

Signs Protect Visitors and Resources

Millions of people visit national wildlife refuges each year. The impact of human activity, if not regulated, can degrade these wildlands. Signs control recreational activities while protecting natural resources on the refuge. Please respect the following signs:



This sign delineates the refuge boundary. You may enter only on designated access routes. Consult manager for restrictions.



This area is closed to all entry. No hunting or sight-seeing is permitted. Roads and trails within this area are closed to the public.

Wassaw NWR Chatham County, GA

Wassaw is one of 550 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 at a level compatible with the environment, provide recreational opportunities, and permit the use of a valuable renewable resource.

Public hunting on Wassaw National Wildlife Refuge is permitted on approximately 2,000 acres.

The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on wildlife areas as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting will be in accordance with Georgia state regulations (<http://www.georgiawildlife.org/hunting/aspx>). All Coast Guard and State boating regulations will be enforced.

General Hunting Regulations

Federal permits are required for all hunts and must be carried on the person while hunting. All hunters must obtain a permit regardless of age. Permits are non-transferable. Only hunt participants with proper licenses and permits will be allowed on the refuge during hunts. **A Georgia hunting license is required to hunt feral hogs.**

Hunters 15 years of age or under (youth hunters) must have successfully passed a state-approved hunter education course in order to participate in any refuge hunt. Satisfactory completion of this course must be demonstrated by a card or certificate. Youth hunters must be supervised by an adult 21 years of age or older and must remain in sight and normal voice contact with the adult. The adult may supervise only one youth.

Hunters must check in at the refuge dock prior to setting up camp. Personal identification (driver's license or official state identification card) will be required at check in.

Each hunter may place one stand on the refuge no earlier than one month prior to the opening day of each hunt. However, hunters assume all responsibility for the loss or damage of personal property left on the refuge. **Stands must be removed by the end of each hunt.**

Hunters may check in no more than one day in advance of the opening day of each hunt period. Hunters must be off the refuge the day following the last day of the hunt period.

Weapons may not be taken from the campground during authorized scouting periods from check-in until the beginning of hunt hours.

Wassaw NWR will be closed to the general public one day before and one day after the hunt period as well as on hunt days.

Boats may not be moored to the government dock except for loading and unloading purposes. Boats must be moored at the specified area near the government dock.

All camping will be at the designated camping area only. Fires must be confined to the camping area.

The possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.

