

General Provisions



The Ernest F. Hollings ACE Basin National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 540 National Wildlife Refuges. The primary objective of a National Wildlife Refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. The harvest of surplus animals is one tool used to manage wildlife populations. Carefully managed hunts maintain wildlife populations at a level compatible with the environment, provide recreational opportunities, and permit the use of a valuable renewable resource.

The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on wildlife refuge areas as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State regulations and the following special refuge regulations.

- Public hunting of white-tailed deer, feral hogs, and waterfowl is permitted on portions of the Ernest F. Hollings ACE Basin National Wildlife Refuge only in those areas marked on the maps within this brochure and only during the time periods indicated.

- A refuge general hunt permit is required for all hunters and is located on the front of this regulations brochure. This permit together with the regulations brochure must be carried at all times while hunting and is not valid until signed by the hunter. In addition, those selected for the mobility impaired hunt will be issued special permits from the refuge office.

- The refuge is open for walk-in scouting all year during daylight hours from legal sunrise to legal sunset only. No vehicles, weapons or dogs are allowed for scouting.

Hunter access roads will be opened only during each deer hunt (see maps). Vehicles must travel only on designated roads. ATV's are prohibited.

- Use and/or possession of electronic game calls is prohibited.

- Possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

- Access into the Combahee Unit and Barrelville tract of the Edisto Unit of the refuge for hunting and scouting will be walk-in only.

- Possession of weapons and firearms are prohibited unless specifically authorized for refuge hunts.

- Firearms being transported in vehicles and boats during refuge hunts must be unloaded. Muzzleloaders will be considered unloaded if the ignition source, percussion, cap, primer, or flint has been removed.

- Parking so as to block travel through refuge access gates or roadways is prohibited.

- Deer and Feral hog hunting with the use of trailing and tracking dogs is prohibited.

- Hunting on or within 100 feet of any road, trail or refuge boundary as indicated by the hunt maps on this brochure is prohibited, except as specified during mobility impaired hunts. All permanently fixed blinds are for the mobility impaired hunt only.

- No hunting within 500 feet of check stations.

- Man-driving and stalk hunting of deer and feral hog is prohibited during refuge deer hunts.

- It is unlawful to drive a nail, screw, spike, or other metal object into a tree or to hunt from a tree into which such an object has been driven.

- Destroying or cutting vegetation is prohibited. The possession of axes, saws, machetes, or other tools used for cutting vegetation are not permitted on the refuge while scouting or hunting.

- Distributing bait and/or hunting near baited areas is prohibited.

- All hunters under the age of 16 must:

- 1) Have successfully completed a state-approved hunter education course in order to participate in any refuge hunt.

- 2) Must be supervised by an adult at least 21 years of age. The adult must be in sight and normal voice contact of the youth. An adult may supervise only one youth under 16 years of age.

- Hunters utilizing the refuge are subject to inspections of permits, licenses, hunting equipment, bag limits, vehicles, and their contents by refuge or State officers.

White-tailed Deer and Feral Hog Hunts

- Hunters may enter the refuge at 5 am and must leave the refuge no later than one hour after sunset.

- During muzzle loader hunts and the mobility impaired hunt, hunters are required to wear at all times an outer garment visible above the waist which contains a minimum of 500 square inches of solid fluorescent orange material. Camouflage orange material does not meet this requirement.

- You must hunt deer and feral hogs from an elevated deer stand. We prohibit shooting big game from a boat.

- Portable tree stands are allowed only on the days of the hunts. Only one tree stand per hunter is allowed and must be marked with the hunter's full name. The use of boot attached tree climbing spikes, nails, screws or bolts to attach a stand to a tree is prohibited.

- Littering is prohibited. Flagging may be used only along the edges of roads and trails and at the tree in which a stand is placed. Clothes pins with reflective tape can be used to mark the path to the tree. All marking and flagging must be marked with hunter's full name and must be removed at the

Specific Hunting Regulations

end of the hunt. Any flagging or pins found without names will be removed immediately.

- Antlerless deer tags will be provided by refuge staff when deer is brought to the check station.

- All deer taken during any hunt **must** be checked at the designated check stations before removal from the refuge.

- Antlerless deer, in addition, must be tagged before removal from the refuge.

Daily Bag Limit

2 antlerless (by state definition) deer and 1 antlered buck which must have at least 3 points on one side. A point is defined as an antler projection of at least one inch or more in length.

- Feral hogs may be taken during refuge deer hunts, no size or bag limit on hogs.

