

HUNTING RULES & REGULATIONS

Refuge-specific regulations for hunting on National Wildlife Refuges are set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations Title 50, Part 32. Copies may be requested from the Refuge Office. The following summary is for your convenience.

License Requirements

All hunters on Maine Coastal Island NWR must follow the licensing guidelines set by the state of Maine. Hunters must be in possession of their state hunting license at all times while hunting on the refuge.

Firearms

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on national wildlife refuges must comply with all provisions of State and local law. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and specific refuge regulations in part 32).

Hours

We allow hunters to enter the refuge one hour before legal shooting hours, and they must exit the refuge by one hour past legal shooting hours.

Tree Stands/Blinds

The construction or use of permanent structures is prohibited on refuge lands. Only temporary or portable blinds or ladders may be used.

Trimming or cutting branches is prohibited. It is unlawful to drive a nail, spike, climbing screw, or other metal object into any tree or to hunt from any tree in which a nail, spike, climbing screw, or other metal object has been driven.

All tree stands must have the name, address, phone number, and hunting license number of the owner clearly printed on any stand that is left overnight. Big game hunters must remove all tree stands, blinds, and ladders from the refuge on the last day of muzzleloader deer season.

Migratory game bird hunters are required to remove all portable or temporary blinds and decoys from the refuge following each day's hunt.

Youth Hunting Day

We allow youth hunting during the state prescribed youth hunting days in accordance with state regulations and bag limits

Baiting

Baiting or hunting over bait is prohibited on the refuge for all species, including coyotes and bears.

Hunter Orange Clothing Requirements

Hunter orange clothing is required in accordance with State of Maine regulations.

Camping and fires

Camping and overnight parking are prohibited. Fires are prohibited. Please remove litter from the refuge.

Vehicles

Only legally licensed vehicles are allowed on refuge roads. Vehicles are permitted only on public roads and refuge access roads. Off road vehicles including ATV's are prohibited.

Alcoholic Beverages

The possession or use of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.

Falconry

Falconry is not permitted on the Refuge.

Crows

We prohibit the hunting of crows.

Dogs

We allow only pointing, flushing and retrieving dogs. No pursuit hounds may be used to hunt animals such as raccoon, fox, bobcat, coyote and bear.

Ammunition

We prohibit the use of toxic ammunition for small game and upland game bird hunting.

Night Hunting

Night Hunting is not allowed on the refuge.

Trapping

Trapping is not permitted on any Maine Coastal Islands NWR property.

Artificial Light

The use of a spotlight or any other artificial light, including automotive headlights for the purpose of spotting, locating, or taking any animal is prohibited all year.

Areas open to Hunting

Petit Manan Point Division (Steuben):

A portion of Petit Manan Point is open to muzzleloader hunting for white-tailed deer during the State of Maine muzzleloader season. (See attached map) No other hunting is allowed.

Sawyer's Marsh (Milbridge) and Gouldsboro Bay (Gouldsboro) Divisions:

These areas are open to the hunting of migratory game birds, waterfowl, white-tailed deer, black bear, bobcat, raccoon, ruffed grouse, gray squirrel, skunk, snowshoe hare and fox. Red squirrel, porcupine and woodchuck hunting is open October 1 to March 31. Coyote hunting is open from November 1 to March 31. Raccoon hunting is open October 1 to December 31. Moose, turkey and crow hunting are prohibited.

Bois Bubert and Little Bois Bubert Islands (Milbridge):

These Islands are open to white-tailed deer, black bear (during firearms season for white-tailed deer), bobcat, raccoon, migratory game birds, ruffed grouse hunting is open in accordance with state regulations. Bobcat hunting is open December 1 to February 21. Red squirrel, porcupine and woodchuck hunting is open October 1 to March 31. Coyote hunting is open from November 1 to March 31 and raccoon hunting is open October 1 to December 31. Moose, turkey, crow and waterfowl hunting are prohibited.

Maine Coastal Islands NWR Islands:

Forty eight islands are open to hunting of migratory waterfowl: (See attached map).

WHERE, WHEN AND WHAT BIG GAME CAN YOU HUNT?

Black Bear, Bobcat and Raccoon

We allow hunting of black bear, bobcat and raccoon in accordance with State regulations and bag limits with the exception.

- No use of pursuit dogs
- No night hunting for raccoon
- No hunting over bait
- All species harvested on the Refuge, must be retrieved by the hunter

When can you hunt black bear, bobcat, coyote and raccoon?

- We only allow bear hunting during the firearms season for white-tailed deer.
- We allow bobcat and raccoon hunting during the State Prescribed season.
- We allow coyote hunting from November 1 to March 31.
- We allow bobcat hunting from December 1 to February 21.
- We allow raccoon hunting from October 1 to December 31.

Where can you hunt black bear, bobcat, coyote and raccoon?

- We allow bear, bobcat, coyote and raccoon hunting on Sawyer's Marsh Division, Bois Bubert and Little Bois Bubert Island (Milbridge) and Gouldsboro Bay Division (Gouldsboro)

White-Tailed Deer

We allow hunting white-tailed deer in accordance with State regulations, seasons, and bag limits at Gouldsboro Bay and Sawyers Marsh Divisions. Petit Manan Point Division is open only during the State Muzzleloader season on designated areas.

Where can you hunt Deer?

Bois Bubert and Little Bois Bubert (Milbridge)
Sawyer's Marsh (Milbridge)
Gouldsboro Bay (Gouldsboro)
Petit Manan Point (Steuben) -** **Muzzleloader Season Only**

Small Game

We allow hunting of ruffed grouse, snowshoe hare, red fox, gray and red squirrel, skunk, porcupine, coyote and woodchuck in accordance with State regulations and bag limits.

