



This is a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System,
a network of lands and waters managed for the benefit
of wildlife and people.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Lake Woodruff

National Wildlife Refuge

Hunting Regulations 2025-2026

**Lake Woodruff National Wildlife
Refuge** 2045 Mud Lake Road
DeLeon Springs, FL 32130

Phone: 386/985 4673

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<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/lake-woodruff>

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

<https://www.fws.gov>

May 2025

Hunting Regulations

Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge is located in the western section of Volusia County, Florida, near DeLeon Springs. The designated hunt areas contain approximately 11,000 acres of woodlands and bordering marsh.

Designated Hunt Areas

Western Unit - includes Harry's Creek Swamp (all land between the St. John's River and Norris Dead River); Dexter, Tick, and Jones Islands, approximately 8,000 acres.

Note: Access to the Western Unit is by boat only, and participants must furnish their own transportation. There are a number of launching ramps and fishing camps that rent boats in the general area. The waters within the refuge are difficult to navigate at night.

Eastside Unit - includes approximately 1,000 acres of refuge lands west of the CSX Railroad to the East Marsh. The unit begins south of the East Side Road and continues south to the end of East Side Road and to the west up to the marsh line. Access to the Eastside Unit is only permitted from the Mud Lake Road entrance. Access from the railroad right of way is prohibited. The East Side Road may be open up to a week before each hunt for scouting.

Stands, flagging, or other marking is prohibited until two days before your permitted hunt.

Volusia Tract - lies between Highland Park Road and Shell Road west of the CSX Railroad, and is approximately 2,000 acres. Access from the railroad right of way is prohibited. Motorized travel is prohibited.

General Hunting Regulations

The regulations listed below supplement the General Regulations, which govern hunting on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 32. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State regulations and subject to the following conditions.

Successful hunters are required to report their harvest to the FWC's Harvest Reporting System within 24 hours. Harvest Reporting guidance can be found at: MyFWC.com/HarvestReport.

These reports allow us to better determine population health, numbers, and stability. Listed below are Refuge-specific regulations that pertain to Lake Woodruff NWR. These regulations may be modified annually or as habitat, populations, or other conditions change. Violation of regulations may result in the loss of hunting privileges.

- All hunters must be on stands or in blinds while hunting. No stalking or movement through the hunt area is permitted while hunting. Scouting in the hunt area, whether or not you hold a permit for the current hunt, is not permitted during quota hunts.
- No overnight use is permitted on the refuge. No one may enter the hunt area prior to two hours before sunrise, and all hunters must clear the area by two hours after sunset.
- Target practice, airboats, fires, and dogs are prohibited on the refuge.
- We prohibit hunting with dogs; however, we are allowing the limited use of trained tracking dogs but only with prior authorization by the Refuge Manager.
- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge 2025-2026 Hunt Permit

Name _____

Address _____

I have read and understand the Lake
Woodruff NWR hunt regulations.

Signed _____

(This permit only valid when signed and
accompanied by a \$25 Lake Woodruff Deer/
Hog Quota Permit)

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- It is unlawful to drive nails, spikes, or other metal objects into any tree, or to hunt from any tree in which a metal object has been driven.
- No person shall cut, blaze or destroy any tree or remove any tree, shrub, or protected plant.
- See state regulations for complete hunter safety requirements
- Littering and digging anywhere on the refuge are prohibited
- Only deer and hogs are legal to take.

Stands or blinds and game camera may be set up two days prior to the hunt you are permitted for and must be removed the last day of your permitted hunt. Stands and cameras must be clearly marked with your Customer ID number and permitted hunt (AI, AII, PGI, PGII). No more than one stand blind, and game camera per permit may be on the refuge at any time, unless a permitted hunter is accompanied by a youth hunter. Stands for youth hunters must be placed within sight and normal voice contact of permitted hunter's stand and marked with the Customer ID number and the word "youth."

