

Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge

Welcome to Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, 143,874 acres or 221 square miles, one of over 549 national wildlife refuges that form a network of United States lands and waters managed specifically for wildlife. Refuges provide habitat — food, water, cover, and space — for millions of migratory birds, over 70 endangered species, and thousands of other species of native plants and animals.

The Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge provides habitat and protection for endangered and threatened wildlife such as the American alligator, snail kite, and wood stork. Migratory birds such as neotropical songbirds, secretive marsh birds, shorebirds, and waterfowl winter at the refuge along with year-around resident herons, egrets, and ibis.

Through refuge programs and facilities, visitors can enjoy a variety of educational and wildlife-oriented recreational opportunities. Contact the refuge office for teaching pavilion reservations for educational group visits. Public access is available at the Headquarters Area (off US 441/SR 7), Hillsboro Area (at the west end of Loxahatchee Road), and at 20-Mile Bend (off CR 880 and 20-Mile Bend Boat Ramp Road).

The refuge is open to the public from sunrise to sunset every day of the year. Hours are posted at each entrance. The Visitor Center is open 9 am - 4 pm seven days a week, all year. The center is closed Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

An entrance fee of \$5 per vehicle or \$1 per pedestrian is charged daily. Senior Pass, Access Pass, Annual Pass, Duck Stamp, and Refuge Specific annual passes are available upon request. Entrance fees apply at all three Refuge entrances.

Special Events

Everglades Day
2nd Saturday in February

International Migratory Bird Day
2nd Saturday in May

Kid's Fishing Day
2nd Sunday in June

Public Lands Day
Last Saturday in September

National Wildlife Refuge Week
2nd week in October

Calendar of Events Activities
November through April

Waterfowl Hunting
November through January on specified days (must obtain permit)



Al Sahr



L. Chapman



M Bailey



J Kleen



USFWS



USFWS

Facilities

Headquarters Area

Visitor Center (561/734 8303), Administration Offices, Cypress Swamp Boardwalk, Marsh Trail, Everglades Canoe Trail, observation tower, observation platforms, education pavilion, boat ramps, fishing pier, and bank fishing along the L-40 canal. Bike trail south along the L-40. Management Compartment C is made up of eight individual management impoundments, numbered 1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10. The Marsh Trail (C-7) is 0.8 miles around, and it is one mile from Lee Road to the C-30 canal. Loxahatchee Impoundment Landscape Assessment (LILA) is located in Impoundments 3 and 4. This project developed in partnership between the Refuge and the SFWMD, assists in performance measures for Everglades restoration by mimicking water depths and flows to induce responses by wildlife in different habitats. Grass levees facilitate walking around impoundments.

Hillsboro Area

Interpretive displays, four boat ramps, and bank fishing. Hiking north along the L-40 and west along the L-39 to the S-6 pump station. Biking trail north along the L-40. Mountain or hybrid bicycles are recommended. Canoeing, boating, and kayaking in public use area.

20-Mile Bend Area

Boat ramp, fishing platform, bank fishing, and interpretive kiosk.

Activities

Permitted activities are allowed only in designated public use areas. Activities which are not specifically permitted are prohibited, including collecting of all plants, animals, and artifacts.

Additional information concerning recreational activities, refuge programs and facilities is available at the Visitor Center.

Permitted

- Entry only during posted hours and only at Headquarters Area, Hillsboro Area, or 20-Mile Bend Area entrances. Closing times are strictly enforced.
- Hiking, wildlife-observation, and photography only in areas open to public use and on designated trails. Hiking is permitted from the Headquarters Area north to Acme 1 pump station, south to the Hillsboro Area, and west to the S6 pump station. There is no entry or exit at the Acme pump stations.
- Boating, canoeing, and kayaking in canals and public use area except for Management Compartment C and those areas marked as being closed to the public. U.S. Coast Guard, state, and refuge regulations apply. All Coast Guard regulations apply pertaining to boat speeds. There is an idle speed no wake zone at each boat launch area. There is a speed limit of 35 MPH in all waters of the refuge and the STA-1 Distribution Canal is a slow speed zone for safety. All boaters must fly an orange flag 10 feet above the waterline when outside the main canals.
- Biking is permitted along the L-40 levee from the Headquarters Area to the Hillsboro Area. The 12-mile trail is recommended for mountain and hybrid bikes. It is recommended that you bring water, helmet, sunscreen, and light snacks. There is no shelter along the levee.

- Sport fishing permitted in the L-40 perimeter canal and public use area of the interior except for the Management Compartment C and those areas posted as closed to the public. Fishing tournaments are allowed by permit only. Only the use of rods and reels or poles and lines is permitted, and they must be attended at all times. State and refuge regulations apply.
- Waterfowl hunting by permit only in designated area. Special refuge dates, times, and regulations apply. Call the administrative office at 561/732 3684 for permit information.

