

# North Platte

## National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing



The Blue Goose is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands and waters managed for the benefit of wildlife and people.



### Welcome

Welcome to North Platte National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), established in 1916 as a preserve and breeding ground for native birds.

### General Information

North Platte NWR is located approximately 10 miles northeast of Scottsbluff, Nebraska. The 2,722-acre Refuge has four separate units:

- Stateline Island: open year-round
- Winters Creek Lake: open January 15 - October 14
- Lake Minatare: open January 15 - October 14
- Lake Alice: open January 15 - October 31

Within their open seasons, these units are open from sunrise to sunset to general entry. Exceptions to these hours for hunting are noted in the hunting regulations table.

Motor vehicles are allowed only on designated roads and in hunter parking areas.

Pets must be on a leash with the exception of dogs that are used for hunting upland game.

### Prohibited Activities

- Possession of alcoholic beverages.
- Commercial guiding or use of a commercial guide to hunt.
- Target shooting.
- Use of tree stands, tree-climbing spikes, or screw-in steps that penetrate bark and cause damage to the tree.
- Use of boats powered by internal combustion motors.
- Camping.
- Open fires.
- Driving on frozen lakes.

### Hunting Regulations Table

Hunting is in accordance with State regulations. In addition, Refuge-specific regulations must be followed and are listed in the table below.

Activity	Season Dates	Hunt Areas	Other Regulations
<b>Archery Only - Mule deer, white-tailed deer</b>	Beginning of State season through October 31.	Lake Alice Unit	Hunters can enter the Lake Alice Unit 1 hour prior to sunrise and remain on the Unit until 1 hour after sunset.  Temporary blinds and stands are allowed. They must be removed at the end of each day.
<b>Youth - Mule deer, white-tailed deer</b>	Beginning of State season through October 31.	Lake Alice Unit and Stateline Island Unit	Youth hunters and their mentors can enter the Lake Alice Unit 1 hour prior to sunrise and remain on the Unit until 1 hour after sunset.  Temporary blinds and stands are allowed. They must be removed at the end of each day.  To provide for safety, a limited number of hunters are allowed on Stateline Island Unit. Contact Refuge Manager for details.
<b>Youth - Pheasant</b>	Nebraska Youth Pheasant Season.	Lake Alice Unit	Non-toxic shot required.
<b>Youth - Turkey</b>	Nebraska Youth Spring Turkey Season and Fall Turkey Season through October 31.	Lake Alice Unit and Stateline Island Unit	To provide for safety, a limited number of hunters are allowed on Stateline Island Unit. Contact Refuge Manager for details.
<b>Youth - Badger, coyote, fox, long-tailed weasel, mink, opossum, porcupine, prairie dog, rabbit, raccoon, squirrel, striped skunk</b>	Beginning of State season through October 31.	Lake Alice Unit	Non-toxic shot required for all shotgun hunting.

