

Holla Bend National Wildlife Refuge

Holla Bend refuge is an important part of our National Wildlife Refuge System. This area was established to provide essential habitat for migratory birds in the Mississippi Valley flyway. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service administers the refuge system and is responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing the nation’s fish and wildlife populations and their habitats for the continuing benefit of people.

Refuge Office Hours

Monday – Friday, 7 am to 3:30 pm. The refuge office is closed on weekends and federal holidays.

General Refuge Regulations

By law, public use activities on National Wildlife Refuges are prohibited unless expressly permitted. The regulations below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting and fishing on wildlife refuge areas as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography are permitted on the refuge in accordance with applicable State and Federal regulations subject to the following conditions.

Access & Vehicle Use

Holla Bend refuge is a nationally designated Fee Area, and a daily vehicle entrance permit/pass is required. Annual and lifetime passes are available. Contact the refuge manager for current entrance fee requirements.

The maximum speed for any land vehicle is 35 mph, unless posted otherwise. ATV’s are allowed only for wildlife dependent activities by disabled individuals possessing a refuge special use permit. Refuge roads are open year around. Vehicles must remain on established roads as indicated on the map. Vehicles may be parked alongside open roads in a manner that will not interfere with the normal flow of traffic. Do not block cabled or gated roads, field roads or trails. A cable, gate, road closed sign, or other barrier (i.e. mounded dirt) means the road is closed to all vehicle travel but not to foot travel unless signed otherwise.

Emergency Telephone

Access into the refuge is through an automatically time controlled gate. Closing times are posted near the entrance. If you are locked in the refuge or need assistance there is an emergency telephone located in the office parking lot. This telephone is a direct line to the Yell County Sheriffs office in Dardanelle. Please give them your name and state what type of assistance you need.

Closed Areas

Designated areas may be closed to hunting, fishing, and all other public access to provide resource protection, special management or safety reasons. All refuge access is prohibited after dark unless specifically authorized by the refuge manager.

The Refuge may close a portion of the Old River Channel from March 1 to June 30 due to bald eagle nesting activity. If there is no nesting activity, that portion of the Old River Channel will remain open. Be aware of all signs, buoys, etc. that pertain to this eagle nesting area and consult the Refuge Manager for information.

Weapons

Carrying, possessing, or discharging firearms, fireworks, or explosives on national wildlife refuges is prohibited unless specifically authorized. Firearms, archery tackle, and crossbows are permitted only during designated hunts. Firearms must be unloaded and either dismantled or encased when transported in vehicles and boats. Archery tackle and crossbows must be uncocked with arrow uncocked from string.

Animals/Pets

Dogs are permitted for raccoon hunting only during specified refuge season. All dogs are required to wear a collar displaying the owner’s name, address and telephone number. Other dogs and pets must be confined or on a leash. Horses are prohibited.

Specific Hunting Regulations

All big game (deer, turkey) bagged, found or parts thereof must be checked at the refuge check station before leaving the refuge. When required, the back of your state license must be completed before game is moved.

State Regulations and bag limits apply unless otherwise noted. Only those species listed in this brochure or on refuge hunt permits may be taken.

During big game seasons the automatic front gate will open one hour before daylight and close one hour after sunset. Consult each specific hunt permit for additional information.

All hunters must enter and exit the refuge from designated roads and parking lots only.

Waterfowl hunting is prohibited on Holla Bend National Wildlife Refuge and parts of the surrounding area that fall within the Migratory Bird Closure Zone.

Hunter Education

All hunters born after December 31, 1968 must possess a hunter education card. Hunters under 16 years old do not need to have a card if they are under the direct supervision (within arms reach) of a holder of a valid hunting license at least 21 years of age. Youth hunters under the age of 16 who have a valid hunter education card must be supervised by an adult not less than 21 years old and must remain in sight and normal voice contact with the adult. Each adult can supervise only one youth.

Tree Stands/Portable Blinds

Tree stands or portable blinds may be placed on the refuge two days before season opens and must be removed within two days after season closes. One tree stand or blind per hunter is allowed and must be permanently marked with hunter’s name and address. Leaving stands out does not mean that spot is saved or belongs to the hunter.

Permits are Required for All Refuge Hunts

When signed and in your possession, the general hunt permit on the front of this brochure serves as your permit for all refuge hunts. Deer and turkey hunts also require a refuge hunt permit. Hunt permits are \$12.50 and can be obtained at the refuge office during office hours or by sending a money order or cashiers check made payable to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to the address on this brochure. No personal checks will be accepted. For additional information, please contact the refuge office.

Tagging Requirement

Immediately upon taking a deer or turkey and before moving game, the hunter must remove the appropriate deer or turkey tag from his license and fill out the required information legibly in ink. The tag must be securely fastened to the ear or antler of a deer and to the leg of a turkey. See State regulations for additional details.

Check Station

During the deer and turkey hunts, refuge staff may collect biological data. Collection of this information is needed for management decisions. For all deer and turkey harvested on the refuge, the hunter will immediately (prior to moving the animal) complete the hunting license kill information using **330** as zone of kill. All game must be checked at the refuge check station.

Hunting Seasons

Deer (Archery/Crossbow)

October 1 – December 8. Permits are available beginning September 1st. Turkeys, rabbits, squirrels, coyote, beaver, raccoon, and bobcat may also be taken incidental to deer hunting. All state regulations and bag limits apply.

Deer (Gun-Youth)

Quota hunt only. The Refuge will conduct one youth quota gun deer hunt for youths between ages 12-15. Specific application procedures and dates will be available at the Refuge office in September. We restrict hunt participants to those selected for the quota hunt, except that one non-hunting adult age 21 or older must accompany the youth hunter during the hunt. During this quota hunt, general public use activities will be restricted.

Raccoon

Every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night during the month of February. Use of dogs is required. Only rim-fire rifles no larger than .22 caliber are permitted. Contact Refuge office in January for hunt dates, application procedures, and number of permits.

Spring Turkey (Gun-Adult)

Quota hunt only. Contact Refuge office in January for hunt dates, application procedures, and number of permits. During this quota hunt, the Refuge will be closed to all other hunting-related activities including archery hunting and turkey scouting.

Spring Turkey (Gun-Youth)

Quota hunt only. Contact Refuge office in January for hunt dates, application procedures, and number of permits. Youth hunt restricted to youths under 16 years of age. Youths must be accompanied by an adult who is 21 years of age or older. During this quota hunt, the Refuge will be closed to all other hunting-related activities including archery hunting and turkey scouting.

Spring Turkey (Archery/Crossbow)

Contact Refuge office for hunt dates, but the archery hunt will typically open the day after the adult quota hunt. Permits will be available beginning March 1st.

Hunters can go to the Refuge website: www.fws.gov/hollabend and print off an application for any of the turkey or deer quota hunts. This application can then be mailed to the Refuge office. Applications for all quota hunts can also be made on a 3” x 5” postcard or an index card mailed in an envelope. Include the applicant’s name, mailing address, phone number, and the date of the hunt for which he/she is applying. Only one applicant per card.

Turkey hunt applications must be postmarked during January and the youth deer hunt applications must be postmarked in October.

Specific Fishing Regulations

Sport fishing is permitted March 1 – October 31 from sunrise to sunset on all waters of the refuge. A valid Arkansas Fishing License is required. A Refuge specific permit is not required to fish; however, vehicle entrance fee/pass is required. Bank fishing ONLY (no boats allowed) will be permitted in Long Lake from November 1 – February 28. Access will be from the parking area off Highway 155. Access to Refuge waters from the Arkansas River is prohibited. Contact refuge manager for additional details.

Fishing will be in accordance with applicable state regulations subject to the following special conditions.

Bowfishing

Bowfishing is permitted during daylight hours from August 1 – August 31. Bowfishing equipment only, no broadheads, field points or metal arrows.

Frogging

Frogs may be taken during daylight hours from May 1- May 31. Frogging will only be allowed on those areas of the Old River Channel that connect with the Arkansas River. No other activities may occur while frogging (no fishing etc.).

