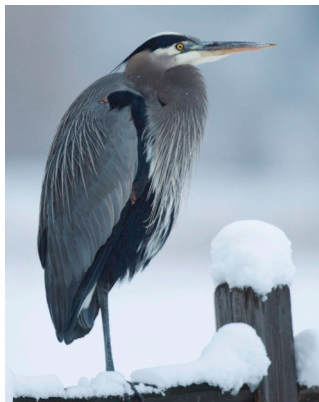


Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge

Visitor Activities



Great Blue Heron
© Steve Jamsa

Nestled beside the Selkirk Mountains of Northern Idaho, this 2,774 acre refuge provides diverse habitats for a large variety of wildlife including moose, elk, deer, bear, otter, bald eagles, and migratory waterfowl.

Hours and Facilities

The refuge is open from sunrise to sunset, 365 days a year. The Refuge Office is open 7:30am to 4:00pm, Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. Public restrooms are available near the Refuge Office.

A renovated historic barn with outdoor amphitheater deck serves as an environmental education center and meeting facility for schools and organizations. The barn is furnished with taxidermy mounts, specimens, and learning materials. Contact the refuge to schedule all field trips and environmental education activities.

Auto Tour Route (ATR)

Visitors are welcome to drive, walk, bicycle, snowshoe, or ski the 4.5-mile auto tour route. Leashed dog walking is allowed on the ATR. This one-way gravel road travels along Myrtle Creek, Refuge wetlands, and open grasslands for a chance to view wildlife. The ATR is closed to vehicles during winter months or in unsafe driving conditions.

Our Stories

Find information on the Refuge's history, wildlife, and management at the interpretive signs by the Refuge offices and at pullouts along the Auto Tour Route.

Hiking trails

Four hiking trails offer visitors a chance to enjoy the diverse habitats on the refuge. (Distance is one way)

- 👤 Chickadee Trail: 0.2 mile, paved loop
- 👤 Deep Creek Trail: 2.2 miles, along Deep Creek
- 👤 Myrtle Falls Trail: 0.25 mile waterfall hike
- 👤 Ole Humpback Trail: 1 mile, steep wooded

Wildlife Observation and Photography

Enjoy sights of wildlife anytime on the Refuge but arrive early morning or evening for the best opportunities. Spring and Fall offer special chances to see thousands of migratory waterfowl taking advantage of resting and feeding habitat that the Refuge provides. A short walk to a photo blind at Greenwing Pond provides an opportunity to photograph waterfowl up-close.

Fishing

Fishing is allowed from the banks of Myrtle Creek and in Deep Creek in accordance with current State regulations. Fishing in other areas or access to closed areas is not permitted.

Hunting

Hunting of big game, upland bird species, and waterfowl is permitted in accordance with state and federal regulations on portions of the refuge. Please contact the Refuge for hunting brochure or find more information at: <https://www.fws.gov/refuges/hunting/>

Pets

To reduce disturbance to wildlife, all pets must stay confined and are not permitted to roam at large. Dog walking is permitted on the Auto Tour Route, but dogs must be kept on a 6-foot or shorter, non-retractable leash at all times.

Exception: Waterfowl hunters are allowed to use dogs for retrieval of game. Hunting dogs will be under hunter control at all times.

Prohibited Activities

Camping, horseback riding, fires, firewood gathering, flying of drones/unmanned aircraft overnight parking, swimming, and on-ice activities are prohibited on the refuge. Snowmobiles and unlicensed ATV's are not allowed on Refuge lands or roads. The collection of any plant or animal or parts thereof is prohibited except licensed hunting in accordance with state and federal law or under Special Use Permit.


















For the protection of wildlife and visitor safety, access to all closed areas of the Refuge is prohibited.

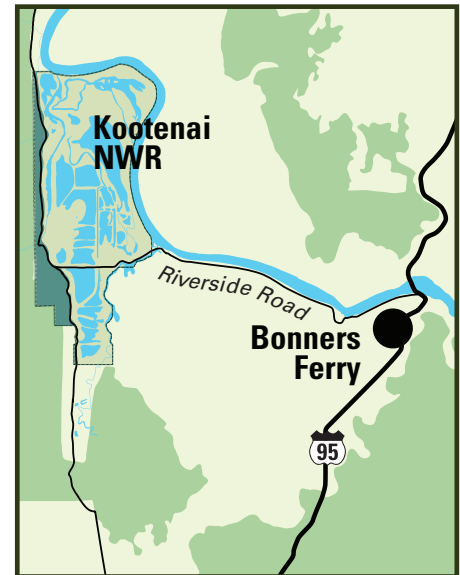
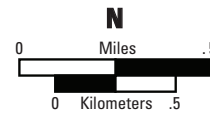
Kootenai

National Wildlife Refuge

Visitor Activities Legend

The refuge is open to visitors during daylight hours only.

-  Refuge Boundary
-  Paved Road
-  Gravel Road
-  Foot Trail
-  Auto Tour Road
-  Refuge Office
-  Parking
-  Wheelchair Accessible
-  Picnic Area
-  Auto Tour
-  Wildlife Observation
-  Restrooms
-  Interpretive Trail
-  Photo Blind
-  Uplands
-  Wetlands
-  Forests



Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge

287 Westside Road
 Bonners Ferry, ID 83805
 208/267-3888

www.fws.gov/refuge/kootenai/