

Umatilla

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting



OREGON

General Regulations

The Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge includes the Boardman and McCormack Units in Oregon, the Paterson, Ridge and Whitcomb Units in Washington, and the Columbia River Unit. The general regulations these units have in common are covered first, followed by specific regulations for each unit. Only the McCormack Unit in Oregon requires Refuge hunting permits. See below for special hunt regulations.

Species. Migratory game birds include geese, ducks, coot and snipe. Upland game birds include pheasant and quail. **All other species are protected.** Special hunts may be conducted at times. Consult Refuge Manager for current information.

Hours. Migratory game birds may be hunted during the State shooting hours. **Upland game may be hunted from noon until the end of State shooting hours.** Consult each State's Hunting Synopsis for times. **Hunt units may not be entered before 5:00 a.m. each hunt day.** **Visitors must leave before 1-1/2 hour after sunset.**

Vehicles & Parking. Vehicles are permitted only on refuge roads marked by public access route signs. All hunters are required to park in designated parking areas.

Weapons/Ammunition. Shotgun and bow hunting are permitted. **Only steel or other Federal and State approved non-toxic shot** may be possessed or used while hunting.

Shell Limit. Hunters are limited to 25 shells per day.

Camping. No camping or overnight parking is permitted on the refuge. Camping is available in Boardman, Irrigon, Hat Rock State Park east of Umatilla, and Crow Butte State Park. Decoys, boats, or other personal property may not be left on the Refuge overnight.

Guides. Commercial guiding for hunting is prohibited.

Boardman Unit

Hunting Reservations are not required in the Boardman Unit.

Hunt Days. Hunting is permitted daily during the Oregon pheasant or waterfowl season.

Temporary Blinds. Portable blinds may be used.

Temporary blinds may be constructed of natural material, but shall be available on a first-come, first-served basis on subsequent days. The digging or use of pit blinds is prohibited.

Hunter Spacing. Waterfowl hunting parties are required to space themselves no less than 200 yards apart.

McCormack Unit

Hunt Days. Hunting is permitted only on Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays and two major holidays (Thanksgiving day and New Years day) during the Oregon pheasant or waterfowl season.

Youth Hunt Days. Only youths age 10-17 may hunt on Youth Hunt Days. To apply, youths should send a standard postcard with name, address and the words "Umatilla Refuge Youth Hunt Day" on it. Also make note which day you are applying for. Youths must also have a hunter safety card. Reservations and blind fees will be waived for youth hunters. Applications for Youth Hunt must be postmarked by November 1.

Hunter Check Station Hours. The hunter check station will be staffed from 1 1/2 hours before legal shooting time until 8:00 a.m. and from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Required Permits. Migratory game birds permits are required to hunt the McCormack Unit. Permits are obtained by either advance reservation or standby. Advance reservation permits are issued at a single drawing held in September of each year. Write the Refuge for an application.

Required Permits (continued) Applications will be available mid-July and must be postmarked by September 1. Only one application per person will be accepted. Slough blind and field blind reservations cover the applicant plus two guests. River blind reservations cover the applicant plus two guests. **Reservations are not transferable.**

Recreation User Fee. A daily fee of \$10 per person will be charged. Season passes are available for \$50. Holders of Senior or Access Passes pay half price. Fees are waived for youth 15 and under.

Check-In and Standby. All hunters must check-in at the hunter check station prior to hunting. Waterfowl hunters with advance reservations must check-in at the hunter check station 1 1/2 hours before legal shooting hours for blind selection. After advance reservation hunters have selected their hunt sites, standby hunters will select remaining blind sites by a drawing. **Important: Advanced reservation waterfowl hunters who are late and check in after 1 1/2 hours before legal shooting time lose their reservation and are treated as standby hunters.**

Check-Out. Hunters on the McCormack Unit are required to check out with the check station before switching blinds, hunting upland game or leaving the Refuge. Check-out must be completed no later than 1 hour after close of State shooting hours.

Blind Sites. All waterfowl hunting must take place from designated blind sites. **Slough blinds** are located on McCormack Slough. A maximum of three people are permitted. Dogs and chest waders may be required to retrieve birds. Due to changing conditions, blinds sites may be relocated by refuge managers. **River blinds** are staked hunting sites located on the Columbia River. Three people per blind are permitted. Hunters must remain within 100 feet of blind. **Field blinds** are located in agricultural areas and change according to crop management. See current map at hunter check station.