When can you hunt Small Game?

We allow hunting of above mentioned small game during the State prescribed seasons; however, we prohibit hunting on refuge lands from April 1 through September 30.

Where can you hunt?

Bois Bubert and Little Bois Bubert (Milbridge)
Sawyer's Marsh (Milbridge)
Gouldsboro Bay (Gouldsboro)

Migratory Game Bird Hunting

We allow hunting of ducks, geese, American woodcock, rail and Wilson's snipe in accordance to the State and Federal regulations and bag limits.

When can you hunt Migratory Game Birds?

During the state prescribed seasons.

Where can you hunt Migratory Game Birds?

Sawyer's Marsh (Milbridge)
Gouldsboro Bay (Gouldsboro)
Refuge islands (48) are identified, contact refuge for more information.

We allow waterfowl hunting on the following islands:

Spectacle, Libby, Stone, Eastern Brothers, Halifax, Schoppee, Inner Sand, Jordan's Delight, Petit Manan, Pop, Sheep, Sally, Abbott, Eastern, Sally, Egg Rock, North Twinnie, South Twinnie, Ship, Trumpet, East Barge, West Barge, Mahoney, John's, Gooseberry, Little Marshall, Three Bush, Compass, Brimstone, Little Brimstone West, Little Brimstone East, Little Brimstone North, Holden Ledge, Two Bush, Matinicus Rock, Two Bush, Hay Ledge, Brothers (North), Brothers (Central), Brothers (South), Hart, Little Thrumcap, Outer White, Outer Heron, Ram, Upper Flag, Pond Island, Franklin Island.

We prohibit erection of permanent waterfowl blinds.

You must remove all temporary blinds, concealment materials, boats, and decoys (see § 27.93 of this chapter) each day.

SIGNS USED TO 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. Entry is permitted only for authorized uses (hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, etc.)



This area is closed to all public entry. No hunting, fishing or other activities are permitted. Roads or trails posted with this sign are also closed.



This area is closed to all hunting. Firearms and archery equipment are strictly prohibited (see map).

Gouldsboro Bay

Open to hunting:

- * Big Game
- * Small Game
- * Upland & Migratory Birds

Except closed to Moose, Turkey, and Crow hunting

Trails
Parking lot

Gouldsboro, Maine



Sawyer's Marsh

Open to hunting:

- * Big Game
- * Small Game
- * Upland & Migratory Birds

Except closed to Moose, Turkey, and Crow hunting

Newly Acquired
Proposed Trail

Milbridge, Maine





U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Petit Manan Point Division

Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge

Petit Manan Point

Open Only to Muzzleloader
Deer Hunt Season
in Designated Hunt Zone

Steuben, Maine

Legend

- Hunt Zone
- Refuge boundary
- Private property
- Improved roads
- Trails
- Unimproved roads
- Parking lot
- Gate / Turn around
- Eagle nest

Boundary sign of
No Hunting Zone



U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge

Bois Bubert Island and Little Bois Bubert Island

Open to hunting:

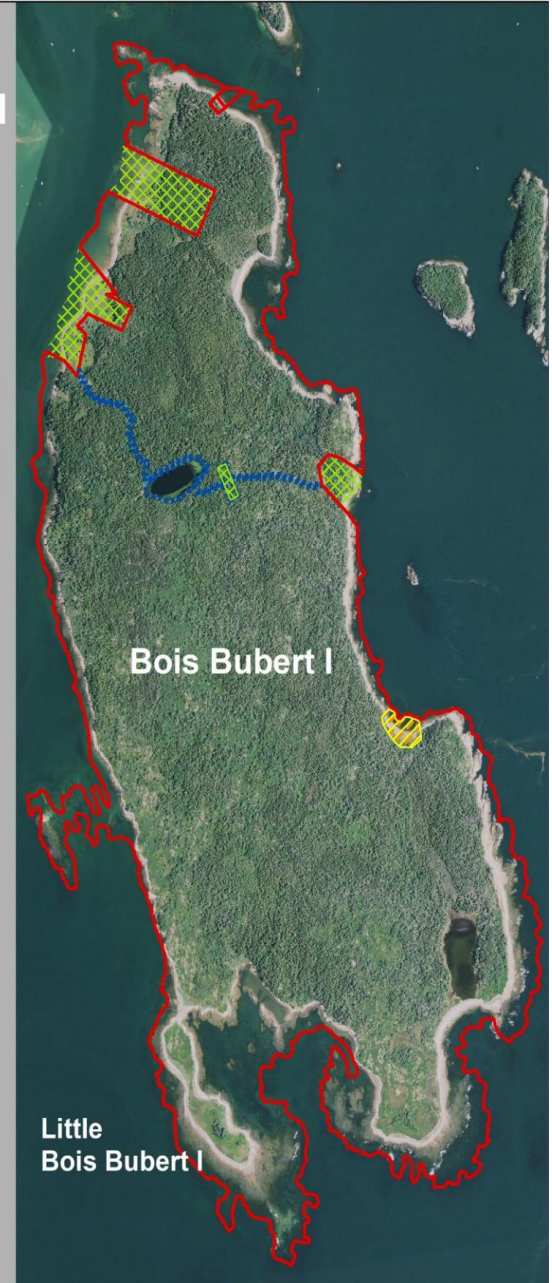
- * Big Game
- * Small Game
- * Upland & Migratory Birds

Except closed to Moose,
Turkey, Crow and Waterfowl
hunting

Legend

- Refuge boundary
- Private property
- Trails
- MITA camp site

Milbridge, Maine



Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge