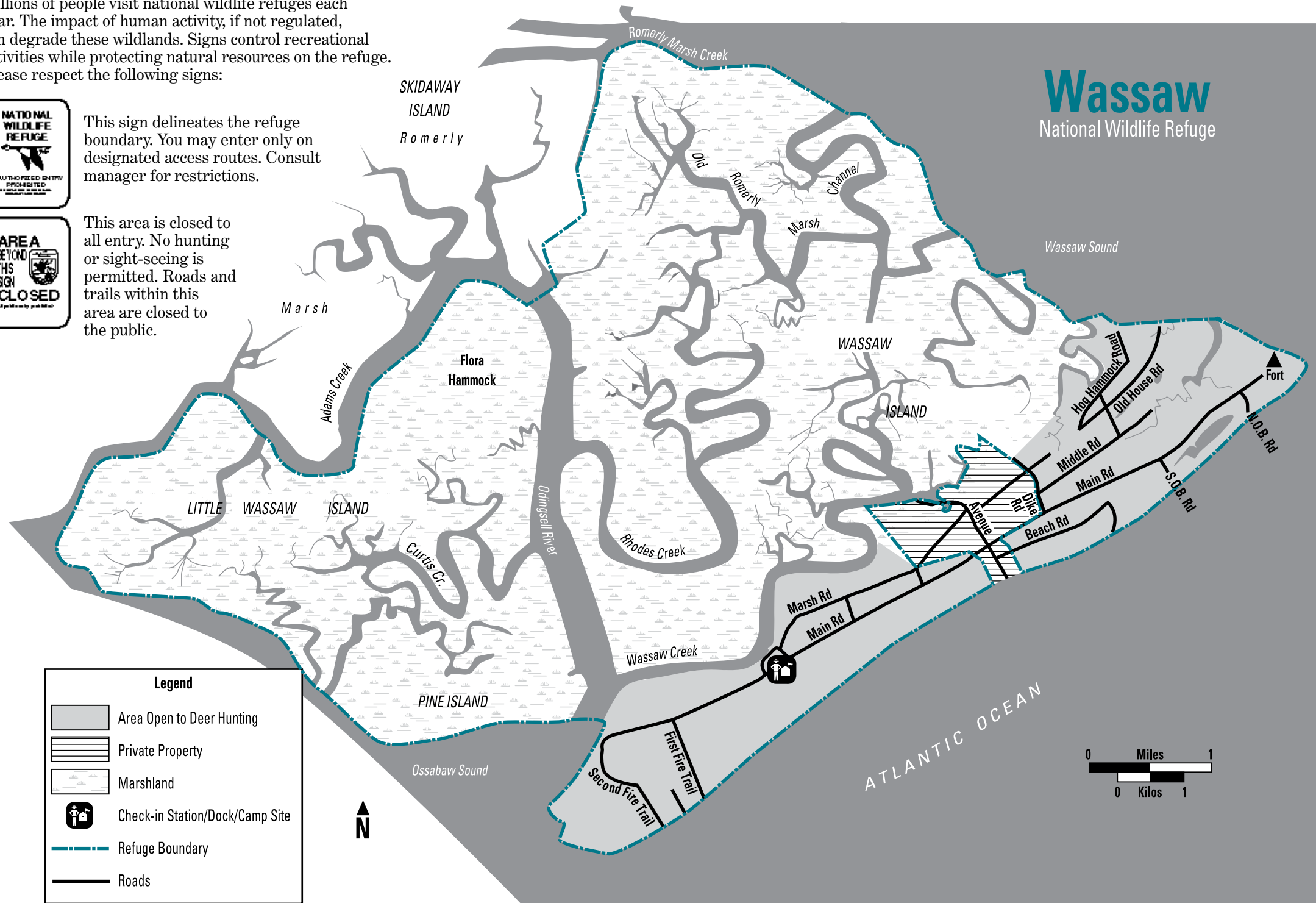
Loaded firearms are not allowed in the headquarters and/or camping area.

The possession of poison, or poison pods, is illegal.

The distribution of bait, and hunting over bait, is prohibited.

Target practice is prohibited.

Hunters must be on their stands from one-half hour before legal sunrise until 9 am and from two hours before sunset until legal sunset.



Wassaw

National Wildlife Refuge

Hunting Regulations 2009



Transportation is not provided to, from, or on the refuge. Any movement within the refuge must be by foot or bicycle. Entry and exit points are limited to the check station. Hunters are not allowed to leave by boat to reach other parts of the island.

Deer harvested during scheduled hunts must be checked by refuge personnel before leaving the refuge.

Only designated game species and feral hogs may be taken and other wildlife may not be molested in any manner.

Hunting from a tree in which a metal object has been screwed or driven to support a hunter is prohibited.

Pruning/limbing of live trees is prohibited.

Participating in "man-drives" for deer is prohibited.

No flagging, blazing, painting, or trail marking devices may be used to locate stands, or for any other purpose.

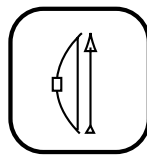
All forms of litter must be removed from the refuge.

Specific regulations governing the primitive weapons and gun hunts are listed separately.

How to Obtain Hunt Permits

The attached permit (on cover) to participate in the primitive weapons and/or gun hunt will be validated during check-in at the refuge headquarters on Wassaw Island. An unlimited number of permits will be available for these hunts. Additional hunting regulations brochures may be downloaded from the internet at <http://www.fws.gov/savannah/hunting.html> or you may request brochures be mailed to you by contacting the Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex office (call 912/652 4415, or if no longer in service, 843/784 2468).

Primitive Weapons Hunt



Primitive weapons hunting for deer and feral hogs will be permitted only on November 5-7, 2009 within the area indicated on the attached refuge map. **Crossbows are prohibited.**

All hunters must wear an outer garment which contains a minimum of 500 square inches of hunter-orange material above the waist throughout the hunt.

Five deer of either sex may be taken (state bonus tags will be issued for two of these). Feral hogs (no bag limit) may also be taken with weapons legal for this hunt.

Gun Hunt



Gun hunting for deer on Wassaw NWR will be permitted only on December 10-12, 2009 within the area indicated on the attached refuge map.

