

Santee

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations and Permit 2022-2023



Santee National Wildlife Refuge General Hunt Permit 2022-2023

Name: _____

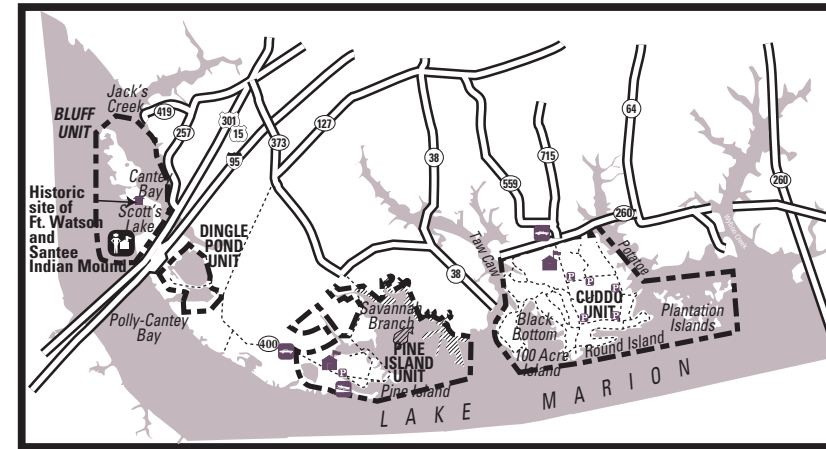
I have read and understand the refuge regulations.

This permit and attached regulations must be carried and in your possession at all times and is valid only when signed.

