

News Release



Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex
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Corvallis, Oregon 97333
Phone: 541/757-7236
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/William_L_Finley/

Date: July 1, 2023

Contact: Brian Root, Refuge Biologist

William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge (Snag Boat Bend Unit) 2023-2024 Black-tailed Deer and Waterfowl Hunts

Black-tailed deer and waterfowl hunting will be allowed at designated portions of the Snag Boat Bend Unit (a unit of the William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge in Linn County, OR). Hunting seasons include several opportunities during early September 2023 through mid-March 2024. See refuge maps at the website link below.

Deer Hunting

The Snag Boat Bend (SBB) Unit will provide deer hunting opportunities for archery and short-range firearms, as per the regulations below. Season dates follow those published in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's *2023 Oregon Big Game Hunting Regulation* for Willamette Unit 15. Hunters must possess a valid Oregon state General Archery, Willamette Unit 615, or General Any Legal Weapon tag to hunt deer on the SBB Unit.

Archery-only tag:

- With a General Archery deer tag, archery hunting is allowed in SBB **Zones 1 and 2** from September 2nd through October 1st and November 25th through December 17th. One deer of either sex may be harvested.

Firearms ("Any Legal Weapon") tag:

- In **Zone 1**, short-range firearms (shotgun with slugs, muzzleloader) and archery hunting are allowed with a Willamette Unit 615 tag from September 1st, 2023 through February 29th, 2024, and with a General Any Legal Weapon deer tag from October 7th through November 10th.
 - buckshot and centerfire/rimfire weapons are **NOT** allowed for hunting
- In **Zone 2**, hunters with Willamette Unit 615 or General Any Legal Weapon deer tags are limited to **archery hunting ONLY**, within the season dates specified above for Zone 1. Zone 2 includes the areas adjacent to the Observation Blind and private residence at the northeastern corner of the refuge property.
- One deer of either sex may be harvested with a General Archery or Willamette Unit 615 tag. Only deer with one visible antler may be harvested with a General Any Legal Weapon deer tag.

Waterfowl Hunting

The SBB Unit will provide waterfowl hunting opportunities for ducks, coots, and geese in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Zone 1 (ducks) and Northwest Permit Zone (geese). Season dates and other regulations follow those published in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's *2023-24 Oregon Game Bird*

Hunting Regulations. Hunters must possess all appropriate, valid Oregon state licenses and validations, as well as a valid Federal Waterfowl Stamp.

- Waterfowl hunting is allowed only in SBB **Zone 1**.
- Walk-in waterfowl hunting generally is limited to the banks of the Willamette River and adjacent backwaters. When Willamette River levels are high, intermittently flooded forests in the western portion of SBB Zone 1 may provide occasional hunting opportunities.

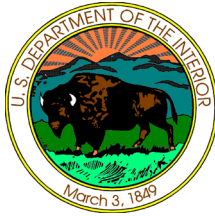
A self-service hunt kiosk is located at the west side of the main Snag Boat Bend parking lot. Maps and regulations are posted at the hunt kiosk and on the Refuge website:

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/William_L_Finley/

Hunters are permitted on refuge one hour before and one hour after legal hunting time. Hunters under 18 must have their hunter safety card on their person. All hunters must visit the Refuge website or one of the self-service hunt kiosks on or before their first hunt day to read the most up-to-date Refuge hunt regulations. Hunters may use portable or climbing deer stands. Overnight camping and after-hours parking are prohibited on the Refuge.

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.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov --FWS--



United States Department of the Interior
U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
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2023-2024 HUNT INFORMATION

SNAG BOAT BEND UNIT

(A UNIT OF THE WILLIAM L. FINLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE)

HUNTING IS ALLOWED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH OREGON STATE REGULATIONS, AND SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