Hunters using flagging or other trail marking material must print their Customer ID number on each piece or marker. Flagging and trail markers may be set-up two days prior to the hunt you are permitted for and must be removed the last day of your permitted hunt. Hunters who do not print their permit number on each marker, or do not remove their flagging or marking material by the last day of their permitted hunt will be cited for littering. Flagging, markers, or stands placed more than two days prior to the hunt will be removed and could result in loss of refuge hunt privileges.

Deer/Hog Permits

All hunters 16 years of age or older must purchase a \$25 Lake Woodruff Deer/Hog Quota permit. Hunters under the age of 16 do not need a permit but must be accompanied by a permitted adult (18 years of age or older). Each adult may supervise one youth hunter and must remain within sight and normal voice contact, and the pair must share a single bag limit.

Deer/Hog permits for the archery and primitive gun hunts are issued through the

Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission's (FWC) Recreational Licensing Issuance Services. The permit is non-transferable. Hunters must be 16 years of age to apply. Permits that are lost or stolen may not be replaced.

To apply, go to <https://myfwc.com/license/limited-entry/>. Scroll down to "National Wildlife Refuge Hunts" and select either **Lake Woodruff Deer/Hog Archery** or **Muzzleloading Gun**. Once archery or gun is selected, scroll to the bottom of the page and select "Apply Online". Permits will be issued through a random drawing. The application periods will begin at 10 am Eastern time on **May 15** and run through midnight **June 15**.

Once you have obtained the quota permit from FWC, sign the front of this brochure to acknowledge you have read and understand these refuge-specific regulations before hunting. In addition to the FWC issued permit, all hunters must possess a Refuge Hunt permit (signed brochure). You will be required to have both the FWC and refuge permits on your person.

If you have any problems with the issuance of your permit, please contact the FWC at 850/488 3641 (Monday-Friday 8 am - 5 pm). **Submitting false information or using another person's identity without their consent is considered identity theft and may result in felony charges and the loss of hunting privileges.**

Antler Restrictions

Bucks legal to hunt are Deer with at least one antler having three or more points (each point one-inch or more in length) OR a main beam length of 10 inches or more.

Antlerless Deer are defined as having no bony structure protruding through the skin. Knobs or buttons covered by skin or velvet are not considered visible antlers.

Youth hunters 15 years old and younger may take antlered deer with at least one antler 5 or more inches in length.

Archery Regulations

Archery hunting is permitted in the Western unit, Eastside unit, and Volusia Tract. Feral (wild) hogs and deer except spotted fawns, may be hunted during the archery hunts. Weapons permitted during archery

season are bows in accordance with State regulations.

There will be two Deer/Hog archery hunts, limited to 100 permits each. Permits are only valid for the specified hunt. Hunters may purchase a Deer/Hog permit for one archery hunt and one Deer/Hog permit for one primitive gun hunt.

There is no size or bag limit for hogs.

Archery I: September 13 - 21

Archery II: September 27 - October 5

The daily bag limit for deer is 1 buck and 1 antlerless per day. Permit limit for deer is 1 buck and 2 antlerless.

There is no size or bag limit for hogs.

Primitive Gun Regulations

Primitive gun hunting is permitted only in the Western Unit which is only accessible by boat. Weapons permitted during primitive gun season are muzzleloading guns in accordance with State regulations.

Permitted hunters or youth supervised by a permitted hunter may harvest one buck meeting State antler requirements (see new State regulations). Feral (wild) hogs may be taken during the primitive gun hunt by any permitted hunter or youth supervised by a permitted hunter.

There will be two Deer/Hog primitive gun hunts, limited to 50 permits each. Hunters may purchase a Deer/Hog permit for one archery hunt and one Deer/Hog permit for the primitive gun hunt.

Primitive gun hunters must wear a minimum of 500 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange material as an outer garment. Such clothing must be worn above the waistline and can include a head covering.

Primitive Gun I: October 18 - 20

Primitive Gun II: October 24 - 26

The daily bag limit for deer is one buck. Permit bag limit for deer is 1 buck.

