursday, etc.). Reservations for the Refuge opening day are made on the preceding day. Parking areas are selected by the hunters when the hunt reservation is made. Reservations are available on a first-come first-served basis. The reservation telephone number is (315) 568-4136. No multiple reservations are allowed.

The waterfowl Check Station opens two hours before legal shooting time and all hunters must register at least one hour before legal shooting time or the reservation is forfeited. Forfeited reservations are available to stand-by hunters on a first-come first-served basis. During registration, hunters are required to present a signed duck stamp, valid New York State hunting license, and a Waterfowl Identification Course Certificate. When registering, Part A of the Refuge waterfowl hunting permit card is completed and left with the Refuge staff member at the Check Station. Part B serves as a permit and success report card. It
is kept with the hunter, filled out after hunting and returned to the box at the Check Station by 1:00 pm.

Costs for the waterfowl hunt are broken down in Table 2.*

**TABLE 2: REFUGE WATERFOWL HUNT COSTS**

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**TOTALS**  
157  
$2,870.39

* Information is based on the 1994 Refuge waterfowl hunt.
IV. MEASURES TAKEN TO AVOID CONFLICTS WITH OTHER MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

A. Biological Conflicts

Endangered/Threatened Species - The disturbance of bald eagles by waterfowl hunting will be monitored closely and, if need be, changes will be implemented by altering the Hunt Plan. Any, or all sections of Tschache Pool may be closed to hunting. Shotgun shell limits are 15 per hunter, and non-toxic shot is required. In fact, steel shot has been required since 1972 at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. This minimizes the chance of lead ingestion by eagles feeding on waterfowl. Consultations have been held with New York State Endangered Species biologists concerning waterfowl hunting. Hunters are reminded when checking in that bald eagles are in the area. Posters and brochures are available at the hunter Check Station to inform hunters of the presence of non-game and endangered/threatened species on Tschache Pool. Hunters are asked to watch for, observe, and report bald eagle activity to Refuge staff. Excellent observations, heightened awareness, and good public relations have resulted. All biological factors will be monitored and, if necessary, changes will be made to minimize conflicts. Any significant changes to the Hunt Plan will be reviewed by endangered species personnel within the Service's Division of Fish and Wildlife Enhancement.

B. Public Use Conflicts

Aside from the fundamental philosophical conflict of hunting versus anti-hunting, minimal conflicts may arise concerning the presence of waterfowl hunters on Tschache Pool. There is an observation tower overlooking the pool that is frequently used for wildlife viewing. To minimize conflicts, the area within 150 yards (151 meters) of the tower is closed to waterfowl hunting, and no hunting is permitted from the dike.

C. Administrative Conflicts

No administrative conflicts are anticipated.
V. CONDUCT OF WATERFOWL HUNT

A. Refuge-Specific Waterfowl Hunting Regulations

Waterfowl hunting will be permitted in designated areas of Tschache Pool, and only in accordance with applicable New York State, federal, and Refuge regulations, and subjected to the following additional regulations:

1. Permits/reservations are required.

2. Hunting is permitted only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays during established Refuge seasons set within the New York State Western Zone season.

3. Each hunter shall not have more than 15 non-toxic shells in his/her possession.

4. Only motorless boats are permitted on the Refuge hunting area.

5. Completion of the New York State Waterfowl Identification Course is required.

6. Hunting ends each day at 12:00 noon local time. All hunters must check out at the Route 89 Check Station by 1:00 p.m. local time.

B. Anticipated Public Reaction

The Refuge expects some adverse public reaction to waterfowl hunting on Montezuma. Some individuals feel that it is inappropriate to allow waterfowl hunting on National Wildlife Refuges, especially when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that waterfowl populations are declining. Additional concerns are often raised because of the presence of bald eagle nesting territories on the area open to waterfowl hunting.