GENERAL HUNTING REGULATIONS for the SNAG BOAT BEND UNIT

- Hunting is allowed for **black-tailed deer** and **waterfowl** during specified seasons (see Hunt Calendars).
- Except as modified below, all deer and waterfowl hunting at the Snag Boat Bend Unit follows the regulations published by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). See:
 - *2023 Oregon Big Game Hunting Regulations* and
 - *2023-24 Oregon Game Bird Hunting Regulations*
- **Deer Hunting @ Snag Boat Bend Unit:**
 - Deer may be harvested with appropriate state-issued tag:
 - General Archery (one deer), General Any Legal Weapon (one deer with visible antler), or Willamette Unit 615 (one deer)
 - Unless the dates are listed as archery only, all refuge hunting is restricted to archery, shotguns using slugs, and muzzleloaders
 - **No** buckshot ammunition or centerfire / rimfire rifles or handguns are allowed
 - Hunters are limited to one (1) portable hunting stand on the refuge at any time. Hunters may erect their stand one (1) day prior to their permitted refuge hunt and must remove it the last day they hunt. Hunters must affix the owner's name, address, and phone number to stands.
- **Waterfowl Hunting @ Snag Boat Bend Unit:**
 - "Waterfowl" includes ducks (incl. mergansers), coots, and geese
 - Waterfowl may be harvested with appropriate state-issued license, validations, and Federal Waterfowl Stamp
 - Duck and Coot Hunting is within ODFW's 'Zone 1' and 'Zone 1 Scaup'
 - Goose Hunting is within ODFW's 'Northwest Permit Zone'
 - all goose hunters must have a valid 2023-24 Northwest Goose Permit during the Northwest Permit Season (Oct 21, 2023 through March 10, 2024)
- **Deer and Waterfowl Hunting (General):**
 - Hunting is permitted seven days a week. Normal Refuge hours are dawn to dusk daily.
 - Hunters are permitted on refuge one (1) hour before and one (1) hour after legal hunting time. You must contact a refuge law enforcement officer to retrieve a wounded animal after hours.
 - Hunters under 18 must have their hunter safety card on their person.
 - Hunters must visit the Refuge website or self-service hunt kiosks on or before their first hunt day to read the most up-to-date Refuge hunt regulations.
 - Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on national wildlife refuges must comply with all provisions of State and local law.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- Overnight camping
- After hours parking
- The use of nails, wire, screws, or bolts to attach a stand to a tree, or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven to support a hunter
- Cutting or removing trees and other vegetation
- The use of flagging, paint, blazes, tacks, or other types of markers
- The use of dogs to hunt or track wounded game (except for retrieving waterfowl)
- The use of trail cameras
- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances

SELF-SERVICE HUNT KIOSK and REFUGE WEBSITE INFORMATION

- A self-service kiosk is located on the Snag Boat Bend Unit at the main Parking Area. Please see the 2023 *Hunting Zone* map for kiosk location.
- **FOR MORE REFUGE HUNTING INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT THE REFUGE WEBSITE:**
https://www.fws.gov/refuge/William_L_Finley/

**Please Respect
Adjacent Private Lands
and Landowners**


2023-2024 Snag Boat Bend Unit Hunt Calendars

Deer (Black-tailed)

Tag Required	Dates							Weapons Allowed	
	2023					2024		Zone 1	Zone 2
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb		
General Archery*		2 <hr/>	1		25 <hr/>	17		Archery Only	Archery Only
Willamette Unit 615*		1 <hr/>					29	Archery, Shotgun with slugs, Muzzleloader	
General Any Legal Weapon**			7 <hr/>	10					

*General Archery and Willamette Unit 615 tags: one (1) deer either sex
 **General Any Legal Weapon season: one (1) buck deer with visible antler

Waterfowl (Ducks [incl. mergansers], Coots, and Geese#)

Season	Dates							Weapons Allowed	
	2023				2024			Zone 1	Zone 2
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar		
Ducks and Coots:								Shotguns w/ approved non- toxic shot, Archery	No Waterfowl Hunting Allowed
ODFW Zone 1 *		14 29 <hr/>	2 <hr/>			28			
ODFW Zone 1 Scaup (½ hour before sunrise to sunset)			4 <hr/>			28			
Geese:									
ODFW Northwest Permit Zone ** (sunrise to sunset)	9 17 <hr/>	21 29 <hr/>	18 <hr/>		12 <hr/>	10 <hr/>	10		
Veterans and Active Military Personnel Waterfowl Hunt (Feb 3, 2024) ***						3 			

*** DUCKS AND COOTS:**

- The daily bag limit of ducks (including mergansers) is seven (7). Within the daily bag limit, you may not have more than: two (2) scaup (during open season), two (2) hen mallards, one (1) pintail, two (2) redheads, and two (2) canvasbacks.
- The season for coots is concurrent with the Zone 1 Duck season. Daily bag limit is 25 coots.
- The possession limit is triple the daily bag limit.

**** GEESE:**

- Within the ODFW Northwest Permit Zone, the season for dusky Canada geese is **CLOSED**.
 - A dusky Canada goose is any dark-breasted (Munsell 10 YR color value 5 or less) Canada goose with a bill length between 40 and 50 millimeters.
- During the September Canada goose season (Sep 9 - 17, 2023), the daily bag limit is five (5) Canada/cackling geese.
- During the Northwest Permit Season, daily bag limits of geese are: three (3) Canada geese (except dusky Canada geese which are closed to harvest), ten (10) white-fronted geese, and twenty (20) white geese.
- The possession limit is triple the daily bag limit.

*** VETERANS AND ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL WATERFOWL HUNT: see 2023-24 Oregon Game Bird Regulations (p.19) for details.

