

Introduction

Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 540 national wildlife refuges. The primary objective of a national wildlife refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. The harvest of animals is one tool used to manage fish and wildlife populations. Carefully managed hunting and fishing help maintain these populations at a level compatible with the environment, provide wholesome recreational opportunities, and permit the use of valuable renewable resources.

The regulations in this pamphlet supplement the general regulations governing hunting and fishing on national wildlife refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting and fishing will be in accordance with applicable state regulations except as noted below.

As you use the refuge, take pride in America and the refuge resources. Report violations promptly. Respect the rights of others using the refuge.

Warning

Use caution when operating boats or wading in flooded areas of the refuge. Obstructions/obstacles may be submerged and unmarked.

All boats must comply with state law and display proper navigation lights from sunset to sunrise.

General Hunting Regulations

Permits

A signed refuge hunting permit (front of this brochure) must be carried by all hunters.

Restricted Areas

Hunting is restricted in certain areas as shown on the hunting map. No hunting is allowed within the maintained rights-of-way of the roads, ATV trails and electric transmission lines shown on the map. Hunters may not access the hunting area by boat from the public launch site.

Hunters may enter the refuge no earlier than 4 am and must exit no later than one hour after legal shooting hours unless otherwise specified.

Youth

The definition of youth hunters on the refuge is as follows: 17 years old and under for all hunting except for migratory bird hunts, youth must be 15 years old or under. Youths must be closely supervised (in sight and in normal voice contact) by an adult at least 21 years old. An adult may supervise only one youth on a big game hunt and no more than two youths on a small game or waterfowl hunt. **Youth hunters are no longer required to have completed a hunter education course to hunt on the refuge.**

Firearms and Ammunition

Firearms are permitted only during the refuge gun hunting seasons. Except for raccoon hunting, firearms are not allowed on the refuge at night. Firearms larger than .22 caliber rimfire, shotgun slugs, and buckshot are prohibited. Use or possession of lead shot is prohibited. **Firearms being transported in motorized vehicles and ATVs must be completely unloaded and encased.**

Safety

Hunters participating in special dog season for rabbit hunting must wear an orange hat. Although highly recommended, the International Bowhunters Education certification is no longer required to archery deer hunt on the refuge.

Disabled

Medically certified disabled sportsmen that need assistance should contact the Refuge Manager.

ATV Regulations

ATVs are permitted on trails designated for their use (see map). The trails are marked with signs and will be closed March 1 through August 31. ATVs are prohibited from one hour after legal shooting hours to 4 a.m. Raccoon hunters may not use ATVs. **ATV tires are restricted to those no larger than 25 x 12 with a maximum 1” lug height and a maximum allowable tire pressure of 7 psi. as indicated on the tire by the manufacturer. ATVs cannot exceed 750 lbs., 85” in length and 48” in width. Use of all other ATVs or ATV tires is prohibited on the refuge.**

Summary of Recent Regulation Changes

- Youth hunters will be considered 17 years old and under for all hunting except migratory bird youth hunters will be 15 years old and under.
- Firearms being transported in motorized vehicles and ATVs must be completely unloaded and encased.
- Although highly recommended, the International Bowhunters Education certification is no longer required to archery deer hunt on the refuge.
- Youth hunters are no longer required to have completed a hunter education course to hunt on the refuge.
- ATV tires are restricted to those no larger than 25 x 12 with a maximum 1” lug height and a maximum allowable tire pressure of 7 psi. as indicated on the tire by the manufacturer. ATVs cannot exceed 750 lbs., 85” in length and 48” in width. Use of all other ATVs or ATV tires is prohibited on the refuge.
- Hunters participating in special dog season for rabbit hunting must wear an orange hat.

2009-2010 Hunting Seasons/Regulations		
<i>Type</i>	<i>Season Dates</i>	<i>Specific Regulations</i>
Ducks, Coot	State season; closed during special teal season	Hunting until noon in designated area. See map. Recognized breeds of retrievers may be used. Construction of and/or hunting from permanent blinds is prohibited. Boats, blinds, and decoys may not be left unattended.
Quail, Woodcock	State season	Hunting in designated area only. Recognized breeds of bird dogs may be used for hunting.
Squirrel, Rabbit	State season, except closed in Spring season	Hunting in designated area only. Dogs may be used in January and February only.
Raccoon, Opossum	Dec 1, 2009-Jan 31, 2010 for night hunting. May be taken during daylight hours of rabbit and squirrel season.	Hunting in designated area only. Elevated levels of mercury contamination have been found in refuge raccoons. It is recommended that they not be eaten. Raccoons taken on the refuge may not be sold for human consumption.
Coyotes, Beaver	All refuge hunts	Hunting in designated area only. No bag limit. May be taken only with weapons legal for particular season.
Deer Archery	State season	Hunting in designated area only. Possession or use of pods is prohibited. Limit of one deer per day, either sex. Possession or distribution of bait while in the field and hunting with the aid of bait is prohibited, including any grain, salt, mineral, or any non-natural occurring food attractant on the refuge.
Deer Gun Hunting	CLOSED	

Prohibited Activities

- Launching boats with motors greater than 50 horsepower.
- Camping
- Open fires
- Littering
- Possession of deer decoys
- Overnight parking
- Commercial fishing
- Target practice
- Taking of wildlife (including frogs, turtles and mollusks) and plants other than specified in refuge regulations
- Using motorized vehicles off the designated public access roads. This includes motorcycles, ATVs, jeeps, cars, trucks, etc. Parking is restricted to parking areas and along public access roads which are shown on map.
- Taking or possession of waterfowl, big or small game, fish, or plants by use of a guide or outfitter is prohibited.
- Driving or screwing a nail, spike, or other metal object into a tree or hunting from any tree in which a nail, spike, or other metal object has been driven or screwed.

