



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Ninigret

National Wildlife Refuge

Spring Wild Turkey Hunting Regulations 2023

Welcome

Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1970 in Charlestown, Rhode Island. Part of the Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex, this 858-acre refuge was established for the protection and management of migratory birds. A popular destination for many forms of wildlife-dependent recreation, Ninigret is open to spring wild turkey hunting at designated areas in alignment with State and refuge regulations.

RI National Wildlife Refuge Complex
c/o Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge
50 Bend Road
Charlestown, RI 02813

Phone: 401-364-9124

Email: rhodeislandcomplex@fws.gov

Website: www.fws.gov/refuge/Ninigret

For State Relay Service:
TDD/800-735-2258 (Voice)

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1-800-344-WILD
August 2022

Hunt Brochure

Spring Wild Turkey Hunting 2023

I have read and agree to comply with the refuge rules and regulations described in this hunt brochure. Valid for the current season only.

Signature _____

Date (M/D/Y) _____

You must carry this signed and dated refuge hunt brochure with you at all times while hunting on the refuge.

Valid Hunting Dates:
April 27 – May 21, 2023

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



Hunters are required to possess a valid Rhode Island hunting license, all required stamps, an original, valid government-issued photo identification (no copies or photos), and a valid, signed hunting brochure on their person at all times during refuge hunting days. Archery and firearms hunting for spring wild turkey is allowed in designated locations (see hunt map), during the State hunting seasons. **Salt Pond Unit and Kettle Pond Unit are closed to spring wild turkey hunting.**

Firearms

Spring wild turkey hunting is only allowed on Lewis Tract and Barrier Beach Units with this signed brochure. 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.

Vehicles

All-terrain vehicles (ATVs and UTVs), dirt bikes, and other non-licensed vehicles are prohibited on refuge lands.

Hunting Regulations

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. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State of Rhode Island regulations subject to the conditions stated below.

Access

Wild turkey hunting dates and times are posted in the Rhode Island Hunting and Trapping Abstract. No night hunting. Hunting is permitted in designated areas of the refuge as depicted on the hunt map. Safety zone maps are posted to the refuge website. Hunting is not allowed within safety zones, and no weapon discharge into, from, or within safety zones. Hunters may pass through a safety zone to access a hunt unit with unloaded weapons. Some, but not all safety zones are marked in the field. Only participants who possess a valid signed hunt brochure will be allowed to enter the hunt areas. Hunters may scout the hunt units one week prior to the season with a valid signed hunt brochure. **IMPORTANT** - No hunting allowed within 100 feet of a public trail.

