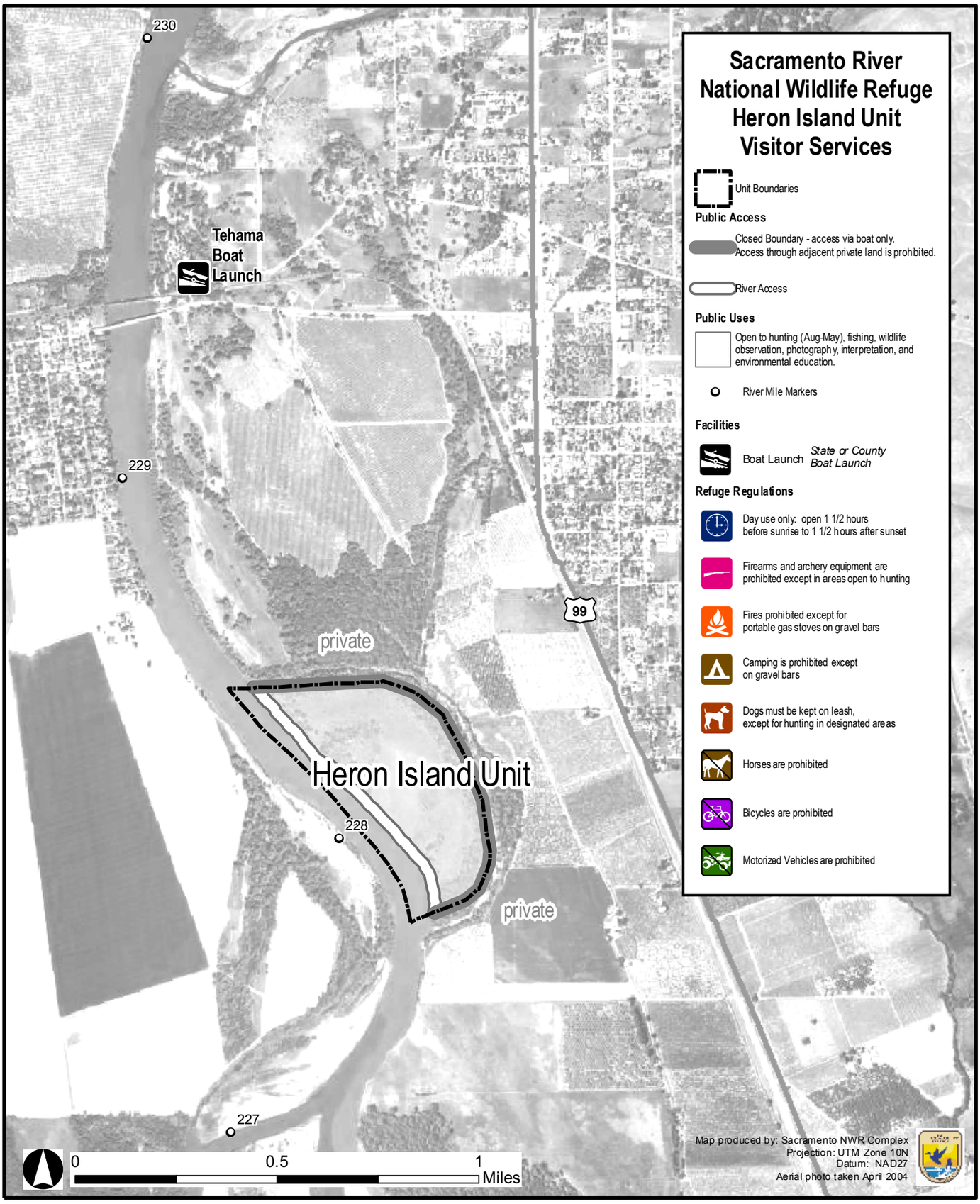
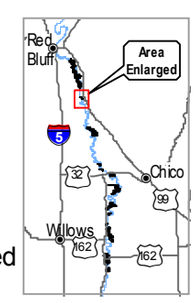


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge

Heron Island Unit Regulations



Hours: Day use only; open 1 1/2 hours before legal sunrise to 1 1/2 hours after legal sunset.

Access: Access allowed by boat only.