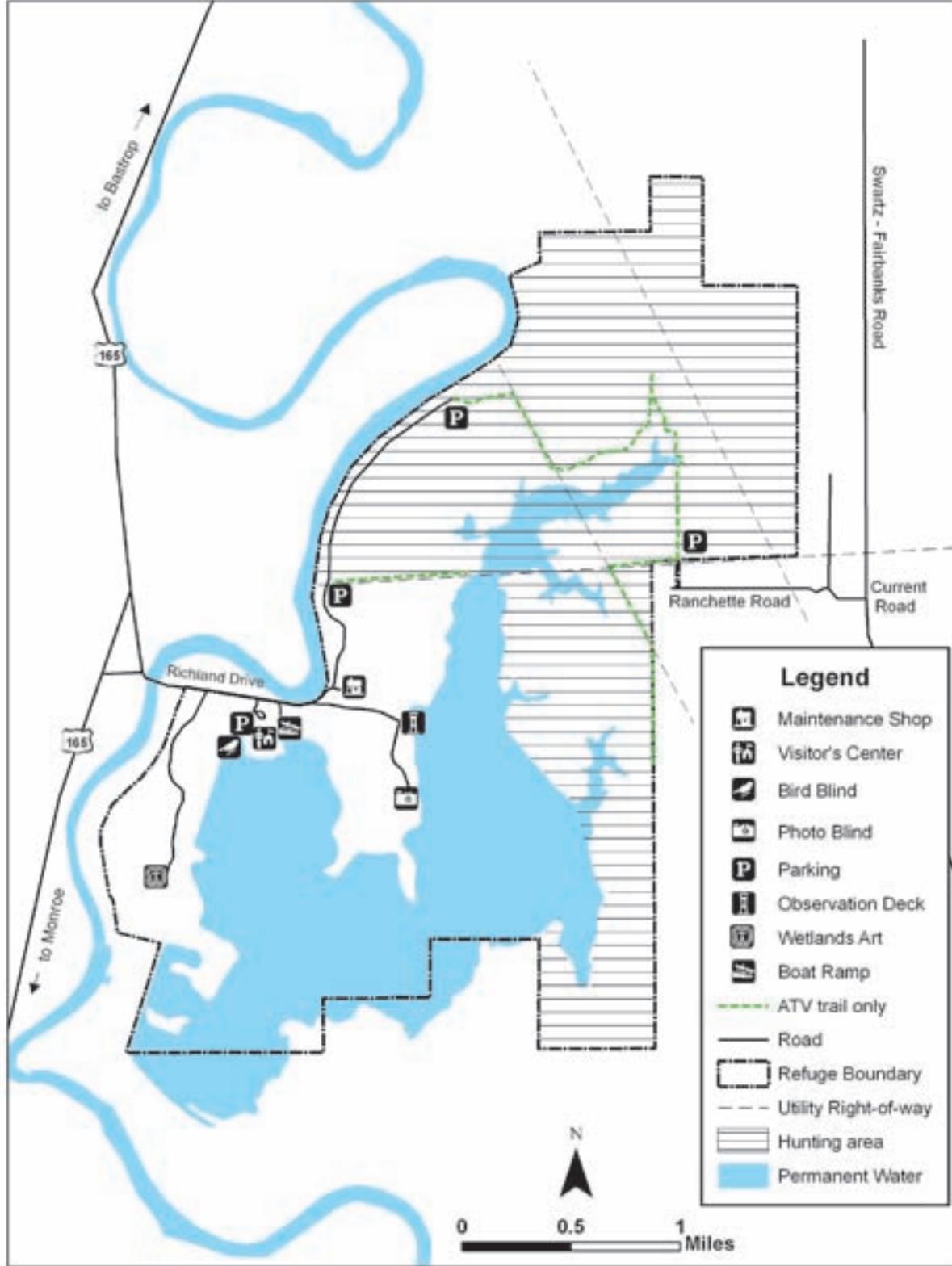
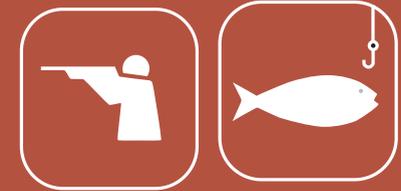
- Possession or distribution of bait while in the field and hunting with the aid of bait, including any grain, salt, mineral, or any non-natural occurring food attractant on the refuge.
- Using trotlines, limb lines, yo-yos, traps or nets.
- Participating in deer drives
- Launching personal watercraft (jet skis)
- Crossing the plastic water hyacinth booms in a boat
- Possessing or using alcoholic beverages while hunting
- Searching for or removing any object of antiquity, including arrowheads, pottery or other artifacts
- Using horses and mules
- Leaving personal property unattended (includes boats, deer stands, blinds, decoys)
- Leaving flagging or other trail markers

Warning

On May 29, 2003, the state of Louisiana issued the following fish consumption advisory for Black Bayou Lake:

For women of childbearing age and children under the age of seven—no consumption of bowfin (choupique, grinnel); other adults and children over the age of seven—limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) to 1 meal per month.

Black Bayou Lake *National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing Regulations 2009-2010*



Black Bayou Lake
National Wildlife Refuge
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Farmerville, LA 71241
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<http://southeast.fws.gov>

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

June 2009



Refuge Hunting Permit 2009 - 2010 Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge

I have read and understand these regulations.

Signature of hunter

This permit is valid only when signed and must be carried on hunter's person (may cut out)