The limited days and hours of the Refuge waterfowl hunt reduce the potential for user conflicts. The majority of non-hunting visits occur on weekends between 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm. Waterfowl hunting is permitted only on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays and ends by 12:00 pm. To prevent potential conflicts, and address the questions of non-hunting visitors, Refuge staff are present at the observation area of Tschache Pool where Refuge waterfowl hunters exit the hunting area.
C. Hunter Application and Registration Procedure

Waterfowl hunters wanting to hunt at the Refuge must make telephone reservations on the hunt day preceding the day they wish to hunt. Non-transferable phone reservations are taken on a first-come first-served basis between 8:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. For opening day only, reservations are made the day before the opening day. Reservations that are unfilled by one hour before legal shooting time will be awarded to stand-by hunters, on a first-come first-served basis.

During registration, waterfowl hunters are required to present a signed duck stamp, valid New York State hunting license, and a Waterfowl Identification Course Certificate. Part A of the Refuge waterfowl hunting permit card is completed during registration and left with the Refuge staff member at the Check Station. Part B serves as a permit when the hunter is in the field and as a success report card. It is filled out at the end of the hunt and returned to the box at the Check Station.

D. Description of Hunter Selection Process

Phone reservations are available on a first-come first-served basis to waterfowl hunters with a valid New York State hunting license, signed duck stamp, and Waterfowl Identification Course certificate.

E. Media Selection for Announcing and Publicizing Hunt

All area newspapers will receive press releases in a timely manner (see Appendix II, Exhibit 1). Waterfowl hunt information sheets are available by mail or they can be picked up in person at the Refuge Visitor Center, office, or Check Station.

F. Hunter Orientation

Hunter orientation as to the presence of bald eagles, regulations, and hunting locations will take place during registration at the Check Station. Hunters will be asked to provide comments about the location and activities of bald eagles, if any, that they might see.
G. Hunter Requirements

Resident hunters must have successfully completed the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Waterfowl Identification Course. Non-residents must have successfully completed either the Montezuma Non-resident Correspondence Waterfowl Identification Test or the state-approved Waterfowl Identification Course from their home state. Hunters must also possess all required state and federal licenses and duck stamps.

All waterfowl hunters are required to pay a $10.00 per reservation hunting user fee. Money will be collected by Refuge employees at the time of check-in.
APPENDIX I

EXHIBIT 1

MAILING LIST FOR WHITE-TAILED DEER HUNT NEWS RELEASES

Mr. Gary Parsons
Chief, Div. of Wildlife
Wildlife Resource Center
Delmar, NY 12054

Cayuga County Sportsmen’s
Clubs Federation
c/o Robert LaMontagne, Sec.
R.R. 1, Box 315
Union Springs, NY 13160-9774

Erie County Sportsmen’s
Club Federation
c/o Charles Rechlin, President
742 Sturgeon Point Drive
Derby, NY 14047

NYS DEC, Region 9
600 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202

Mr. Mike DeTomaso
Cayuga County Federation of
Sportsmen’s Clubs
42 Nelson Street
Auburn, NY 13021

Genesee County Sportsmen’s
Club Federation
c/o Paul R. Wood, Secretary
9262 Putnam Road
Batavia, NY 14020

Mr. Ward J. Dukelow
Senior Wildlife Biologist
P.O. Box 5170, Fisher Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Cayuga County Conservation
Club Federation
c/o Larry Stolz
R.R. 1, Box 441
Auburn, NY 13021-9781

Livingston County Sportsmen’s
Federation
c/o Bud Sinnott, Secretary
Mt. Morris Dam
Mt. Morris, NY 14510

Mr. Larry Meyers
NYS DEC
6274 East Avon-Lima Road
Avon, NY 14414

Chautauqua County Sportsmen’s
Federation
c/o Warren Cookson, President
Honeysette Road
Mayville, NY 14757

Madison County Sportsmen’s
Club Federation
c/o Joe Zecher, President
Box 195, Kinderhook Road
Chittenango, NY 13037

