



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Fishing

## *Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge*

By law, national wildlife refuges are closed to all public use activities unless expressly permitted. Hunting, fishing, and certain other public uses are permitted on portions of the refuge. Some areas are closed to all forms of public entry.

When permitted, hunting, fishing, and other public uses on areas of the refuge will be in accordance with applicable State laws unless otherwise listed. To ensure your safety and enjoyment while visiting Salt Plains NWR, please take the time to become familiar with the current regulations and authorized activities before entering the refuge, these can be obtained by visiting the Refuge Headquarters located 2 miles south and 1 mile west of the State Hwy 11 and 38 junction or by calling 580-626-4794 or [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)

### General Fishing Information

Fishing is permitted on the Refuge in designated areas from April 1 - October 15. Designated areas will be closed to fishing seasonally (see map for specific locations and closures).

Taking of the various game fish and designated creel limits are as specified in the State of Oklahoma Fishing Regulations. Noodling is permitted. Bowfishing is not permitted.

Taking any type of bait from refuge lands or waters is not permitted.

Camping and campfires are only permitted at Jet Recreation Area. April 1 - October 15

All pets must remain on leash.

Night fishing is allowed during the open season with the exception of Bonham Pond.

No boats are allowed in the river or creek channels.

### Parking

Parking is limited at fishing access locations on Highway 11. Please stay on paved parking areas adjacent to Highway 11.

Areas along the highway are marked with signs to inform the public of areas open to fishing from April 1 - October 15.

### State Highway 11 Fishing Areas

April 1 - October 15

See map for details. Designated areas open to fishing include:

- Sand Creek - Parking available at north and south end of creek trail.
- North of Hwy 11: East and West Channels of the Salt Fork River, East and West Banks, from Hwy to boundary
- South of Hwy 11: East Channel of the Salt Fork River, East Bank, for the distance of 1 mile
- A parking and fishing area South of Hwy 11 on the East Salt Fork is paved and accessible to all fishermen.

### Bonham Pond

April 1 - October 15

Located at the Refuge Headquarters area, Bonham Pond is open for children 14 and under and to mobility impaired individuals.

Open during daylight hours only.

Catch and Release

Only one pole per person.

### Cottonwood Point

See map for details. Access to the lake via Refuge lands is open April 1 - October 15 at Cottonwood Point. From the parking lot, visitors may walk 1/2 mile onto the Refuge.

### Great Salt Plains Reservoir

See map for details. The reservoir is open to fishing April 1 - October 15 with closed areas marked by buoys and/or signs.

Closed areas on the reservoir include Ralstin Island and the north and west shoreline.

In addition, the area west of Ralstin Island will be closed to all fishing each year beginning Sept 10.

### Boating- See Public Use Regulation Sheet

### Boat Ramps: Shallow Waters

April 1 - October 15

Boat Ramps are available at the Great Salt Plains State Park, Cottonwood Point and Jet Recreation Area.

### Trotlines

All state regulations apply in addition to refuge regulations.

- No more than 3 lines and 100 hooks (hooks at least 24 inches apart) per person
- Owner's name and address attached to each line. Lines must be attended at least once every 24 hours.
- Trotlines are not permitted within 500 feet of the shoreline of the Jet Recreation Area.
- Non-metallic posts used to secure or anchor trotlines must reach a minimum of two feet above the water surface and must be marked so that they are clearly visible to boaters.
- Trotlines are to be removed when fishing is completed. Raising lines out of water when not baited is not permitted.

Designates Hwy 11  
Fishing Areas  
April 1 - October 15

Byron State  
Fish Hatchery

Sand Creek Trail April 1 - October 15  
-Fishing access from two parking lots  
-2 mile (each way) walking trail  
-Fish From East or West Bank

East Fork  
West Fork

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11

Parking Lot and  
Fishing Access  
on East Bank of  
East Salt Fork  
(1Mile).

Refuge Headquarters  
and Visitor's Center  
-Bonham Kid's Pond  
-April 1 - October 15

Cottonwood Point  
April 1-October 15  
-Fishing Access  
North into Refuge 1/2 mile  
-Boat Ramp

Buoy Line on 1/2 mile from West  
Shoreline and 100 yards around  
Ralstin Island Designate Areas  
Closed Yearround

Salt Flats

Great Salt Plains  
State Park

Area between Ralstin  
Island and West  
Shoreline closed  
September 10 - April 1

Dam Area and  
State Park Fishing  
Open Yearround

Lake Open From  
April 1 through October 15

No Trotlines

Jet Recreation Area  
April 1 - October 15  
-Boat Ramp  
-Picnic Tables  
-Fire Rings



Refuge  
Boundary

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
<http://www.fws.gov>

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