Waterfowl Hunts

- Hunting will be for ducks, geese, and coots only and will be allowed only until noon each day during State season.

- Decoys and portable blinds must be removed at the end of each day's hunt. Permanent blinds are not permitted.

- Only federally approved nontoxic shot may be used. Possession of lead shot is prohibited.

- Corps of Engineer dredge spoil sites located on refuge property on Jehossee Island are closed to hunting.

Fishing Regulations

Sport fishing is permitted at a level compatible with the environment, provides recreational opportunities, and permits the use of a valuable renewable resource.

The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations which govern fishing on wildlife refuge areas as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal

Regulations. Sport fishing will be in accordance with applicable State regulations and the following Refuge regulations.

Open to Sport Fishing

In the Beaufort County portion of the Refuge only, impounded waters contained within dikes and levees are opened seasonally from April 1 through August 31 From legal sunrise to legal sunset.

All unimpounded tidal creeks, tidal canals, and freshwater streams on and immediately adjacent to the Refuge are open year round.

Closed to Sport Fishing

All Refuge impounded waters contained within dikes or levees outside of Beaufort County are closed to fishing.

Refuge fishing permits are required. State fishing license requirements apply.

Boat use is not allowed within seasonally opened Refuge waters. Only bank fishing is permitted.

Only attended hook and line fishing is permitted. Use of nets, trot-lines, set-lines, baskets, yo-yo's, traps, jug-lines, spears, gigs, and stupefying substances are prohibited on the Refuge.

Fishing will be subject to temporary closure of affected Refuge area if littering problems occur.

Parking so as to block travel through Refuge access gates or roadways is prohibited.

No firearms, fires, or pets are allowed.

Walk-in access only, no vehicles allowed.

Contact refuge personnel at 843/889 3084 or write to: Ernest F. Hollings ACE Basin NWR P. O. Box 848, Hollywood, SC 29449

Additional copies of these hunt regulations may be downloaded at: <http://acebasin.fws.gov>

2009 Seasons

Combahee Unit

October 8 - 9 Archery
October 19 - 20 Muzzleloader
October 26 - 27 Archery

Edisto Unit

Grove Tract

October 5 - 6 Archery
October 15 - 16 Muzzleloader
October 22 - 23 Archery

Barrelville Tract

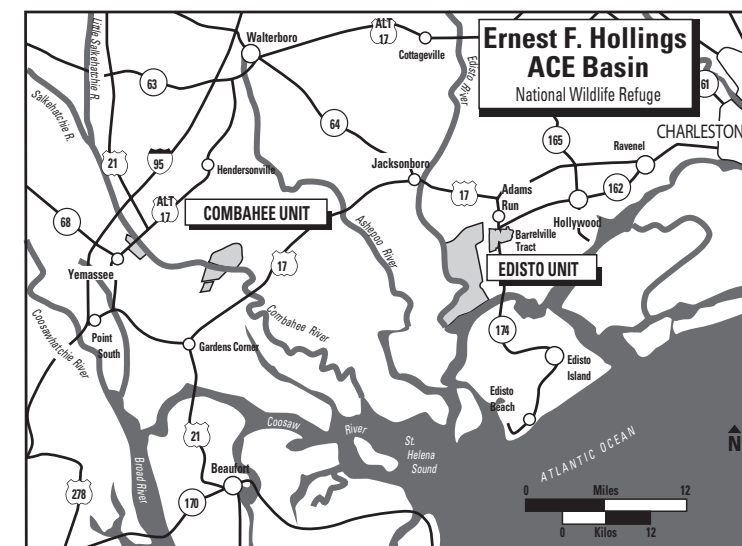
October 5 - 6 Archery only
October 15 - 16 Archery only
October 22 - 23 Archery only

Mobility Impaired:

November 13 - 14

Fishing Season

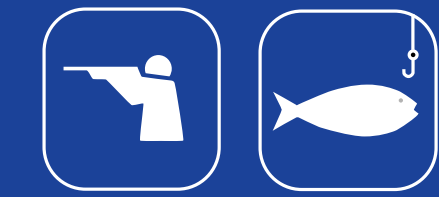
Beaufort County portions of refuge only.
April 1 - August 31.



For additional information

Ernest F. Hollings ACE Basin

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing Regulations 2009



Ernest F. Hollings ACE Basin National Wildlife Refuge General Hunt Permit 2009

I have read and understand these refuge regulations. This permit and attached regulations must be carried at all times.