Allegheny County Sportsmen’s
Club Federation
c/o Chet Gasper III, Pres.
R.D. 1
Almond, NY 14804

Chemung County Federation of
Sportsmen’s Clubs
c/o Jake Trimmer, Secretary
241 Oakwood Avenue
Elmira Heights, NY 14903

Monroe County Sportsmen’s
Federation
c/o Dick Habes, Sec.
146 State Rt. 104, Apt 4E
Ontario, NY 14519-8944

Broome County Sportsmen’s
Clubs Federation
c/o Ed Frankowski, Secretary
206 East Franklin Street
Endicott, NY 13760

Chenango County Sportsmen’s
Club Federation
c/o Robert McNitt, President
R.D. 3, Box 487
Norwich, NY 13815

Niagara County Sportsmen’s
Club Federation
c/o Richard Robinson, Pres.
4095 Old Ransomville Road
Ransomville, NY 14131

Cattaraugus County Sportsmen’s
Federation
c/o Tom Bridges, President
R.D. 1, Box 131-B
Salamanca, NY 14779

Cortland County Sportsmen’s
Club Federation
c/o Sharon Tracy, Secretary
Box 142, Wildman Road
East Freetown, NY 13055

Onondaga County Sportsmen’s
Club Federation
c/o Wayne Radley, Secretary
Apulia Road
LaFayette, NY 13084
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<td>Ontario</td>
<td>Kathy Armstrong, Secretary</td>
<td>5753 Route 21 South, Naples, NY 14512</td>
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<td>Orleans</td>
<td>Margaret M. Johnson, Sec.</td>
<td>13235 Hanlon Road, Albion, NY 14414</td>
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<td>Oswego</td>
<td>c/o Henry Cossel, Secretary</td>
<td>R.D. 1, Box 247, Oswego, NY 13126</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seneca</td>
<td>c/o Mr. Art Hall</td>
<td>1047 Waterloo-Geneva Road, Waterloo, NY 13165</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steuben</td>
<td>c/o Tony Lewis, Secretary</td>
<td>3240 County Road 121, Seneca Falls, NY 13148</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tioga</td>
<td>c/o Dan Salkkonen</td>
<td>Box 393, Gleason Hill Rd., Spencer, NY 14883</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tompkins</td>
<td>c/o Bill Beck, President</td>
<td>45 Kraft Road, Ithaca, NY 14850</td>
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<td>Wayne</td>
<td>c/o James O. Hughes, Sec.</td>
<td>800 Phillips Road (Xerox), Webster, NY 14580</td>
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<td>Yates</td>
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<td>94B Indian Pines, Penn Yan, NY 14527</td>
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<td>Wildfowler's Association of Central New York</td>
<td>c/o Ken Boyce, Secretary</td>
<td>209 Tobin Road, Chittenango, NY 13037</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seneca County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs</td>
<td>Congressman William Paxon</td>
<td>10 East Main Street, Victor, NY 14564</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steuben County Sportsmen's Club Federation</td>
<td>Congressman James Walsh</td>
<td>1269 Federal Building, Syracuse, NY 13260</td>
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Burt Gault, Ex. Sports Editor
The Watertown Daily News
Washington Street
Watertown, NY 13601

Jim Gartner, Managing Editor
The Wayne County Mail
2010 Empire Blvd.
W. Webster, NY 14580

Community Events
Wayuga Community News
35 Main Street
Wolcott, NY 14590

Regional Director, USFWS
ATTN: Spence Conley
300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589
APPENDIX I

EXHIBIT 2

1995 ARCHERY HUNT - MONTEZUMA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

DATES: November 1-18 and December 13-16 (no Sunday hunting).

PERMIT CARDS & PARKING PASSES: *Must be picked up daily*

* Daily permit cards available for the entire season at the Route 89 Check Station.

* Complete Part A of the permit card at check-in and leave it with Refuge personnel or deposit it in the Part A box at the Route 89 Check Station.

