

SW Pheasants Forever chapter again hosting youth mentor hunt

By Jan Schultz

The Imperial Republican

Youths ages 15 and younger have the chance to hunt pheasant, quail and partridge a full weekend ahead of the state's pheasant season opener.

This Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 20-21, is designated a special youth hunting season by the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission, when youths accompanied by a licensed adult 19 and older, can hunt the upland birds.

The daily bag limit is two and the possession limit is set at four.

Taking advantage of the special weekend, members of the Southwestern Nebraska Pheasants Forever Chapter are again hosting their youth mentor hunt on Saturday.

Heather Francis of the organization said 21 youths are signed up to learn about safety and hunt in the field with an adult mentor. That number is the maximum they can handle for the event, she said.

Land owned by Donnie Weiss, northwest of Imperial, is the site for Saturday's events.

In addition to the actual hunt, the youths will learn about gun safety, shoot blue rocks, be shown how to clean a pheasant and take a habitat walk where they will get to see seven different types of grasses and other aspects of a workable habitat, Francis said.

The statewide pheasant hunting season opens next Saturday, Oct. 27, and runs until the end of January 2013.

Only rooster (male) pheasants may be taken in Nebraska. The taking of hens is not allowed.