Trotline, Setline, Limblines

During regular fishing season only. Lines **can not** be left overnight or unattended and must be secured with cotton line which extends into the water. Each device must be clearly labeled with fisherman’s name and current address, driver’s license number or vehicle license number. All State Regulations apply.

Free-Floating Fishing Devices

During regular fishing season only. Up to 20 jugs or similar devices may be used and must be clearly marked with the user’s name and address, driver’s license number or vehicle license number. These devices **can not** be left overnight or unattended. All State regulations apply.

Yo-Yo fishing

During regular fishing season only. Up to 30 yo-yo’s may be used and must be clearly marked with the user’s name and address, driver’s license number or vehicle license number. Yo-yo’s can not be left overnight or unattended. All State regulations apply.

Commercial Fishing

Commercial fishing is allowed by Special Use Permit only. Contact Refuge Manager for additional information.

Prohibited Activities

■ Camping and fires.

■ Littering (including, but not limited to shotgun shell hulls and cigarette butts).

■ Searching for or removing any object of antiquity including arrowheads, pottery or other artifacts.

■ Blocking gates or roadways with vehicles.

■ Use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances.

■ Cutting, painting or defacing trees.

■ Possession or use of herbicides.

■ Marking trails with non-biodegradable tape, ribbons, or paint.

■ Target practice.

■ Leaving a hunt stand or blind after a hunt season.

■ Baiting or hunting over bait, salt or any ingestible attractant.

■ All forms of man-deer drives.

■ Spotlighting – artificial light (including vehicle lights) may not be used to locate wildlife.

■ Hunting within 150 feet of roads and trails open to motor vehicle use.

■ Loaded weapons in vehicle or boat while under power.

■ Boats may not be left overnight.

■ Drive a screw, nail, spike or other metal object into a tree or to hunt from any tree in which such an object has been driven.

■ No airboats, water skiing, jet skis, or other personal watercraft.

Signs

Signs are useful tools in regulating the use of a public area. The wording of the sign applies to the area behind the sign. Please respect the following signs:



Refuge Boundary
Entry permitted in accordance with refuge regulations.



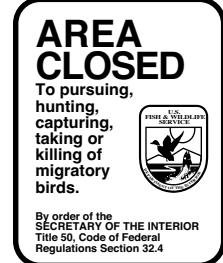
Closed Area
All entry prohibited.