* Carry Part B of the permit card while hunting on the Refuge. Complete it at the end of the hunt day and leave it in the Part B box at the Route 89 Check Station.

* Parking passes are to be picked up at check-in and displayed on vehicle dashboards.

SUCCESSFUL OPENING DAY HUNTERS: Must bring deer to the Route 89 Check Station.

***NOTICE*** ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS ***NOTICE***

* Bows must be disassembled, locked, or cased before legal sunrise and after legal sunset.

* No advanced scouting.

* No boats or canoes on Refuge Pools.

* Use or possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

* Tree stands must be removed at the end of each day - no screw-in steps!

* Hunters are permitted on the Refuge 1 hour before legal sunrise (2 hours on Opening Day) and 1 hour after legal sunset.

* Obey ALL signs.

RESPECT ADJACENT LANDOWNERS' PROPERTY – DO NOT TRESPASS!!!

Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge
3395 Route 5/20 East
Seneca Falls, NY 13148
(315) 568-5987
APPENDIX I

EXHIBIT 3

1995 FIREARMS HUNT - MONTEZUMA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
DMU #86

DATES: November 20 - 25 and December 2 - 12 (no Sunday hunting).
PERMIT CARDS & PARKING PASSES: *Must be picked up daily*

* 115 permits will be available for each hunt day on a first-come, first-served basis.

* Opening Day Permits - available at the Route 89 Check Station.

* Remainder of the Season Permits - available at the Route 89 Check Station on a self-service basis from the Permit Box.

* Complete Part A of the permit card at check-in and leave it with Refuge personnel or in the Part A box at the Route 89 Check Station.

* Carry Part B of the permit card while hunting on the Refuge. Complete it at the end of the day and leave it in the Part B box at the Route 89 Check Station.

* Parking passes are to be picked up at check-in and displayed on vehicle dashboards.

SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS ON NOVEMBER 20 & 25 AND DECEMBER 2, 9, AND 12 MUST BRING THEIR DEER TO THE ROUTE 89 CHECK STATION.

***NOTICE*** ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS ***NOTICE***

* Shotguns and muzzleloaders only - NO HANDGUNS!

* Hunters must wear, on the head, chest, and back (a vest and hat), at least 400 square inches (2,600 square centimeters) of SOLID BLAZE ORANGE - NO CAMO ORANGE OR RED!!

* Firearms must be unloaded before legal sunrise and after legal sunset.

* No advanced scouting.

* No boats or canoes on Refuge Pools.

* Use or possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

* Tree stands must be removed at the end of each day - no screw-in tree steps!

* Hunters are permitted on the Refuge 1 hour before legal sunrise and 1 hour after legal sunset.

* Obey ALL signs.

RESPECT ADJACENT LANDOWNERS’ PROPERTY – DO NOT TRESPASS!!
Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge
3395 Route 5/20 East
Seneca Falls, NY 13148
(315) 568-5987
From I-90 take Exit 41 South to 318 East. Then take Routes 5 & 20 East to the refuge.
APPENDIX I

EXHIBIT 5

SAMPLE DEER HUNTING PERMIT CARD

0001

DEER HUNT REGISTRATION
Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge

Date:_________________ Archery_______ Firearms_______

Name:__________________________________________________________

Address:________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________

Phone:(__ )____________ Vehicle License #:_______________________

DEPOSIT PART "A" IN BOX PRIOR TO HUNTING

0001

DEER HUNT PERMIT
Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge

Name:_________________________________ Date:_____________________

Area(s) of Refuge Hunted:__________________________________________

Did You Kill A Deer? No____ Yes____

Sex of Deer Killed? Buck____ Doe____

Deer Hit But Not Recovered: Yes____

Part "B" MUST Be In Possession Of Hunter Throughout Hunt Day.
Part "B" MUST Be Returned To The Check Station At The End Of
The Hunt Day.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR EACH HUNT DAY.
## APPENDIX II

