

Gun Deer Season - General and Youth

General Gun Deer Hunt Permits are required and are issued by lottery. See the “Hunting Regulations” table in this brochure for dates, bag limits, areas, etc.

All hunters (including archery and small game hunters), except waterfowl hunters and mourning dove hunters on refuges must wear and display 400 square inches of “hunters orange” and a “hunters orange” cap during the deer gun seasons.

During the Youth Gun Deer Hunt, no lottery permit required. Youth hunters and adult supervisors must possess proof of completion of a State Hunter Education course.

Small Game Season (squirrel and rabbit)

See the “Hunting Regulations” table in this brochure for dates, bag limits, areas, etc.

Waterfowl Season

This waterfowl season allows all species of take included in the Louisiana State Waterfowl season and are the same as those described by state waterfowl regulations. One adult can supervise no more than two youth hunters while waterfowl hunting. See the “Hunting Regulations” table in this brochure for dates, bag limits, areas, etc. Only recognized retriever breeds for waterfowl hunting are allowed. Live vegetation can not be cut and used for blinds. We require waterfowl hunters to remove all portable blinds, boats, decoys and other personal equipment by 1 pm daily.

Prohibited Activities

The following activities are prohibited on the Refuge:

- Littering
- Feeding bears, alligators, or any wildlife
- Taking, collecting or disturbing any plant or wildlife other than those specified by refuge rules
- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting or driving any motorized vehicle
- Any activities between legal sunset and sunrise (except permitted hunters under refuge hunt rules)
- Target shooting
- Using areas designated “Area Closed”

- Camping, building fires or overnight anchoring
- Blocking gates or roadways with vehicles
- Cutting firewood or trimming vegetation
- Searching for or removing any object of antiquity including arrowheads and pottery shards
- Unrestrained pets
- Parking or hunting within 150 feet of any active oil well site, production facility or equipment
- Fishing with unattended jug, trot, bush or similar lines, nets or traps
- Commercial fishing or crabbing
- Firearms on the Refuge, except by permitted hunters during applicable gun hunt seasons
- Hunting within 150 feet of any public road, refuge road, trail, building, residence, or designated public facility
- Killing of feral and other animals without refuge permit
- Climbing trees by driving nails, spikes, or other objects; using a tree that has existing nails, spikes or permanent steps; or using climbing spikes.
- Hunting in and/or shooting into or across any open field, roadway or canal during hunting seasons.
- Using man-drives for wildlife
- Trapping without a special use permit
- Use of trail cameras on refuges
- use of deer decoys
- Hunting or the discharge of firearms within 150 feet from the centerline of roads and maintained trails.

Bayou Teche
National Wildlife Refuge
3599 Bayou Black Drive
Houma, LA 70360
337/828 0092
<http://www.fws.gov/bayouteche/>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
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June 2009



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Bayou Teche

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing Brochure



This is an annual permit. In order to conserve tax dollars, please keep this permit throughout the year.

Bayou Teche Refuge Hunt Permit

October 2009- October 2010

When signed and in your possession, this serves as your permit to hunt on the refuge. It acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

Signature (permits are non-transferable)

Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge

Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge, established in 2001, is located in St. Mary Parish in southeast Louisiana. The 9,028 acre refuge is composed of wet bottomland hardwoods laced with bayous and canals. The primary mission of the refuge is to preserve and manage habitat for the threatened Louisiana black bear. Other objectives are to provide habitat for other fish and wildlife species, environmental education, and opportunities for public recreation. The refuge provides important habitat for the Louisiana black bear, a federally threatened subspecies of the American black bear. It also provides excellent habitat for wading birds, neotropical songbirds, waterfowl, and reptiles and amphibians. The refuge is open year round to the public from sunrise to sunset, with seasonal restrictions in some areas. The refuge can be accessed by vehicle, foot, or boat. Wildlife observation, boating and fishing are allowed on the refuge year round except in areas closed to public access. Hunting is permitted on the refuge in specific areas and under date, time, and lottery restrictions. All open hunting seasons are listed in this brochure.

General Regulations

Hunting, fishing regulations are designed to provide safe recreational opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. Hunting and fishing are permitted in accordance with Federal regulations governing public use on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50 of The Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting and fishing will be in accordance with applicable State of Louisiana regulations subject to the conditions stated below.

Permits

All Refuge hunters are required to possess a signed Hunt Permit while on the Refuge. Hunt permits are free and are found on the front of this brochure. A signed hunt permit acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein. **Other Refuge visitors including fishermen, birders and photographers do not need a Refuge Permit.** However, all Refuge visitors are expected to follow all state and federal regulations including those found in this brochure. Brochures may be obtained by mail, at the refuge headquarters, or from the Refuge website.

All Hunters are required to use the Daily Check Cards to check in and out of the Refuge on each day that they hunt. Gun Deer Hunt permits are available by lottery drawing. Daily Check Cards are available on the Refuge at Unit and Headquarters check stations. Applications for Gun Deer Hunt Season lottery permits will be accepted through October 15 at the Mandalay NWR office, 3599 Bayou Black Drive, Houma, LA 70360 or by fax at 985/853 1079, or by email to Barret_Fortier@fws.gov

Access

The Refuge is accessible by car, truck, foot, ATV, or boat, dependent on the area to be accessed and the time of year. The Alice-C road enters the Garden City unit of the Refuge and provides access by car. Marked un-improved roads crossing farm fields can be used to access the Centerville, Garden City, North Bend-East and North Bend-West units of the Refuge. These are low-grade roads and can be traveled by vehicles only during dry seasons. They are not recommended for driving during wet seasons; travel by ATV or foot is recommended on these roads during those times. **Take note of Refuge signs on roads, trails and waterways indicating vehicle type restrictions.** Motorized vehicles are only allowed on specifically signed access roads; they are not allowed on trails maintained for public access by foot. Boats can be used on open waterways (canals and bayous) on the Refuge; boats with motors are not allowed on interior waterways designated for non-motorized boats only.