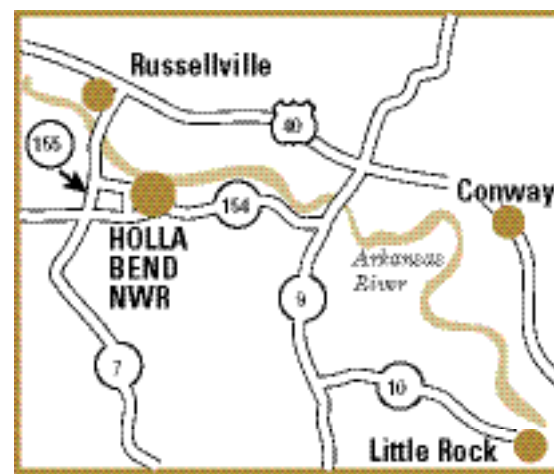
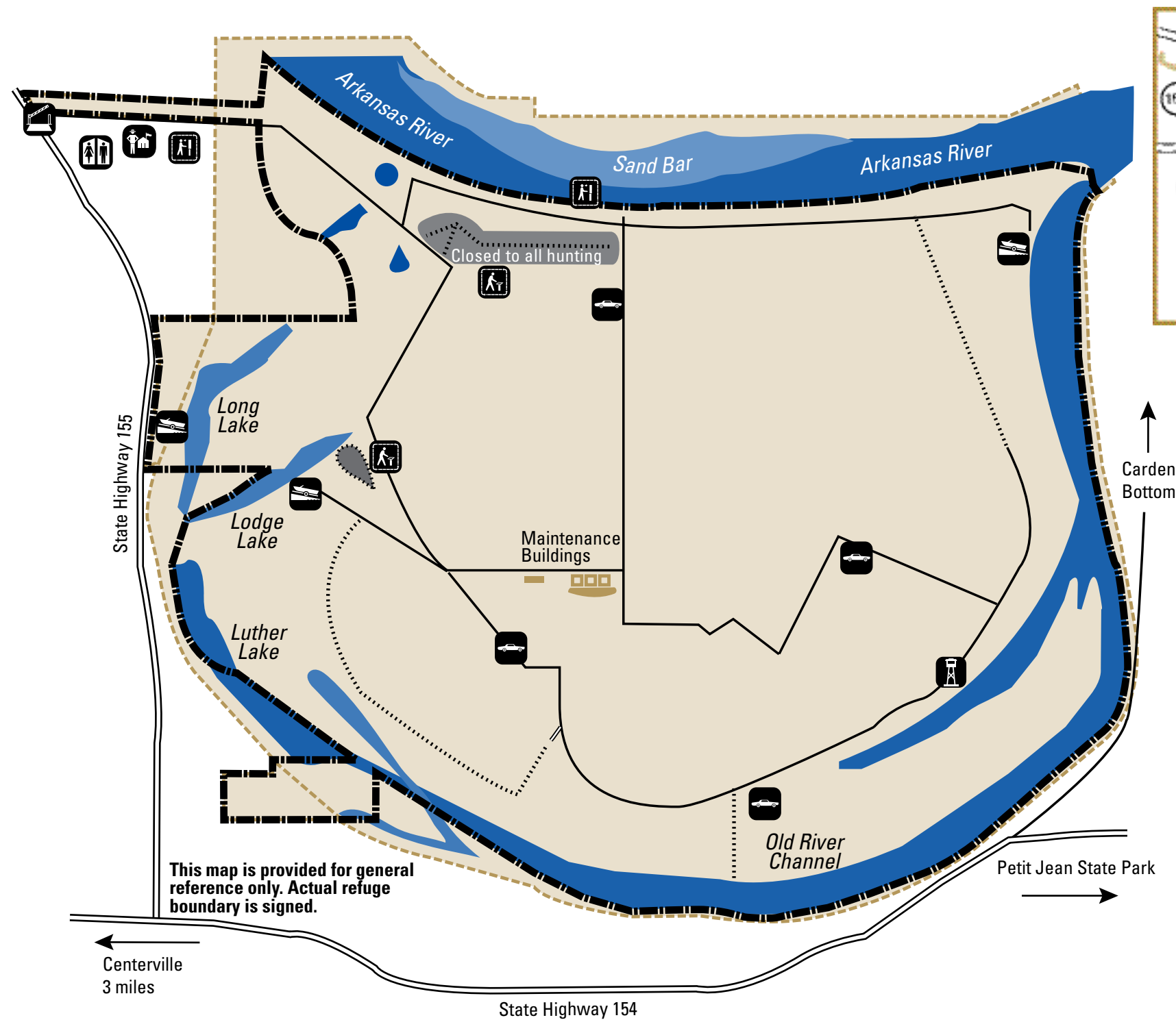
No Hunting Zone
Hunting, weapons or game retrieval prohibited.



No Vehicles
All vehicle traffic prohibited. Foot travel only.



Migratory Bird Closure Zone
Area behind signs closed to the taking/hunting of migratory birds.



- Refuge boundary
- Paved road
- Unpaved road
- Walk-in access
- Closed to hunting for all migratory birds
- Closed to all hunting
- Automatic gate
- Auto tour route
- Boat ramp
- Information station
- Observation tower
- Public restrooms
- Wildlife trail
- Refuge office/ Entrance fee station

This map is provided for general reference only. Actual refuge boundary is signed.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Holla Bend
National Wildlife Refuge Public Use Regulations 2009-2010



Holla Bend National Wildlife Refuge
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
10448 Holla Bend Road
Dardanelle, AR 72834
479/229 4300

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov>
<http://www.fws.gov/hollabend>

July 2009



Hunt Permit
The signing of this leaflet validates it as your general refuge hunting permit and must be in your possession while participating in authorized refuge hunts. Archery/crossbow hunt permits are issued separately at refuge office.

I have read and understand these refuge regulations.

Hunter's Signature