Upland Game Permits. All upland hunters must obtain a permit at the hunter check station prior to hunting. A maximum of 50 permits will be issued each hunt day. **Advance reservations are required to hunt upland birds on the opening weekend. An opening weekend daily fee of \$10 per hunter will be collected at the hunter check station.** To apply for opening weekend permits, send a postcard with the words "Umatilla Upland Game" and the day (Saturday or Sunday) you would like to hunt. You may apply for one day only and postcards must be postmarked by September 15. A lottery will select 25 applicants for each day. Each permit will cover the applicant and one guest. Upland game hunters must check out when finished hunting.

WASHINGTON

Paterson Unit

Hunt Days. Hunting is permitted only on Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays, and three major holidays (Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day) during the Washington waterfowl season.

Boating. Boating is permitted on the Columbia River and its backwaters. However, motorized boats are prohibited in refuge ponds in the Paterson Slough area.

Ridge Unit

Hunt Days. Hunting is permitted **daily** during the Washington waterfowl season.

Boating. Shoreline hunting only. Hunting from boats is prohibited in this unit.

Whitcomb Unit (Whitcomb and Crow Butte)

Hunt Days. Hunting is permitted only on Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays and three major holidays (Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day) during the Washington waterfowl season.

Boating. Boats may be used for hunting in designated areas of the Columbia River and its backwaters (see lightest blue areas on map).

Mid-Columbia River Refuge Complex

64 Maple Street

Burbank, WA 99323

509-546-8300

October 2008



Umatilla

National Wildlife Refuge

Umatilla is one of over 500 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System. Compatible public use is encouraged on the refuge, including wildlife observation and photography; environmental education, sport fishing and hunting (in designated areas, in accordance with State, Federal, and refuge regulations).

Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge includes 20 miles of the Columbia River and uplands on both the Oregon and Washington sides of the river. Established in 1969, the refuge provides waterfowl habitat which was lost when the John Day Dam flooded the old Columbia River channel.

Sport hunting is permitted in designated areas of the refuge. All State and Federal hunting regulations are in effect. Hunters should also consult specific Oregon and/or Washington State hunting regulations.