### EXHIBIT 1

**MAILING LIST FOR WATERFOWL HUNT NEWS RELEASES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Gary Parsons</td>
<td>Chief, Div. of Wildlife Resource Center, Delmar, NY 12054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NYS DEC, Region 9</td>
<td>600 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14202</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Ward J. Dukelow</td>
<td>Senior Wildlife Biologist, P.O. Box 5170, Fisher Ave., Cortland, NY 13045</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Larry Meyers</td>
<td>NYS DEC, 6274 East Avon-Lima Road, Avon, NY 14414</td>
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<td>Allegany County Sportsmen’s</td>
<td>Cayuga County Sportsmen’s Clubs Federation, 42 Nelson Street, Auburn, NY 13021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chautauqua County Sportsmen’s</td>
<td>Federation, c/o Warren Cookson, President, Honeysette Road, Mayville, NY 14757</td>
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<td>Broome County Sportsmen’s</td>
<td>Chemung County Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs, c/o Jake Trimmer, Secretary</td>
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<td>Cattaraugus County Sportsmen’s</td>
<td>Chenango County Sportsmen’s Club Federation, c/o Robert McNitt, President</td>
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<td>Mike DeTomaso</td>
<td>Cayuga County Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs, 42 Nelson Street, Auburn, NY 13021</td>
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<td>Larry Stolz</td>
<td>R.R. 1, Box 441, Auburn, NY 13021-9781</td>
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<td>C/V Robert LaMontagne, Sec.</td>
<td>Union Springs, NY 13160-9774</td>
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<td>742 Sturgeon Point Drive</td>
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<td>Paul R. Wood, Secretary</td>
<td>9262 Putnam Road, Batavia, NY 14020</td>
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<td>Bud Sinnott, Secretary</td>
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<td>Apulia Road</td>
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P.O. Box 1248  
Auburn, NY 13021 |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Kathy Armstrong, Secretary  
5753 Route 21 South  
Naples, NY 14512 | c/o Jerry Brown, President  
Box 68  
Bliss, NY 14024 | |
| Orleans County Sportsmen's Club Federation | Yates County Sportsmen's Federation | Mr. Scott Sampson  
Outdoor Writer  
6992 County Road  
Ovid, NY 14521 |
| Margaret M. Johnson, Sec.  
13235 Hanlon Road  
Albion, NY 14414 | c/o George Morse  
94B Indian Pines  
Penn Yan, NY 14527 | |
| Oswego County Sportsmen's Federation  
c/o Henry Cassell, Secretary  
R.D. 1, Box 247  
Oswego, NY 13126 | Wildfowler's Association of Central New York  
c/o Ken Boyce, Secretary  
209 Tobin Road  
Chittenango, NY 13037 | Mr. George Fiorille  
The Auburn Citizen  
P.O. Box 444  
Moravia, NY 13118 |
| Seneca County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs  
c/o Mr. Art Hall  
1047 Waterloo-Geneva Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165 | Congressman William Paxon  
10 East Main Street  
Victor, NY 14564 | Calendar of Events  
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77 Grant Avenue  
Auburn, NY 13021-2101 |
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3240 County Road 121  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148 | Congressman James Walsh  
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| Wayne County Sportsmen's Federation  
c/o James O. Hughes, Sec.  
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<td>Ms. Sheila Rayam</td>
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<td>The Rome Sentinel</td>
<td>The Village Pennysaver</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
HUNTING

Burt Gault, Ex. Sports Editor
The Watertown Daily News
Washington Street
Watertown, NY 13601

Jim Gartner, Managing Editor
The Wayne County Mail
2010 Empire Blvd.
W. Webster, NY 14580

Community Events
Wayuga Community News
35 Main Street
Wolcott, NY 14590

Regional Director, USFWS
ATTN: Spence Conley
300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589
### APPENDIX III

**EXHIBIT 1**

**SUNRISE AND SUNSET TABLE**

EASTERN STANDARD TIME AT MONTEZUMA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

<table>
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<th>NOVEMBER</th>
<th>DECEMBER</th>
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ADD 1 HOUR FOR DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME WHEN IN USE
APPENDIX II

EXHIBIT 2

1995 WATERFOWL HUNT - MONTEZUMA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

DATES: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays (dates determined once State seasons are set).