Date signed: _____

Hunter's signature: _____

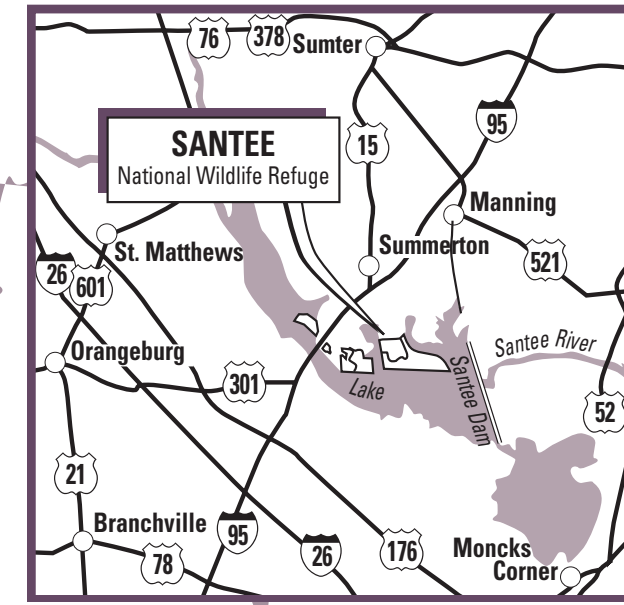
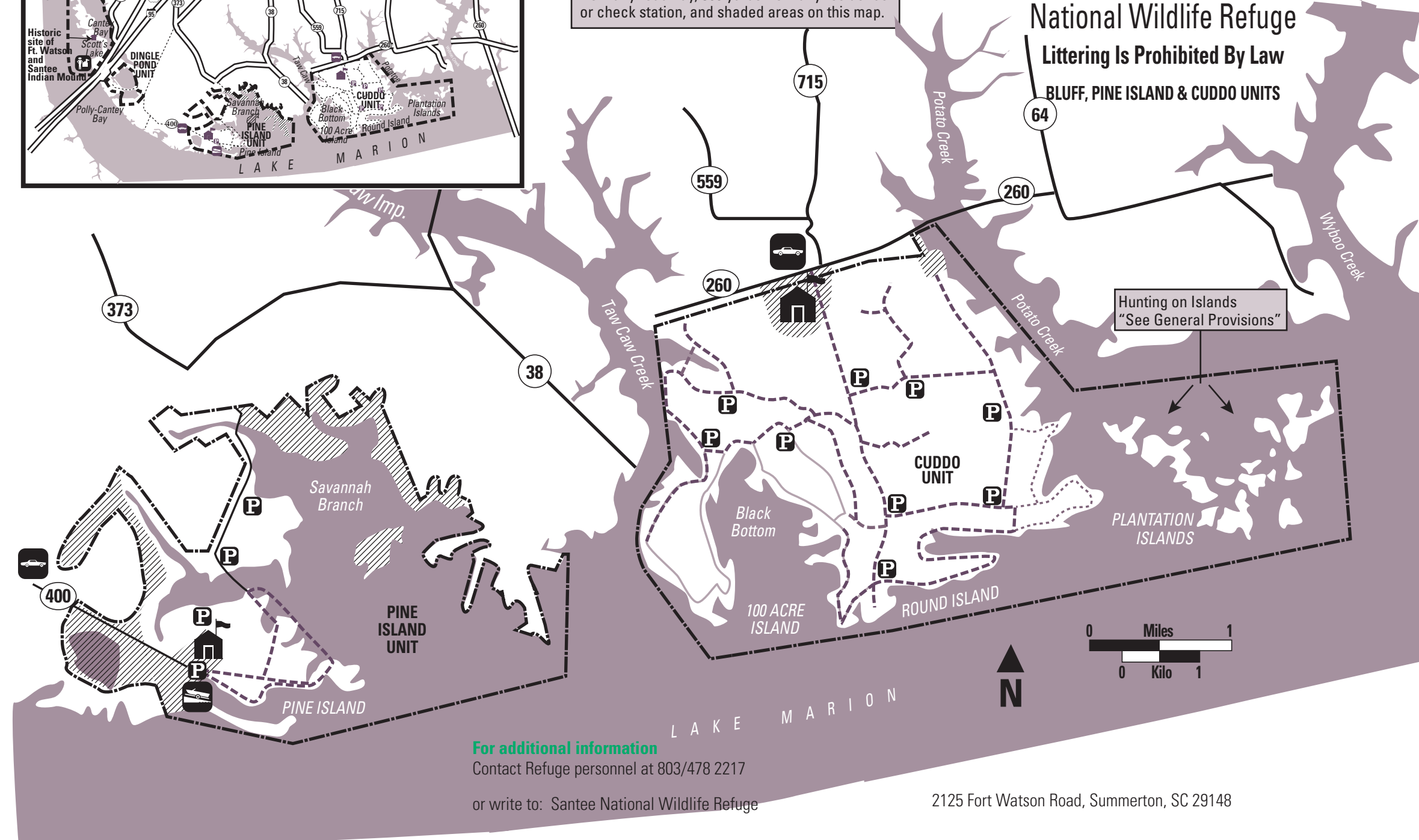
Take pride in your refuge. Do not litter!



No Hunting Zones include areas 100 feet from any roadway, 300 yards from any residence or check station, and shaded areas on this map.

Santee

National Wildlife Refuge
Littering Is Prohibited By Law
BLUFF, PINE ISLAND & CUDDO UNITS



Legend

- Refuge Boundary
- Paved Roads
- Unpaved Roads
- Vehicular access permitted
- Roads accessible only by foot or bicycle
- Designated Refuge Foot Trail
- Vehicle Entry Point
- Vehicle Parking Area
- Check Station
- Boat Ramp
- Visitor Center
- Area Closed to Hunting



For additional information
Contact Refuge personnel at 803/478 2217
or write to: Santee National Wildlife Refuge

2125 Fort Watson Road, Summerton, SC 29148



Santee National Wildlife Refuge is one of 568 National Wildlife Refuges in the U.S. and its territories. The mission of this system is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the U.S. for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans. Hunting is one tool used to harvest surplus animals to manage wildlife populations at a level compatible with the environment and to provide recreational opportunities.

The provisions listed below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting, fishing and public use on wildlife Refuge areas set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. When permitted, hunting, fishing and other public uses will be in accordance with applicable state laws unless otherwise listed. Only the hunting seasons designated in this brochure are permitted on Santee National Wildlife Refuge.

General Provisions

By law, recreational activities on National Wildlife Refuges are prohibited unless expressly permitted. Hunting, fishing, and certain other recreational uses are permitted on designated areas of Santee National Wildlife Refuge. Contact the Refuge Manager for current regulations and authorized activities.

