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Changes announced for Grapevine Lake Public Hunting Program

FORT WORTH, Texas – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, will change the public hunting program at Grapevine Lake, effective September 1, 2010. After hunters expressed concerns about changes planned by the Corps during the 2009-2010 hunting season, the Corps solicited comments from hunters, adjacent landowners, city officials, wildlife biologists and game wardens with the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.

A stakeholder meeting was held at the Cabelas store in Fort Worth on January 14, 2010. According to Lake Manager Craig Edmondson the stakeholder meeting was well attended and the information gathered at the meeting and through many other contacts was very helpful in making revisions for the upcoming hunting season.

For the 2010-2011 hunting season that begins on September 1, all hunters will be required to obtain a permit from the Corps of Engineers. Permits will be issued as follows:

- 500 permits will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis for migratory bird hunting which includes doves and waterfowl. Waterfowl hunting will be prohibited on certain days to allow for rest periods (rest period days will be listed on the permit).
- 800 permits will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis for general hunting and feral hog hunting. General hunting includes rabbits, squirrels, and turkeys.
- Permits for archery-only deer hunting will be issued through a lottery system. The number of permits issued will vary from year to year and will be governed by annual deer population estimates determined through field surveys. The number of permits for the upcoming season has not yet been determined.
- 150 permits will be issued first-come, first-served for a special youth-only deer hunting period from October 2 through October 10, 2010. Only youth 16 and under are eligible.
- Additional acreage for archery-only hog hunting has been added to allowable hunting areas for the purpose of reducing feral hog populations.
- All hunters are reminded they must provide a hunter safety education certificate (if required by state law) when applying for a permit.
- Hunters may begin applying for all permits beginning June 1.

The Corps recognizes that hunting is a popular outdoor sport in Texas and hopes that the changes for the upcoming season will provide a safe and enjoyable experience for all participants, and will insure the sustainability of wildlife populations and the safety of adjoining landowners. Additional information on Grapevine Lake can be found at <http://www.swf-wc.usace.army.mil/grapevine/Recreation/Hunting.asp>.

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About the Fort Worth District: The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was established in 1950. The District is responsible for water resources development in two-thirds of Texas, and design and construction at military installations in Texas and parts of Louisiana and New Mexico. Visit the Fort Worth District Web site at: www.swf.usace.army.mil.