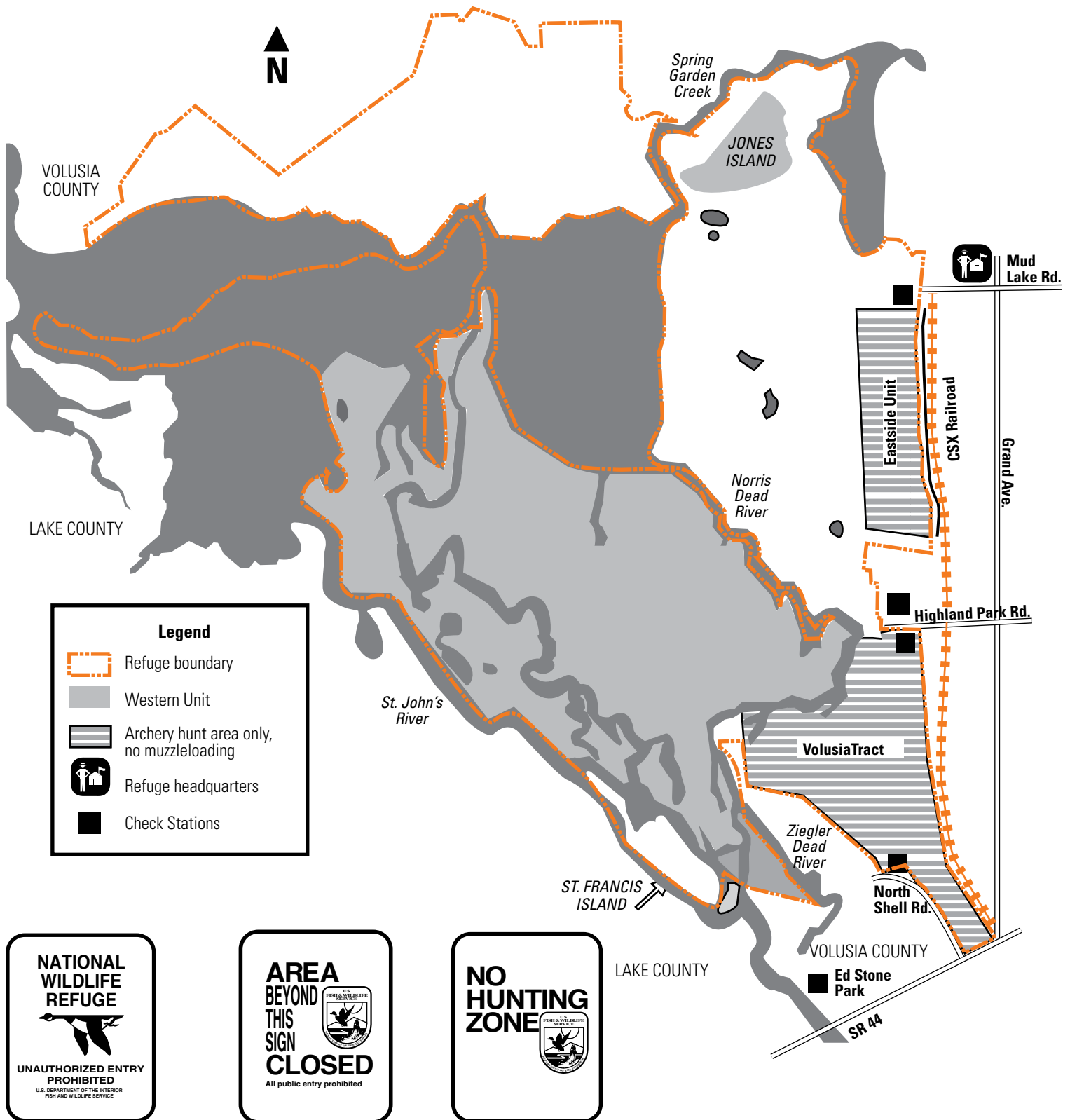
There is no size or bag limit for hogs.

Phase I Applications: 5/15/2025 – 6/15/2025

Permit Claim Deadline: 7/21/2025

Phase II Leftovers: 7/24/2025 – until filled or the final hunt date

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



Refuge Boundary
Entry permitted in accordance with refuge regulations.

Closed Area
All entry prohibited.

No Hunting Zone
Hunting, weapons, or game retrieval prohibited.