Weapons/Hunting: No firearms or archery equipment allowed, except for hunting within designated areas of Heron Island Unit (see the Refuge Hunting & Fishing Regulations on reverse).

Pets: Dogs are welcome but must be kept on leash, except for hunting within designated areas (see the Refuge Hunting & Fishing Regulations on reverse).

Fires: Fires are prohibited, except for portable gas stoves on gravel bars.

Camping: Camping is allowed only on gravel bars up to 7 days during a 30-day period.

Litter: Be a land steward and take out what you bring in. It is unlawful to litter.

Fees: There are no recreation fees.

Contact Info.: Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 752 County Rd 99W, Willows, CA 95988
(530)934-2801
sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge

Hunting & Fishing Regulations

There will be no hunting fees or hunter quotas for the Sacramento River NWR (refuge)
All gravel bars and specified refuge lands are open to hunting and fishing under the following conditions, which can be found in the Federal Register (FR) online at sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov:

A. Migratory Game Bird Hunting. We allow hunting of goose, duck, coot, moorhen, dove, and snipe on designated areas of the refuge in accordance with State regulations subject to the following conditions:
1. We only allow shotgun hunting.
2. On Sul Norte Unit, you must unload firearms (*see* § 27.42(b) of the FR) before transporting them between parking areas and hunting areas. ‘‘Unloaded’’ means that no ammunition is in the chamber or magazine of the firearm.
3. You may possess only approved nontoxic shot while in the field (*see* § 32.2(k) of the FR).
4. We prohibit hunting within 50 feet (15 m) of any landward boundary adjacent to private property.
5. We prohibit hunting within 150 yards (45 m) of any occupied dwelling, house, residence, or other building or any barn or other outbuilding used in connection therewith.
6. Access to the hunt area on all units open to public hunting is by boat only, except on Sul Norte Unit, which is accessible by foot traffic or boat. We prohibit bicycles or other conveyances. Mobility impaired hunters should consult with the refuge manager for allowed conveyances.
7. We prohibit fires on the refuge, except we allow portable gas stoves on gravel bars (*see* § 27.95(a) of the FR).
8. We allow camping on gravel bars up to 7 days during any 30-day period. We prohibit camping on all other refuge lands.
9. We open the refuge for day-use access from 1 ½ hours before legal sunrise until 1 ½ hours after legal sunset. We allow access during other hours on gravel bars only (*see* condition A8).
10. We require dogs to be kept on a leash, except for hunting dogs engaged in authorized hunting activities, and under the immediate control of a licensed hunter (*see* § 26.21(b) of the FR).
11. We prohibit permanent blinds. You must remove all personal property, including decoys and boats, by 1 ½ hours after legal sunset (*see* §§ 27.93 and 27.94 of the FR).
12. We prohibit cutting or removal of vegetation for blind construction or for making trails (*see* § 27.51 of the FR).

B. Upland Game Hunting. We allow hunting of pheasant, turkey, and quail on designated areas of the refuge in accordance with State regulations subject to the following conditions:
1. We only allow shotgun and archery hunting.
2. Conditions A2 through A12 apply.

C. Big Game Hunting. We allow hunting of black-tailed deer on designated areas of the refuge in accordance with State regulations subject to the following conditions:
1. Conditions A2, A4 through A12, and B1 apply.
2. We prohibit construction or use of permanent blinds, platforms, ladders or screw-in foot pegs.
3. You must remove all personal property, including stands, from the refuge by 1 ½ hours after legal sunset (*see* §§ 27.93 and 27.94 of the FR).
4. Shotgun, firing single shotgun slugs, and archery hunting only. No rifles or pistols may be used or possessed on the Refuge.

D. Sport Fishing. We allow sport fishing on designated areas of the refuge in accordance with State regulations subject to the following conditions:
1. Conditions A7, A8, A9, and A12 apply.
2. On Packer Lake, due to primitive access, we only allow boats up to 14 feet (4.2 m) and canoes. Electric motors only.

Please be aware, these areas are wonderful, but wild, and you may encounter:
- ticks and mosquitoes
- yellow-jackets, bees, & wasps
- poison oak, stinging nettle & poison hemlock
- rattle snakes
- mountain lions

Sacramento River NWR

Heron Island Unit

Map and Regulations