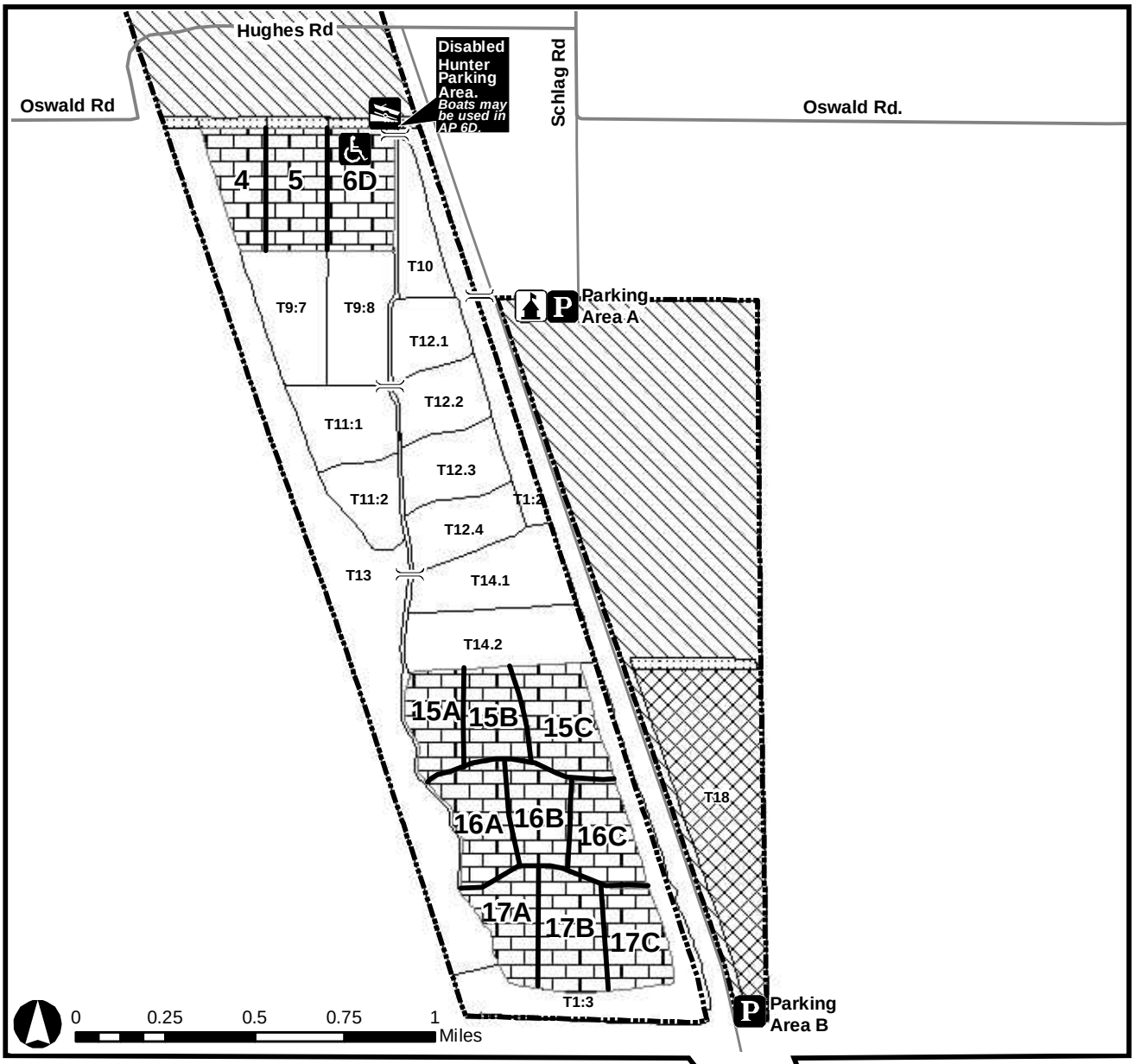
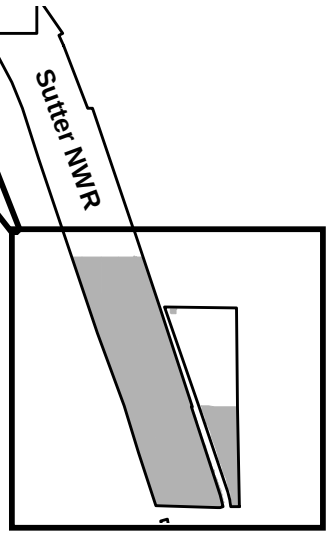
Sutter National Wildlife Refuge
Hunt Area 2015-16