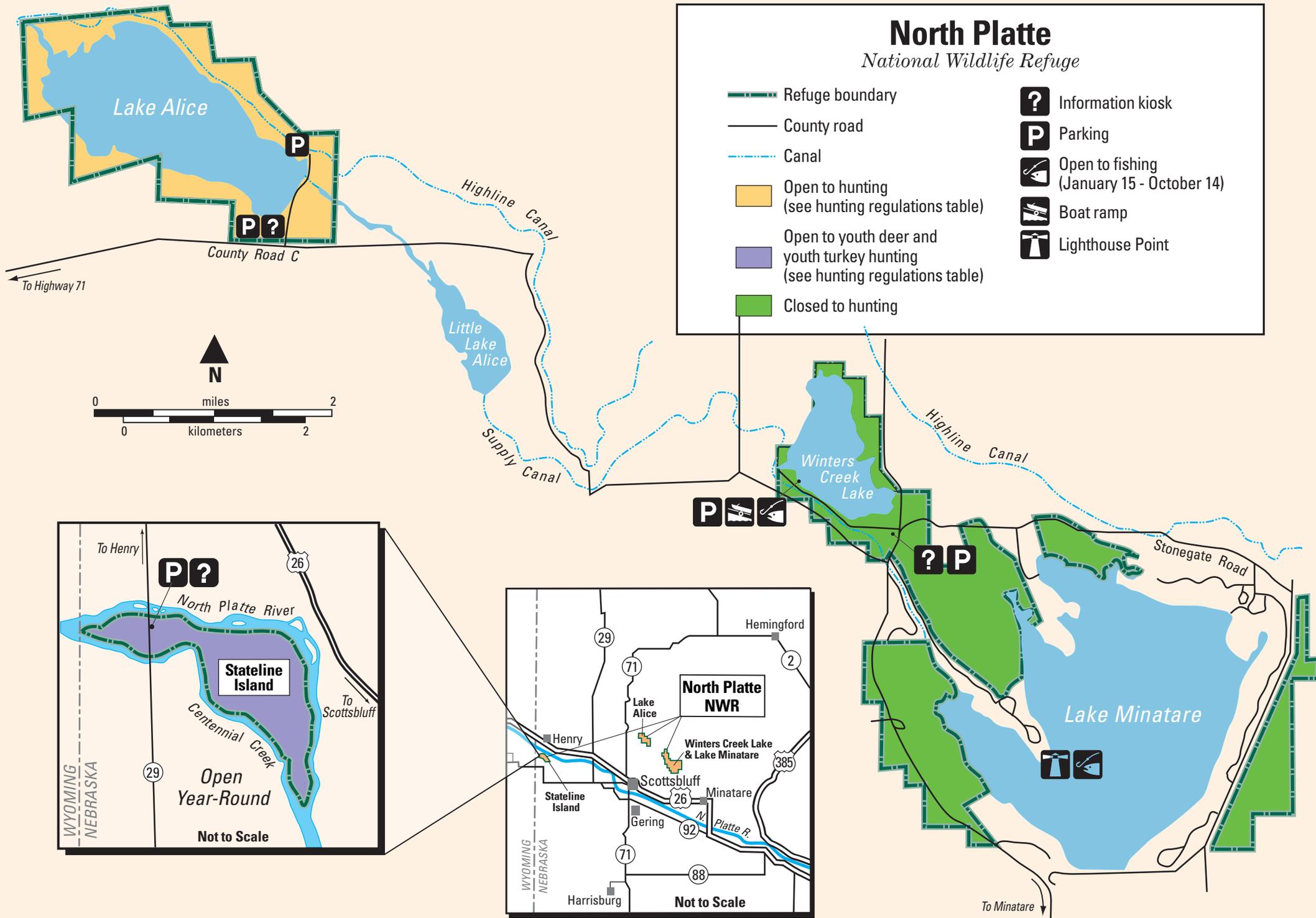
### Accessibility

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**North Platte NWR**  
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 Ellsworth, NE 69340  
 308-762-4893  
[crescentlake@fws.gov](mailto:crescentlake@fws.gov)  
[https://www.fws.gov/refuge/north\\_platte/](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/north_platte/)  
**For State Transfer Relay Service**  
 TTY / Voice: 711

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**  
<http://www.fws.gov>  
**For Refuge Information**  
 1-800-344-WILD  
**September 2020**





**Firearms**  
Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuge System lands 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 50 CFR Part 32.)

**Hunting and Fishing Regulations**  
Hunting and fishing are permitted in accordance with Federal regulations governing public use on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Hunting and fishing are allowed on the Refuge in accordance with State regulations and the Refuge-specific regulations in this brochure.

**Hunting**  
The Refuge is open to hunting of resident game species following State regulations and Refuge-specific regulations, as indicated in the hunting regulations table and on the map. Please note that the majority of hunting opportunities are for youth hunters.

**Fishing**  
Fishing is allowed only on Winters Creek Lake from January 15 through October 14. Boats with electric motors may be used.



Refuge boundary sign – area behind these signs are Refuge lands.  
 Closed area sign – all public entry prohibited.  
 No hunting is allowed in the area behind these signs.