

Lewis and Clark

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations 2025–2026



Welcome

Located in the Columbia River, the Lewis and Clark National Wildlife Refuge is part of the largest marsh in NW Oregon. The Refuge's estuary islands form a chain that begins at Tongue Point and follows the Oregon shore of the Columbia's main river channel east to Welch Island. The Refuge includes over 12,000 acres of islands, sandbars, mud flats and tidal marshes which provide habitat for a variety of fish and waterfowl. Hunting of geese, ducks, coots, and snipe is permitted on the shorelines and interior sloughs of Refuge islands in accordance with federal and state hunting regulations. The hunting of all other species is prohibited.

Safety - Tides

Hunters are cautioned to pay attention to tidal fluctuations when hunting tidal areas.

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).

All hunters are required to use only federally approved nontoxic shot while waterfowl hunting. Use or possession of lead shot is prohibited while hunting waterfowl.

Accessibility Information

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of physical or mental ability. For more information please contact the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, <https://www.doi.gov/pmb/eeo/public-civil-rights>.

Hunting Regulations

Hunting regulations are designed to provide safe recreational opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. Hunting is 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."

Waterfowl hunting will be in accordance with applicable Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regulations subject to the conditions stated below.

Access

The Refuge is open daily from dawn to dusk. Hunting access is from 1 1/2 hours before legal sunrise until 1 1/2 hours after legal sunset.

Hunting of geese, ducks, coots, and snipe is permitted on the shorelines and interior sloughs of Refuge islands in accordance with federal and state hunting regulations. The hunting of all other species is prohibited. Portions of Karlson Island and all of Miller Sands Island, including the partially enclosed lagoon, are closed to hunting (see map). In addition, all other Refuge

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1-800-344-WILD

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Signs and Boundaries

Safety Zones: You may not shoot or discharge any hunting firearm from, across, or along a public highway, designated route of travel, road, road shoulder, road embankment, or designated parking area.

Applies to the area located behind the sign

- Refuge Boundary: Entry permitted in accordance with refuge regulations
- Closed Area: All entry prohibited
- No Hunting Zone: Hunting, weapons, and game retrieval prohibited

lands outside the designated portions of the Refuge islands are also closed to waterfowl hunting, including the Tongue Point and Brownsmead Units.

Foot Traffic Only

All island units of the Refuge are open to foot traffic only unless otherwise specified.

Boats

The islands of Lewis and Clark Refuge are accessible only by boat. Tidal flows and fluctuations, strong wakes from ships, and strong winds can make boating difficult and sometimes dangerous. Deep channels separate most islands at high tide, but tide tables and navigation charts should be consulted to avoid grounding on sandbars. If your boat becomes stuck in the mud, wait for the next high tide to float it free. In Oregon, boat launch sites are located at Aldrich Point near the Brownsmead area and at the John Day boat ramp east of Astoria. In Washington, launch ramps are located at the Cathlamet Marina, at mile marker 30 off of State Highway 4, adjacent to Skamokawa Vista Park and at Willow Grove west of Longview.

Temporary blinds may be constructed, but they must be available to everyone on a first-come, first-served basis. We prohibit permanent blinds. You must remove all personal property, including decoys and boats, 1 1/2 hour after legal sunset.

Dogs

Dogs are prohibited on the Refuge, except service dogs and dogs used for waterfowl hunting.

Prohibited Activities

- Possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting
- Camping and fires
- Motorized equipment: All-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, ebikes, and chain saws. Motorized boats are allowed.
- Searching for or removal of any natural items such as antlers, skulls, plants, historic, and archaeological features
- Use of electronic or photographic trail monitoring devices
- Takeoff and Landing of Uncrewed Aircraft Systems/Drone
- Distribution of bait and hunting over bait
- Ammunition that may not be legally used for taking waterfowl, only federally approved non-toxic shot may be used or possessed

This is a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands and waters managed for the benefit of wildlife and people.



Activity	Season Dates
Youth Hunt	Sept. 27 - 28
Veterans and Active Military	Jan. 31
Duck Season (Including coots)	Oct. 11 – 26 & Oct. 30 – Jan. 25
Scaup	Nov. 1 – Jan. 25
Canada Goose (September)	Sept. 6 – Sept. 20
Canada Goose (Regular)	Oct. 18 – Oct. 26 & Nov. 22 – Jan. 9, & Jan. 31 – Feb. 15
White-fronted and White Goose (Regular)	Oct. 18 - Oct. 26 & Nov. 8 - Jan. 25, & Jan. 31 - Feb. 15
Dusky Canada Goose	CLOSED
Snipe	Nov. 1 – Feb. 15