Refuge Boundary

Parking Area

Parking Area A = Free Roam, AP 4-5
Parking Area B = Pheasant Only, AP 15-17
Disabled Hunter Parking Area = AP 6D

Assigned Pond Area

Assigned Ponds: one hunting party**per pond
Assigned Pond 6D: one disabled hunting party**
***PARTY SIZE* = no more than 4 people; no more than 2 juniors or non-hunters per adult**

Free Roaming Area
Maximum quota 25

Retrieval Only Zone

Closed Zone

Pheasant Only Area

Hunting Blind for Mobility Impaired

Boat Access for Mobility Impaired

Hunter Check Station

Canal Crossing

Note: Pheasant hunting is not permitted in the assigned pond areas

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service & California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Sutter National Wildlife Refuge

I. Hunting Program

The public hunting program on Sutter National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) is **administered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife**. Parts of the Refuge are closed to hunting for sanctuary and management purposes. This Refuge contains 2,591 acres of which 1,116 are open to controlled hunting for geese, ducks, moorhens, snipe and pheasant concurrent with the seasons established by the State of California. Be sure to observe signs designating closed areas or restricted zones.

Hunting is by entry permit only. Permits, passes, stamps, or any license items WILL NOT BE SOLD at the check station. Visit **www.wildlife.ca.gov for more information**. The check station will open at 6:00 pm on Fridays for the Saturday and Sunday shoot days and 6:00 pm on Tuesdays for the Wednesday shoot days. Shoot time begins ½ hour before sunrise. **Please refer to the "California Regulations for Waterfowl and Upland Game Hunting on State and Federal Areas" (CDFW Booklet) for daily shoot times, permit fees and Refuge Specific Regulations.**

II. Obtaining and Returning an Entry Permit

A. **Reservation** application forms are available at sporting good stores where hunting licenses are sold and on the website **www.wildlife.ca.gov**. Application deadline is 17 days in advance of the desired hunting date. Hunters with reservations will be issued entry permits in the numerical order stamped on their reservation starting 2 hours before shoot time**. Reservations are valid only when presented at the check station at least 1 hour before shoot time. There are no exceptions.**

B. **Vacancies** which result from reservation "no shows" and hunters checking out of the area during the day are filled from a waiting list which is established by lottery drawing at the check station. The check station opens at 6:00 pm on Tuesdays and Fridays to begin accepting lottery entries. The lottery is conducted at 8:00 pm and results are posted soon afterwards. Hunters may leave the area once they have obtained their lottery number but must be present when their number is called.

C. **Lottery procedures** are posted at the check station and online at www.fws.gov/refuge/Sacramento. A lottery purge will occur at 8:00 am. Names of hunters that are not present will be removed from the list.

D. **There will be no re-fills or entry permits issued after 3:00 pm.** All hunters **must check out at the check station**, report hunting results, and return the entry permit before leaving the area by 1½ hours after shoot time ends. . Hunters must vacate refuge no later than 1½ hours after legal sunset unless participating in overnight stay at hunter check station on Tuesday, Friday or Saturday night.

III. Refuge-Specific Regulations Summary (See the CDFW Booklet for a complete list.)

A. **Assigned Ponds** – Hunters are restricted to the area within the "signed" assigned pond boundary. **No hunting from levees.**

B. **Hunters may only enter or exit the hunt area from designated parking lots (see map). Equipment may not be dropped-off or picked-up between parking areas.**

C. No bikes allowed.

D. **Federally approved non-toxic shot required for all hunting. Hunters are limited to a 25-shell limit, while in the field.**

E. **No shot guns larger than 12 gauge and no shot size larger than BB, except steel "T" (.20" diameter) is permitted.**
*The possession and/or use of shot sizes large than BB in non-toxic shot other than steel, in the field, is prohibited on State and Federal wildlife areas (under the authority of Section 550(b)(1) and in addition to the regulations on shot size found in Section 551(b)(3)).

F. **The consumption or possession of an open container of alcohol, within public areas of the refuge, is prohibited.**

G. Medical marijuana cards are not valid on National Wildlife Refuges.

H. **Pheasant and snipe hunting are permitted during their appropriate season dates, on shoot days in the free roam and pheasant-only areas. Shooting hours are 8:00 am to sunset.**

I. No shooting from or across access roads, parking areas, or into or from safety zones. **Loaded firearms are prohibited in parking areas.**

J. It is unlawful to use electronic or mechanically-operated spinning blade devices or spinning wing decoys when attempting to take waterfowl **from the start of waterfowl season through November 30th.**

K. Dogs are allowed on the hunting area, but must be kept under control. **Dogs must be kept in vehicles or on leash while in the check station parking area and on vehicle access roads.**

L. **Hunters 15 years of age and under** must be accompanied by an adult hunter at all times.