- Hunters must personally check in and out daily at designated hunter check stations when entering and exiting any portion of the Refuge.
- All animals harvested on the Refuge must be checked at the check station prior to removing the animal from the Refuge.
- Hunters are required to make a reasonable effort to retrieve wounded game. Permission must be obtained from Refuge personnel to enter a "No Hunting Zone" or "Closed Area" for any purpose.
- Possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
- Fires, camping, and littering are prohibited.
- Vehicles may be parked alongside roads in a manner that will not block gates or fire lanes or interfere with the normal flow of traffic.
- Roads marked as closed may only be traveled on foot or bicycle.

- The speed limit on all Refuge roads is 15 mph unless posted otherwise.
- ATVs, UTVs, or other off-road vehicles are prohibited.
- The use of non-motorized boats is permitted for access via interior canals or inland areas open to hunting.
- Access roads closed to the general public for driving will be open only during deer hunts and on the day preceding each hunt period for stand placement. Scouting without weapons may occur anytime when the Refuge is open to public access prior to the hunts.

- The Plantation Islands (Cuddo Unit) areas are open to hunting 5 am - 8:30 pm. For safety purposes, hunters using Refuge islands must indicate that on the check-in sheet. Hunters must sign in and obtain refuge issued antlerless deer tags from the check station prior to daily hunt. Antlerless deer taken from islands must be tagged in accordance to state requirements. All harvested deer and unused antlerless deer tags must be checked in by 8:30 pm on the day of harvest/tag checkout.

General Hunting Regulations

Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State regulations and the following special Refuge regulations.

- This permit must be signed and carried at all times by the hunter, along with a state hunting license and government-issued photo identification.
- The only weapons allowed for hunting are those which have been specified for each hunt. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with Refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42) and specific Refuge regulations (50 CFR 32).
- Firearms being transported in vehicles and boats during Refuge hunts must be unloaded and cased or locked in a secure compartment (e.g. toolbox or trunk). A loaded firearm is defined as having ammunition in the chamber or magazine. Muzzleloaders will be considered unloaded if the percussion cap is not seated in the chamber.
- Poison arrow tips (pods), exploding arrows, center fire rifles, and handguns are prohibited.

- Hunting areas will be open from 5 am until 8:30 pm during designated deer hunt periods. All hunters are required to check out at the check station by 8:30 pm.
- Hunters are required to wear **at all times** a minimum of 500 square inches of solid fluorescent orange material above the waist during primitive and family and friends hunts.

- Baiting or hunting in the vicinity of bait is prohibited. Bating means placing, depositing, exposing, distributing, or scattering of corn (shelled, shucked, unshucked), wheat, other grains, other foods, or any other consumable attractant, including salt and mineral blocks, to constitute an attraction, lure or enticement to, on or over any area.

- Using illuminating devices for the purpose of spotlighting wildlife is prohibited.

- Possession of remote photography, videography, or any other remote device and trail monitoring/counting devices is prohibited.

- Entry beyond "Closed Area" or "No Hunting Zone" signs is prohibited. Weapons may not be discharged within, into, or across a "No Hunting Zone" or "Closed Area."

- Discharging a firearm from, on or across any Refuge road or designated Refuge foot trail is prohibited.

- Hunting from within 100 feet of any roadway, whether open or closed to vehicular traffic or from within 300 yards of any residence or designated hunter check station or residence is prohibited.

- Driving nails, screws, spikes or other metal objects into a tree or to hunt from a tree into which such objects has been driven is prohibited.

- Destroying or cutting vegetation is prohibited. The possession of axes, saws, machetes, or other tools used for cutting vegetation are not permitted on the Refuge while scouting or hunting.

- **Flagging is prohibited.** Clothes pins with reflective tape/tack, commercially made reflective orange glow or trail clips may be used to mark the path to the tree. All clothes pins must be marked with the hunter's full name and must be removed at the end of the hunt period. Any markers found without a name will be removed immediately.

- All hunters under the age of 16 must:
 - Have successfully completing a state approved hunter education course.
 - Be directly supervised (within sight and normal voice contact) by a properly licensed adult at least 21 years of age. An adult may supervise only one youth.

Specific Hunt Regulations

Deer and Feral Hog Hunting

- Archery season: only bows and crossbows, in accordance with state regulations, are authorized.

- Primitive weapons season: only bows or muzzleloaders (black powder) and crossbows in accordance with state regulations are authorized

- Man drives and stalk hunting for deer and hogs is prohibited.

- The use of dogs during deer hunts is prohibited.

Bag Limit

- Bag limit: 1 antlered and 1 antlerless deer per day

- **Feral hogs may be harvested as an incidental take while hunting for deer only.** No bag limit.

Deer Tagging Requirements

- Antlered deer must be tagged in accordance to State tagging requirements law with personally issued State DNR deer tags. State law requires all antlered deer harvested on the Refuge to be tagged before moving the deer from the point of kill.

- State DNR personally-issued deer tags must be in possession while hunting.

- Antlerless deer tags will be provided by the Refuge at the check station.

- All deer must be checked in and reported at Refuge check station.

Shooting Hours

- Shooting hours are from half an hour before sunrise until half an hour after sunset.

Scouting

- Scouting at the Pine Island and Cuddo Units is allowed without weapons, anytime when the Refuge is open to public access. Scouting is NOT allowed when the Refuge is open to hunting.

- Weapons and dogs are prohibited during scouting activities.

Hunting Stands

- Any stands found within designated hunt areas outside of allowed periods will be confiscated. All stands must be removed by 8:30 pm on the final day of the respective open hunt period.

- Deer and feral hog hunting must occur from portable elevated hunting stands. Ground blinds are prohibited.

- **Only one stand per hunter is permitted and must be clearly marked with the hunter's full name, date and phone number. This rule will be STRICTLY enforced.**

- A safety belt or harness must be utilized while using a hunting stand.

Family, Friends, & Kids – Adult/Child Lottery Deer Hunt

- Hunters will be selected from applications received by Sep. 12, 2022. Selected hunters will be notified by Sep. 19, 2022.

- Hunters may use muzzleloaders (black powder) or shotguns with slugs.

- Both the youth and the accompanying adult will hunt from the same stand. Fixed, two-person ladder stands will be provided.

- Both the adult and youth may actively hunt during these hunts, provided the youth meets age and hunter education requirements. Children under 10 years of age or without a valid hunter education certificate are encouraged to participate but will not be allowed to possess or discharge a firearm.

- Bag limit: 1 antlered and 1 antlerless deer per day

- Applications for Family Friendly Hunts may be obtained: online at www.fws.gov/santee by calling the Refuge office at 803/478 2217 or by emailing monica_williams@fws.gov

Raccoon and Opossum

- No hunting is permitted on Saturdays or Sundays.

- Hunting hours are 6 pm to 6 am.

- Special state regulations on night hunting apply.

- State bag limits apply.

- Raccoon/opossum Hunting Weapons and Ammunition: Shotgun with non-toxic shot size no larger than # 4's .22 caliber rimfire rifle

- Possession of buckshot or slugs is prohibited.

- Dogs may be used raccoon hunting and must wear collar with owner's name, address and phone number.

2022 - 2023 Hunt Season Dates

White-tailed Deer and Feral Hogs

Cuddo Unit

Archery only: September 24 - October 8, 2022
Primitive weapons only: Oct. 14-16, 2022 and Nov. 4-6, 2022

Pine Island Unit

Archery only: September 24 - October 8, 2022
Primitive weapons only: October 14-16, 2022 and November 4-6, 2022

Family, Friends & Kids – Adult/Child Lottery Hunt Bluff Unit

October 8-9, 2022 (Saturday and Sunday morning)
October 21-22, 2022 (Friday and Saturday evening)

Raccoon and Opossum

Cuddo Unit Only
February 27 - March 3, 2023 and March 6-10, 2023

South Carolina Hunter Education Course

Visit the SCDNR website at:
<http://www.dnr.sc.gov/education/hunted.html>