RESERVATIONS: Limited to 20 reservations per day (Maximum of 2 people per reservation).

* Telephone reservations taken from 8:00am to 8:30am on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays for the next hunt day (call Tuesday to hunt Thursday, call Thursday to hunt Saturday).

* The reservation telephone number is (315) 568-4136.

***RESERVATIONS FOR OPENING DAY WILL BE TAKEN ON THE DAY BEFORE.***

* All reservations are first-come, first-served. Persons with a reservation may bring 1 companion. Hunters reserve the parking area of their choice while making their hunt reservation.

* All hunters with reservations (and their companions) must check in at least 1 hour before legal shooting time or forfeit their reservation.

* Reservations unfilled/uncalled by 1 hour before legal shooting time will be available on a first-come, first-served basis at the Route 89 Check Station. All regulations applicable to reservation hunters also apply to stand-by hunters.

FEES: A $10.00 per reservation fee is required. If a person has either a Golden Age or Golden Access Passport, the reservation fee is $5.00.

ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS

* Boats are required & limited to 1 boat per reservation. Motors are prohibited. Hunting sites are selected in a free-roam system.

* Each hunter is limited to 15 non-toxic shells.

* Hunting ends at 12:00 noon local time. All hunters must be checked out by 1:00 p.m. local time.

* Successful completion of the New York State Waterfowl Identification Course, the Montezuma Non-Resident Waterfowl Identification Course or a suitable non-resident State Waterfowl Identification course is REQUIRED to hunt the Refuge.

* Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.

VEHICLES BLOCKING GATES OR ROADS WILL RESULT IN A CITATION AND A FINE!

Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge
3395 Route 5/20 East
Seneca Falls, New York 13148
(315) 568-5987
From I-90 take Exit 41 South to 318 East. Then take Routes 5 & 20 East to the refuge.
APPENDIX II
EXHIBIT 4
SAMPLE WATERFOWL HUNTING PERMIT CARD

0001

WATERFOWL HUNT REGISTRATION
Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge

Date_________ Parking Area______________

Name______________________________ Guest______________________________

Address____________________________ _________________________________

Vehicle License Number_________________________

Each party must complete card.
Leave Part "A" at Check Station.

0001

WATERFOWL HUNT REPORT
Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge

Date_________ Parking Area______________

Name______________________________ Guest______________________________

# Hit but not retrieved_________ Total # of shots fired_____

# of birds taken by party______ (Fill in # per species below)

Wood Duck____ Green-winged Teal____ Amer. Black Duck____
Mallard ______ Blue-winged Teal____ Gadwall____
Shoveler ______ Common Merganser____ N. Pintail ______
C. Goose ______ Hooded Merganser____ Other____

PART "B" MUST BE IN POSSESSION OF PARTY THROUGHOUT
HUNT DAY. PART "B" MUST BE RETURNED TO THE CHECK
STATION BY 1:00 P.M.
Part 1: Background Information

I. Introduction
   A. Location

This section is revised as follows:

The 8,121-acre (3,287-hectare) Refuge lies entirely within the 27th U.S. Congressional District, and is situated within Tyre, Seneca Falls and Savannah Townships in Seneca and Wayne Counties.
Part 1: Background Information
I. Introduction
   B. History

This section is revised as follows:

At present, dikes impound some 3,700 acres (1,497 hectares) of freshwater marsh contained within the Main, Tschache, May's Point, North and South Spring Pools, Millennium Marsh, and the Knox-Marsellus Marsh.
Part 1: Background Information
   II. Conformance with Statutory Authorities
      D. Funding Statement

This section is revised as follows:

The costs of all hunt programs, based on the 2000 hunting seasons, are as follows:
   (See attached page)
Cost of Refuge hunts - 2000

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<th>All Refuge Hunts</th>
<th>Staff Hours</th>
<th>Hunt Costs</th>
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2000 figures were used as they more accurately reflect the cost of the hunts as there was no waterfowl hunt in 2001.

Within the annual Refuge budget of approximately $500,000, the necessary funds are available for the administration of the hunting programs. Projected annual costs of administering all Refuge hunting programs ($3,631.83) represents .7% of the total annual Station budget.
Part 2: White-tailed Deer Hunting

III. Description of White-tailed Deer Hunting

This section is revised as follows:

White-tailed deer hunting is allowed, in accordance with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Law, on the entire Refuge with the exception of the following no hunting zones and closed areas:

- The Wildlife Drive up to the New York State Thruway.
- Open water areas of Refuge pools.
- Safety zones around observation towers, the Visitor Center, subheadquarters, and the Refuge office complex.
- New property purchased after July of that particular year.
Part 2: White-tailed Deer Hunting

III. Description of White-tailed Deer Hunting

This section is revised as follows:

The breakdown of the costs for the archery and firearms white-tailed deer hunts is as follows:*

See attached page

Prepared by: Maiva Angrich
Outdoor Recreation Planner

Submitted by: Thomas Jacoboff
Refuge Manager

Reviewed by: Sam Barlage
Outreach Specialist

Approval: Richard W. Bly
Refuges North Supervisor
**TABLE #1 - Costs of Refuge Deer Hunts**

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* Information is based on the 2001 archery and firearms deer hunts on the Refuge.
Part 3: Waterfowl Hunting

III. Description of Waterfowl Hunting Program

This section is revised as follows:

Waterfowl hunting is permitted on a portion of the refuge, not exceeding forty percent of the refuge's total acreage. The decision to hunt and the location of hunting areas will be conditioned by Refuge management objectives. Areas open to waterfowl include Tschache Pool and additional areas, when and where feasible, acquired through the Montezuma Wetlands Complex acquisition process.

Additional areas open to waterfowl hunting will be determined annually and depend on conditions, management plans in and around these units and available manpower manage. Locations and specific details will be provided in the annual hunt program. The acreage of these additional areas will not total more than 2,100 acres (850 hectares) to comply with the limitations of waterfowl hunting on National Wildlife Refuges established as "an inviolate sanctuary for migratory birds" by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission and/or land purchased with Migratory Bird funds.

The refuge waterfowl hunt is controlled and managed by the refuge, but administered by the Friends of the Montezuma Wetlands Complex, Inc. The refuge determines the seasons, locations and regulations of the hunt and the Friends are responsible for administering the hunt. The arrangement is included in the cooperative agreement between the refuge and the Friends group.
Part 3: Waterfowl Hunting

III. Description of Waterfowl Hunting Program

This section is revised as follows:

Costs for the waterfowl are broken down in table 2.*

| TABLE 2: REFUGE WATERFOWL HUNT COSTS |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| **WATERFOWL**                  | **Staff Hours** | **Hunt Costs** |
| Check-in/Check Station         | 20              | $576.00        |
| Law Enforcement                | --              | --             |
| Planning                       | 5               | $150.02        |
| Public Information             | 6               | $136.73        |
| Postage                        | --              | $27.44         |
| Supplies                       | --              | $50.00         |
| Data Collection                | 16              | $465.04        |
| Maintenance-Facilities         | 1               | $19.16         |
| Maintenance-Vehicles           | 1               | $26.03         |
| Utilities                      | --              | $25.00         |
| **TOTALS**                     | 49              | **$1,475.42**  |

* Information is based on the 2000 Refuge waterfowl hunt.
Part 3: Waterfowl Hunting
   V. Conduct of Waterfowl Hunt
      G. Hunter Requirements

This section is revised as follows:

Money will be collected by the Friends of the Montezuma Wetlands Complex at the time of check-in.