For Your Enjoyment and Safety

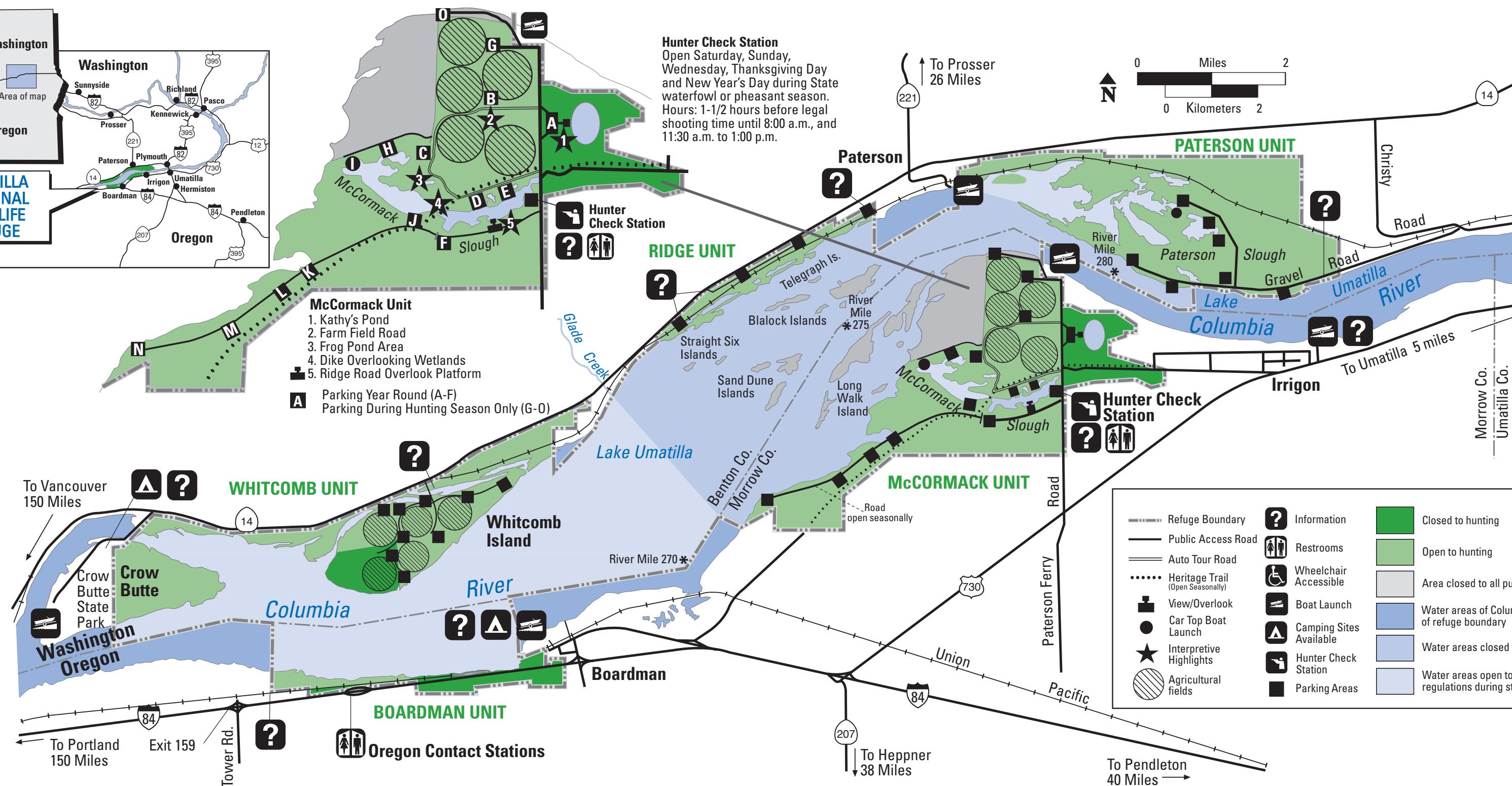
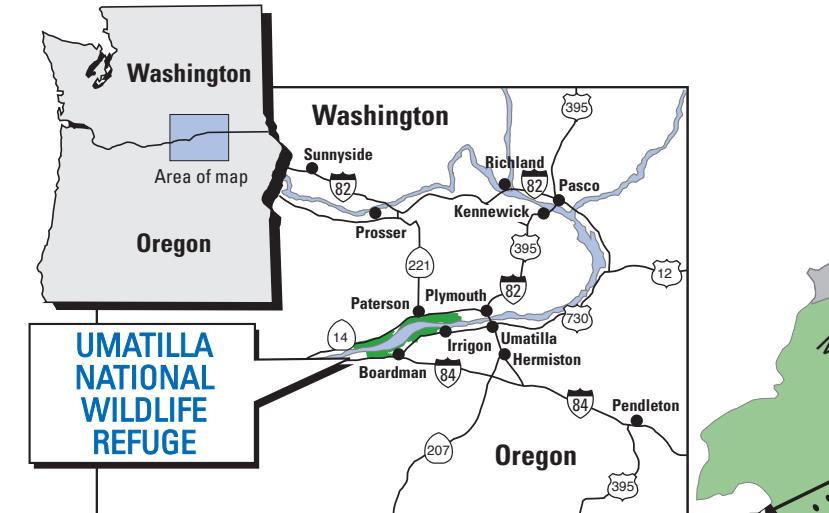
The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.

The use of dogs and chest waders will help you retrieve downed birds. Water levels can fluctuate widely and deep water is common. High winds and winter temperatures can cause hypothermia.

Decoys and calls can be used to bring birds within shooting range. When setting out decoys, place the outer decoy at 40 yards from the hunting blind. This will help you to judge your shooting range.

Please respect the rights of other hunters on the refuge. Avoid flaring birds which are working another hunter's blind and decoys.

The refuge covers different land and water areas where dense vegetation, uneven terrain, deep water, and mud exist. Hunters should be cautious while using the refuge hunting area. Disabled persons should consult with the Refuge Manager for recommended hunting areas and conditions.



Signs Protect Visitors and Resources



This sign delineates the refuge boundary. You may enter the area only on designated access routes.



This sign is used to designate public access routes through the refuge. You are welcome to drive, bicycle, horseback ride, or walk these roads.



This area is closed to ALL entry. No hunting or sightseeing is permitted. No roads or trails are open to the public.



No hunting permitted. You may pass through this area to get hunting units. You may retrieve downed birds. Loaded firearms are prohibited.



All visitors are required to park in designated parking areas.

No hunting is allowed on any of the Columbia River Islands or in the waters surrounding them. Hunting from boats is allowed only in designated areas (see map).

For refuge hunting information contact:

Mid-Columbia River NWR Complex
64 Maple Street
Burbank, WA. 99323
Phone: 509-546-8300

Refuge Hunt Information
541-922-4868
(only during waterfowl hunting season)