

CHLOE SLAYTER  
11 YEAR OLD

2012 YOUTH HUNTER  
FEMALE

On January the 12<sup>th</sup> 2013, my father and I went to Red River WMA on a deer hunt after I was selected through a lottery drawing held by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. We woke up at three a.m. and left for the hunt. It was very early in the morning and I was so excited about the hunt that I could not go back to sleep after getting in the truck and riding there. We got to the headquarters at five o'clock and drew a number for stands after getting our instructions for the hunt. I drew the number one stand and was excited when one of the wildlife agents told me that it was a very good stand.

The Wildlife Agent drove his Ranger to my dad's truck and we loaded my gun and backpacks into the back and he gave us a ride to the stand. We got into the stand and had thirty minutes or so to wait until it was daylight enough to see a deer. All I could hear was a loud noise that my dad told me were frogs. It was extremely loud and creped me out. I did not like the noises that all the frogs were making. My dad told me that the frogs would calm down once the sun came up and they did eventually go away. I reached into my bag and got my d s game out and played on it after the sun came out. I got tired once the sun was shining and I laid down in my dad's lap and took a nap. I woke up a while later and began playing my game again.

At 8:05 my dad told me not to move and I froze. He told me that he had just seen a deer and was waiting to see if it would come back out. I asked him what it was and he said he did not know he just saw it for a second and it was gone. I got excited for a second but when it never came back out I just started playing me game again. A little while later my dad told me not to move again and I froze again. Dad told me to put my game up and get ready to get the gun. Dad said there was a buck on my side of the stand and that he was going to give me the gun and for me to put it out the window. Dad handed me the gun and I started easing it out the window as I watched the buck walk down the food plot towards us. I finally got the gun out the window and the deer was standing broadside in the food plot. I cocked the trigger back and looked back through the scope and the deer was walking away from me. I kept watching the deer and he never would stop or turn sideways so I could shoot it. My Dad kept telling me to wait until it was sideways and to shoot it in the shoulder. I told my Dad that I could see its shoulder and that I was ready to shoot it. My Dad told me to go ahead and shoot it and I pulled the trigger and the deer fell to the ground. I was so excited I jumped in the air and said "I got it". We ran down the food plot to where the deer was laying and my dad just kept saying "Chloe, you have no idea what you have just done". The deer had 14 score able points and scored 147. It had sixteen points but two were not long enough to be scored. This is my third deer to take and all of my deer have come from Youth Hunts provided through the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. I learned to always wait on the best shot before shooting and wounding an animal. I cannot thank the guys at the youth hunts for the work and effort they put in on these hunts that they provide to the youth of Louisiana. This is a result of the hard work they put in to provide the youth of Louisiana an unforgettable and life changing experience.