Five deer of either sex may be taken (state bonus tags will be issued for two of these). Feral hogs (no bag limit) may also be taken with weapons legal for this hunt.

Hunters are required to wear an outer garment which contains a minimum of 500 square inches of hunter-orange material above the waist.

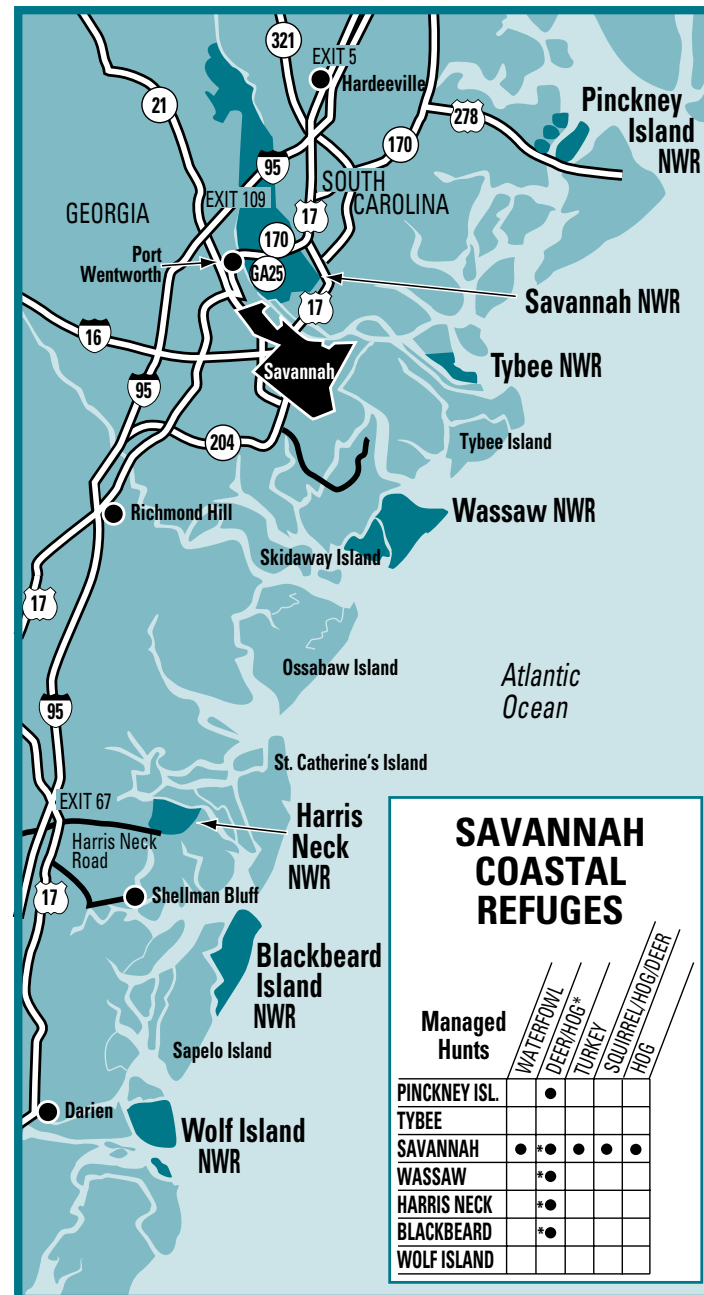
Shotguns, 20 gauge or larger (slugs only), centerfire rifles, bows, and primitive weapons, in accordance with state regulations, are the only weapons permitted. **Crossbows will not be allowed.**

Camping Facilities

All campsites are primitive. Chemical toilets are available at the nearby check station. A cooler unit is operated to store harvested deer. **Potable water is not available.**

Boater Caution

Coastal waters are subject to extreme tidal fluctuations of six to ten feet. Hunters should be familiar with the tide tables, and monitor coastal weather conditions before navigating to the barrier island refuge.



Savannah Coastal Refuges
1000 Business Center Drive
Parkway Business Center, Suite 10
Savannah, GA 31405
912/652 4415
<http://www.fws.gov/wassaw>

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

June 2009



2009 Wassaw NWR Bow Hunt Permit

When signed and in your possession, this brochure serves as your permit for both the primitive weapons and gun hunts, and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

Check-in is required upon arrival at the refuge dock.

Signature _____