



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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HUNTING BARRED IN 300-YARD STRIP AROUND MARTIN REFUGE IN CHESAPEAKE BAY

A designation closing a 300-yard strip of tidal flats and water abutting the Martin National Wildlife Refuge on Smith Island in lower Chesapeake Bay will be carried in the Federal Register in the near future, the Department of the Interior announced today. The designation will be effective 30 days after publication.

The notice of intention to close the area was carried in the Federal Register May 28, 1960. The customary 30-day period for comment was provided.

The designation will prohibit the establishment of off-shore blinds on the tidal area adjoining the Refuge. Maryland law prohibits the establishment of blinds beyond the 300-yard limit. The closing of the area will give additional protection to several species of waterfowl, especially some of the diving ducks.

The Martin National Wildlife Refuge was established December 20, 1955, as the result of a gift of 2,570 acres from the late Glenn L. Martin. Subsequent purchases have brought the total acreage at present up to 3,875.

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