Prohibited

- Feeding, enticing or disturbing alligators and all other wildlife.
- Firearms or weapons of any type, except approved firearms used in conjunction with the refuge waterfowl hunt. These weapons must be unloaded and encased when not hunting.
- Pets of any kind.
- Possession or use of trotlines, jugs, gigs, seines, cast nets, or other fishing devices not described as permitted, and commercial fishing of any kind.
- Harassment, taking, or injury of all plants or animals other than legally taken fish or waterfowl.
- Release of any animals or plants.
- Motorcycles, ATV's, or other motorized vehicles on any type of levees.
- Airboats, Jet Skis, Wave Runners, Go Devils, Hovercrafts.

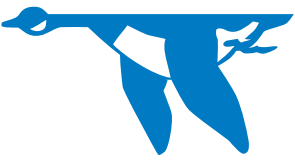
- Fires of any type, picnicking, camping, night use, or spotlighting.
- Entry into areas posted as closed.
- Swimming, water skiing, scuba diving, or snorkeling.
- Motorized watercraft on the canoe trail.

For Your Safety

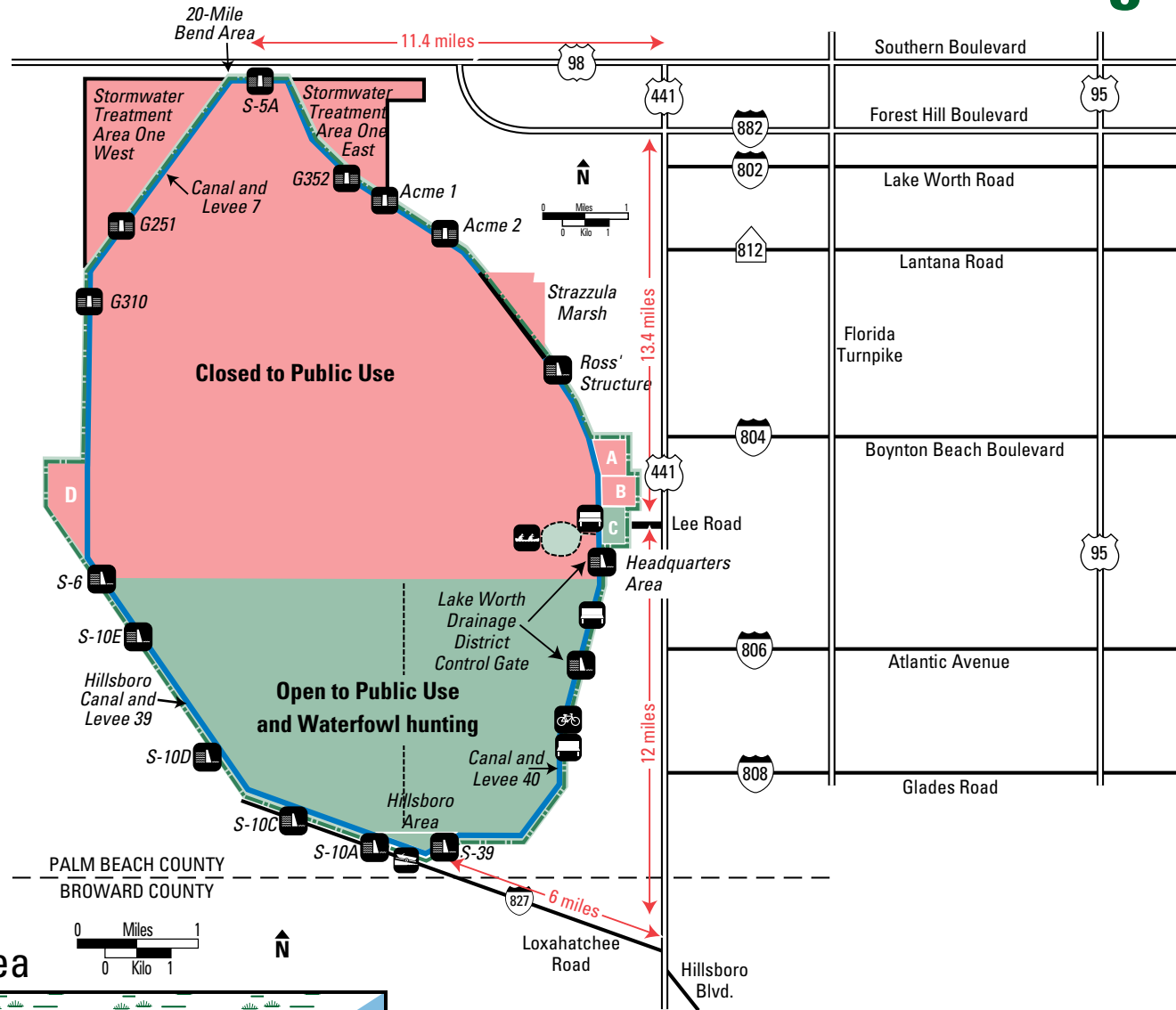
- Be prepared to observe regulations concerning: posted hours, closed areas, fishing, or hunting license requirements, boat registration, life jackets, and other required safety equipment.
- Do not leave valuables in your vehicle.
- Allow time to return to your vehicle and leave the area before posted closing time.
- If canoeing or boating, carry insect repellent, water, foul weather clothing, U.S. Coast Guard approved safety equipment, and an emergency light. If lost or disabled, stay with your boat and attempt to reach the main canal. Display emergency light after dark. Remember, floating vegetation and changing water levels can block canals and hide boat trails.
- Tell a relative or friend where you are going and when you should return. **The emergency number for the refuge is 1-800/307 5789.** The refuge may also be monitoring Marine Channel 16.