Vehicles and ATV's will not exceed 25 mph when driven on the Refuge. Use of all-terrain vehicles (ATV's) is restricted to designated trails. ATV's are allowed only for hunting, fishing and other wildlife related activities.

ATV's used on Refuges will not exceed the following weight -750 lbs., length 85 inches, and width 48 inches. ATV tires are restricted to those no larger than 25 x 12 with a maximum 1 inch lug height and a maximum allowable tire pressure of 7 p.s.i as indicated on the tire by the manufacturer.

Physically Challenged or Disabled Users

Physically challenged or disabled public users are encouraged to inquire at Mandalay Refuge headquarters for available options and alternatives that may make their visit more enjoyable.

Fishing

All State of Louisiana fishing limits apply. Recreational fishing is permitted from legal sunrise until legal sunset unless specifically stated. Commercial fishing is not allowed. The use of nets, traps, or unattended lines (trot, jug, bush, etc) is not allowed. Fishing is allowed from shore and from boats in open waterways.

The Franklin Unit Canal (Bird Foot Canal) will be open to fishing between April 15-August 31. Please be aware and courteous of paddlers/kayakers using this canal.

Boating

Recreational boating is allowed in open waterways (canals and bayous). All State of Louisiana boating regulations apply including, but not limited to, running lights, registration, and personal flotation devices. Boating regulations are strictly enforced. Airboat use is not permitted on the refuge.

Hunting

In addition to the **Hunt Permit** and **Refuge Brochure** required for all Refuge hunters, Gun Deer hunters must possess a **Gun Deer Hunt Lottery Permit**. Gun Deer Hunt Season permits are granted annually by lottery drawing. Hunters must submit an application for the drawing. Applications for Gun Deer Hunt Season Lottery permits can be accessed via the internet at: <http://www.fws.gov/forms/3-2354.pdf> and will be accepted through October 15. Please send to Mandalay NWR address under the 'Permits' section of this brochure. Applicants will be selected by random computer drawing. All gun hunters regardless of age must possess proof of completion of a State Hunter Education Program. All hunters must also use **Daily Check Cards** at refuge check stations to check in and out of the refuge each day that they hunt. Please visit the Refuge webpage for Gun Deer Hunt Lottery Application directions at: <http://www.fws.gov/bayouteche/>,

- Permits are non-transferable and must be in the hunter's possession at all times while on the refuge during the permitted hunt.
- Hunters are authorized to take only species listed on the season permit. Harming or needlessly disturbing plants or other wildlife is a violation of refuge regulations.
- Youth hunters under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult at least 21 years of age during all hunts. Two youths may be supervised by one adult during small game hunts. Only one youth may be supervised during big game hunts. Youth must remain within normal voice contact of the adult who is supervising them.
- Hunters may enter the refuge no earlier than 4:00am and must exit no later than two hours after legal sunset for that day. Waterfowl hunting must cease by 12:00 Noon and all decoys and blinds removed from the hunting area by 1:00pm.
- Possession of lead shot is prohibited on the Refuge; approved non-toxic shot must be used in shotguns. Possession of buckshot is allowed only during gun deer season.

■ When traversing the refuge by boat or land, conveyance (vehicles), including ATV's, all firearms (including muzzleloaders) and archery equipment must be unloaded and cased. An unloaded firearm is defined as having no ammunition in the chamber, magazine, cylinder, or clip when attached to the firearm. An unloaded muzzleloader is defined as having the percussion cap completely remove. Unloaded archery equipment is defined as having the arrow removed from the string. Crossbows must also be uncocked.

■ We prohibit possession or distribution of bait while in the field and hunting with the aid of bait, including any grain, salt, minerals, or any non-natural occurring food attractant on the refuge.

■ Only portable deer stands may be used. Deer stands may be erected one day before the deer archery season and must be removed from the refuge within one day after this season closed. Hunters may place only one deer stand on a refuge. Deer stands must have owners name, address, and phone number clearly printed on the stand. Stands must be placed in a non-hunting position when not in use.

■ The only dogs allowed for hunting are recognized retriever breeds for use in waterfowl hunting. All dogs must be collared with owners name and phone number. Dogs used for chase are not allowed on the refuge.

■ We prohibit the use of any type of material used as flagging or trail markers, except reflective bright eyes.

■ Youths 17 or younger are allowed to participate in all State designated Youth hunts that are provided on refuges.

Archery Deer Season

All archery hunters must use refuge daily check cards to check in and out at designated check stations daily. See the "Hunting Regulations" table in this brochure for dates, bag limits, areas, etc. Bowhunters are encouraged to participate in the International Bowhunters Education Programs.

Bows are permitted only during the Refuge archery season. State of Louisiana regulations governing drug tipped arrows, pods, broadhead size, etc., are applicable. Longbow, compound bow, and crossbow or any bow drawn, held, or released by mechanical means will be a legal means of take during the deer archery season.