The term "Canada Goose" is defined as: any Canada goose (*Branta canadensis*) or cackling goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) including but not limited to the following subspecies; western (*B. c. moffitti*), Vancouver (*B. c. fulva*), dusky (*B. c. occidentalis*), lesser (*B.c. parvipes*), Taverner's (*B. h. taverneri*), Aleutian (*B. h. leucopareia*), and cackling (*B. h. minima*).

The term "White Goose" is defined as: Snow goose (*Anser caerulescens*) and Ross' goose (*A. rossii*).

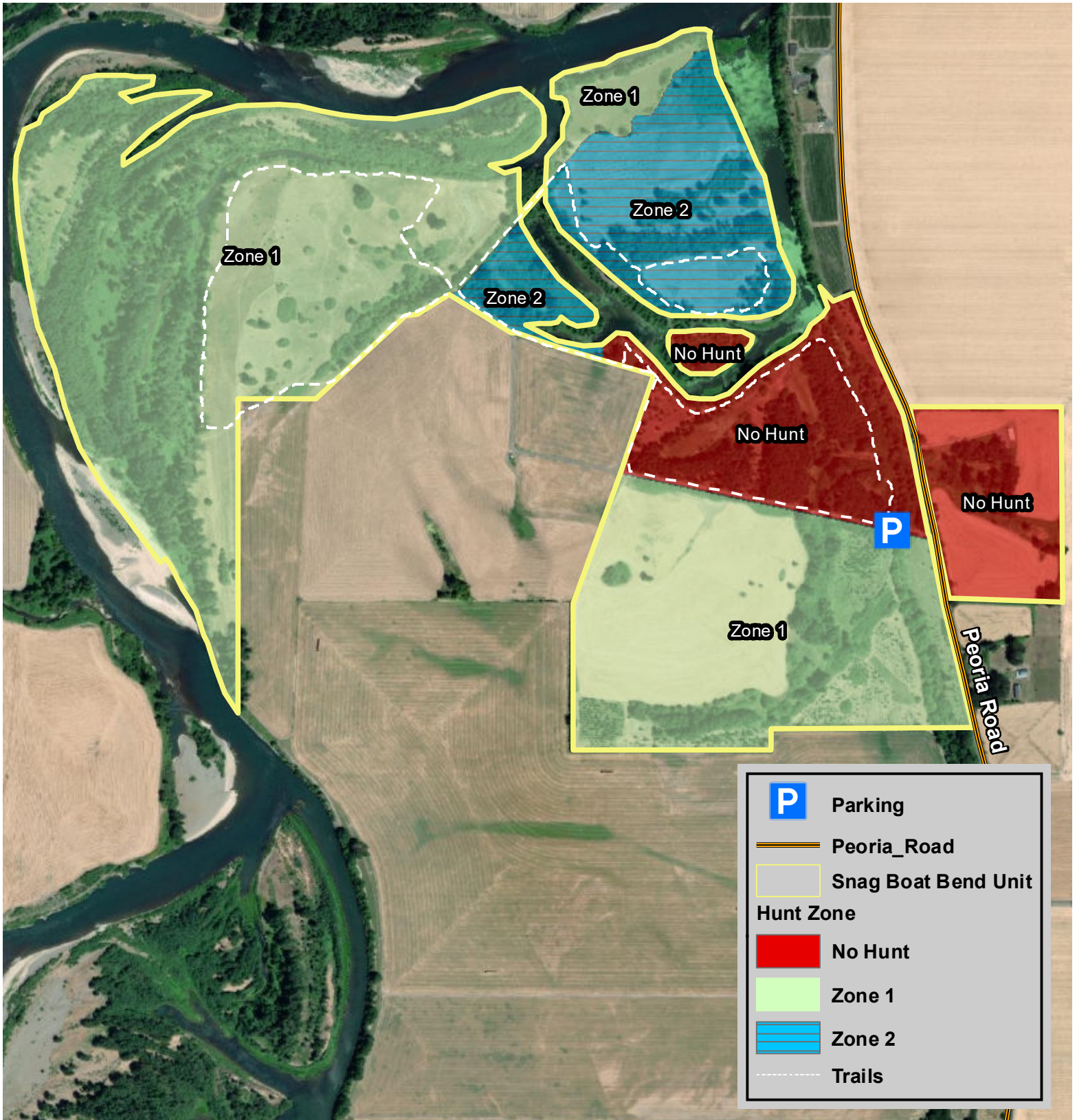


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge Snag Boat Bend Unit

Linn County, Oregon

2023-2024 Hunting Zones



ZONE 1: Deer and Waterfowl Hunting
ZONE 2: Deer Hunting -- ARCHERY ONLY
ODFW Hunting Licenses and Tags Required