A.R.M. Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
10216 Lee Road, Boynton Beach, FL 33473-4797
561/734 8303 (Visitor Center)
561/732 3684 (Administrative Office)
<http://Loxahatchee.fws.gov>
Emergencies: 1-800/307 5789 or 911

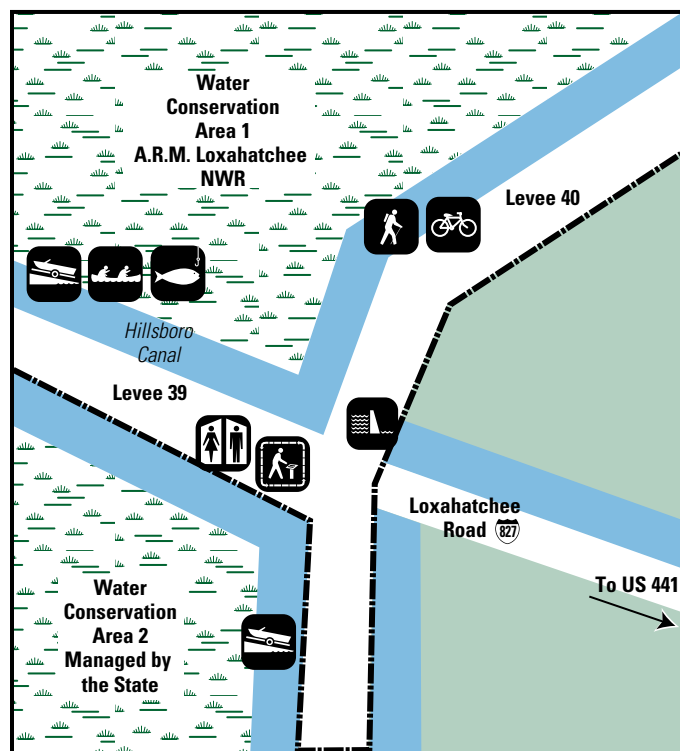
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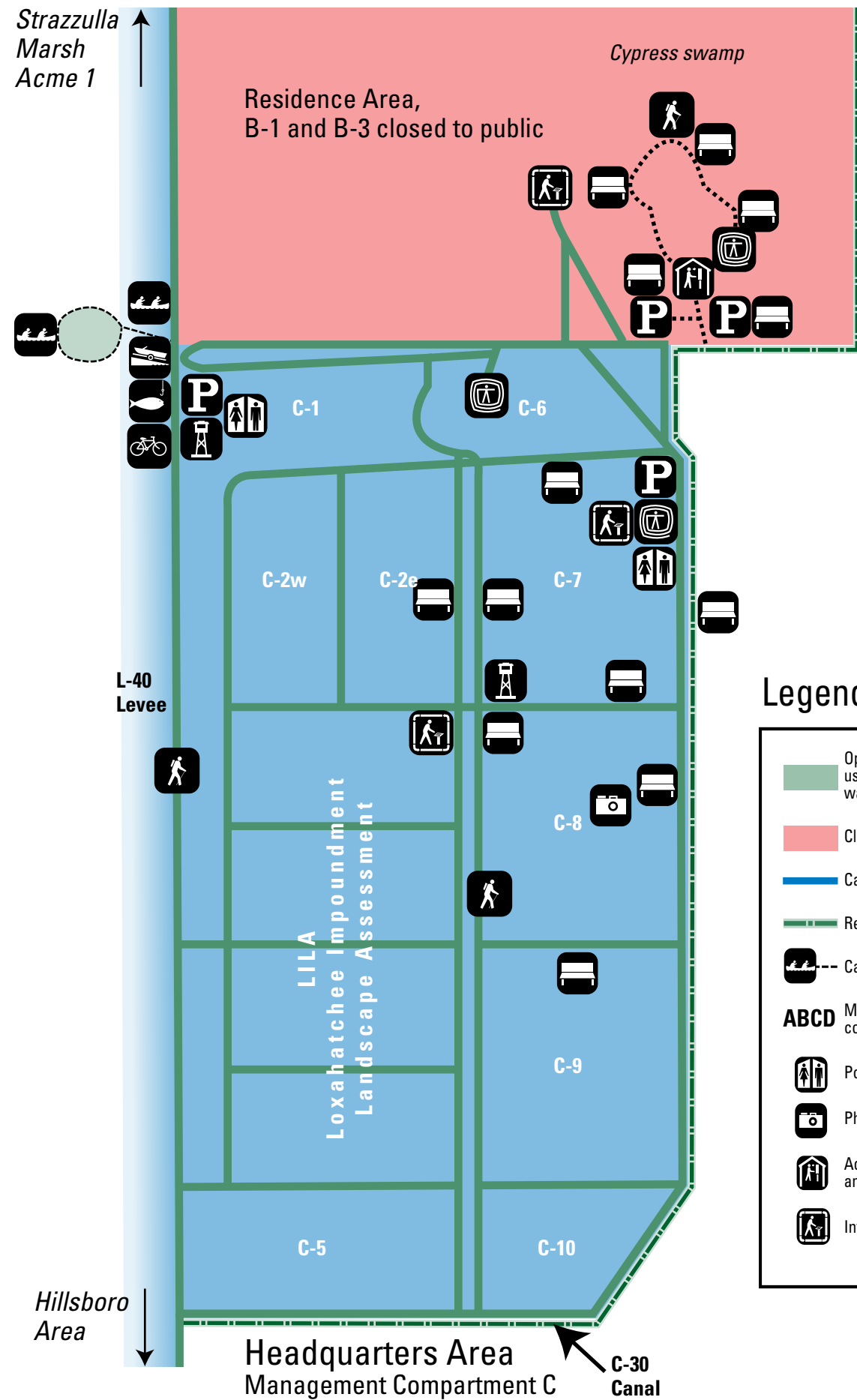
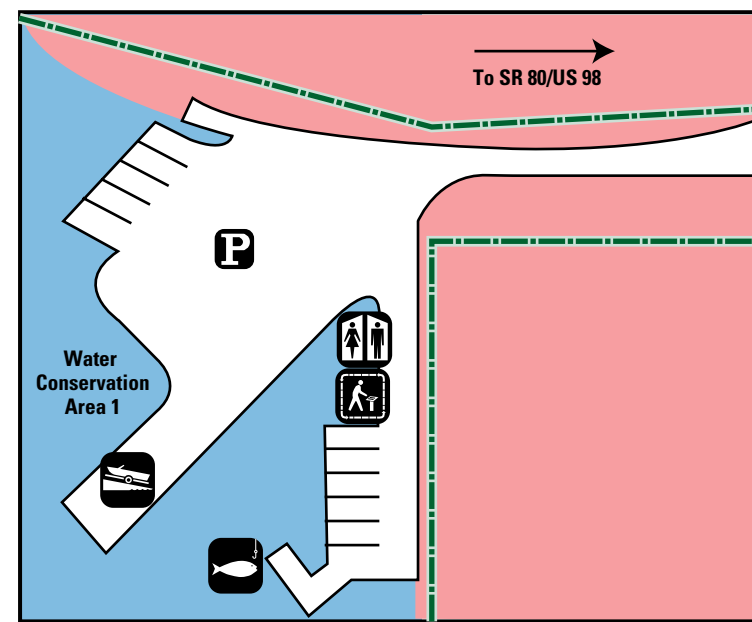
The "blue goose" is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System whose mission is to administer a national network of lands and waters for conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.



Hillsboro Area



20-Mile Bend Area



Legend

	Open to public use and waterfowl hunting		Bike trail
	Closed to public use		Walking trails
	Canal		Observation tower
	Refuge boundary		Parking
	Canoeing		Boat ramp
ABCD	Management compartments		Fishing
	Portable restrooms		Pump structure
	Photo blind-bird viewing		Water control structure
	Administration Building and Visitor Center		Bench
	Informational kiosk		Educational Pavilion