Name: _____

Address: _____

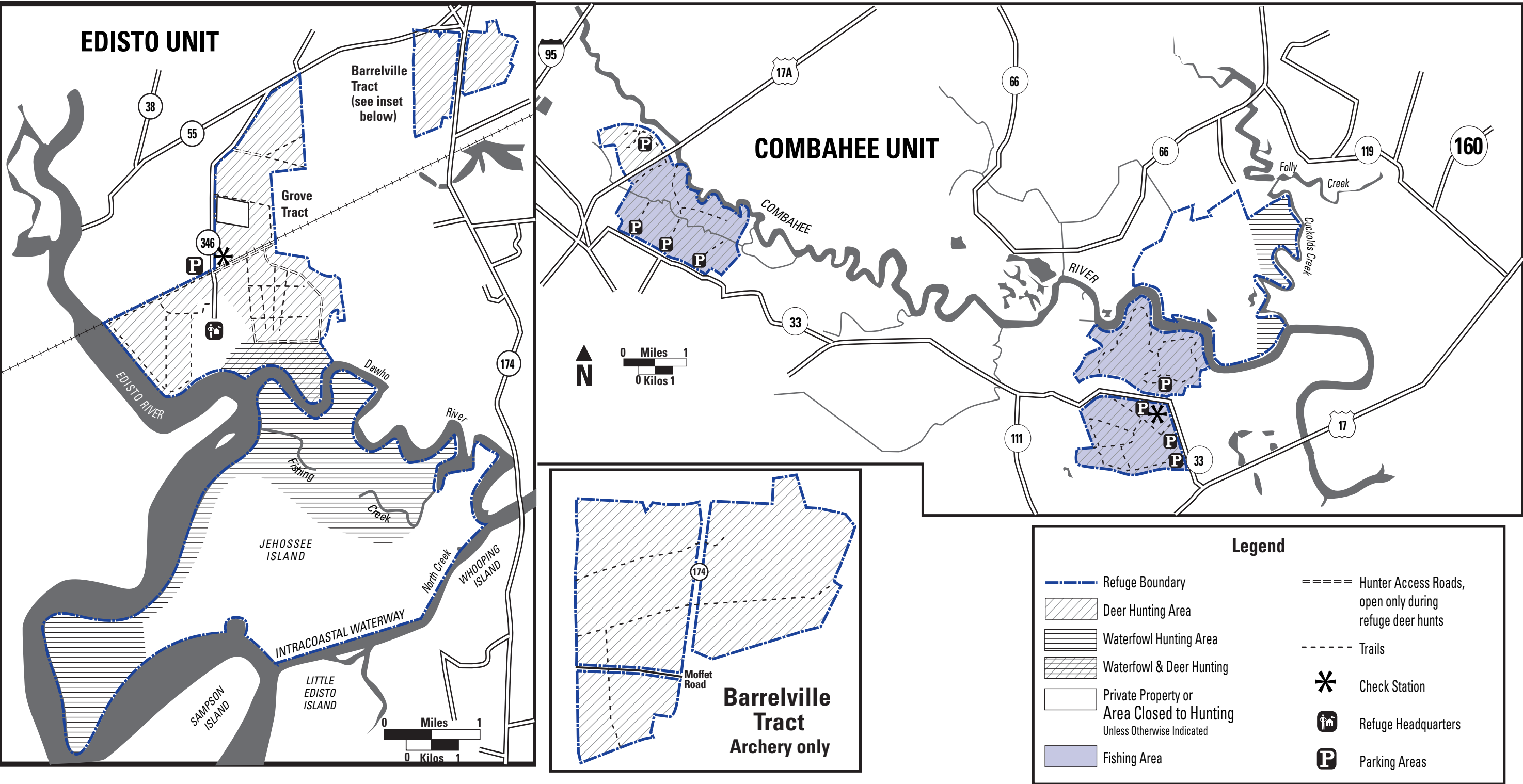
Date: _____

Signed _____

Ernest F. Hollings ACE Basin
National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 848
Hollywood, SC 29449
843/889 3084
<http://acebasin.fws.gov>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD

August 2009



Legend

Refuge Boundary	Hunter Access Roads, open only during refuge deer hunts
Deer Hunting Area	Trails
Waterfowl Hunting Area	Check Station
Waterfowl & Deer Hunting	Refuge Headquarters
Private Property or Area Closed to Hunting Unless Otherwise Indicated	Parking Areas
Fishing Area	