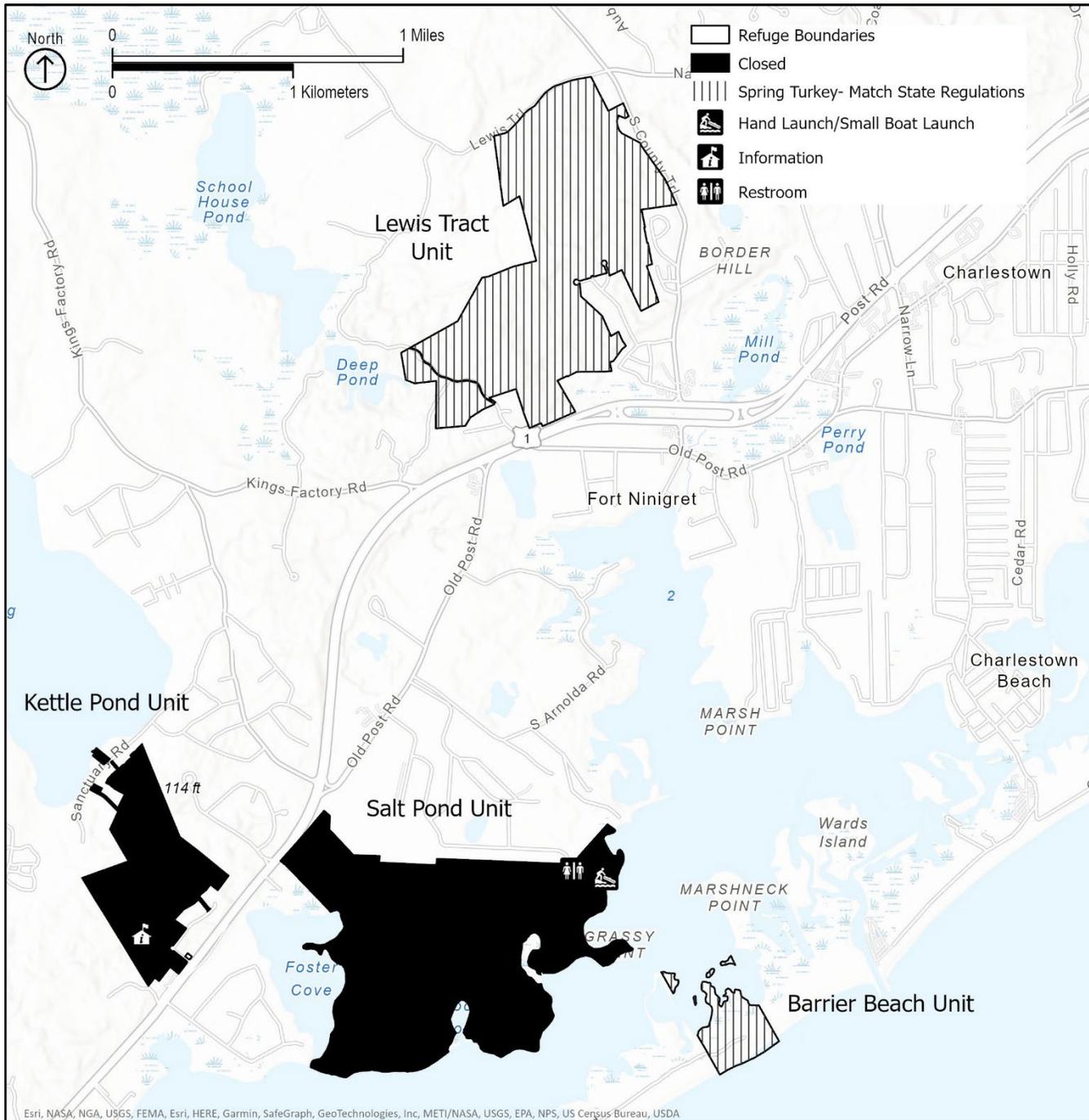
Hunting Blinds

We only allow portable hunting blinds. You must clearly label any blind left on the refuge overnight with your Rhode Island hunting license number. Blinds may be placed beginning April 20, 2023 and must be removed by May 22, 2023.

Harvest Reporting

In addition to following State harvest reporting requirements, hunters must complete a Big Game Harvest Report (FWS form 3-2359) and return it to the refuge by June 15, 2023.

NINIGRET NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE HUNT MAP



Reminders and Prohibited Activities

- Download Safety Zone maps before you hunt:
www.fws.gov/refuge/ninigret/
- We prohibit the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages while hunting.
- We prohibit camping and fires.
- Permanent blinds are prohibited.
- No taking wildlife other than wild turkey during the appropriate season (50 CFR 27.51).
- We prohibit marking (including, but not limited to, the use of flagging, bright eyes, tacks, and paint), cutting and/or removal of trees or vegetation (50 CFR 27.61)
- The distribution of or hunting over bait is prohibited per CFR.
- Guiding, outfitting, advertising, and/or audio or visual productions for commercial purposes are prohibited.
- Firearm discharge within 500 feet of any dwelling is prohibited, and no discharge of archery equipment within 200 feet of a dwelling.
- We prohibit hunting within the safety zones.
- We prohibit hunting within 100 feet of a refuge trail.
- No field dressing animals in parking areas or within 100 feet of a public use trail.
- Night hunting is prohibited.

Signs and Boundaries

- **No Vehicles:** all traffic prohibited
- **Refuge Boundary:** entry to area is permitted in accordance with refuge regulations
- **Closed Area:** All entry is prohibited
- **No Hunting Zone:** Hunting, weapons, and game retrieval prohibited
- **Safety Zone:** No weapon discharge into, from, or within safety zone