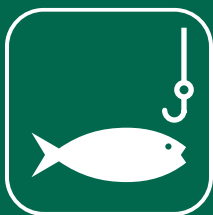


Arapaho

National Wildlife Refuge

Hunting and Fishing



A Home for Wildlife



This goose, designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling, is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was established in 1967 as a place for waterfowl and other migratory birds to nest and rear their young. It was created in part to compensate for habitat that was lost to development in the prairie pothole region of the Midwest. Most of Arapaho NWR was purchased with money derived from the sale of Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps ("Duck Stamps").

The Refuge is one of more than 565 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System - a network of lands set aside specifically for wildlife. Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Refuge System is a living heritage, preserving wildlife and habitat for people today and for generations to come.

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, State regulations, and the Refuge-specific regulations in this brochure.

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). Discharge of a firearm for any reason other than the legal taking of game animals is prohibited.

Fishing Regulations

Fishing is allowed on the Illinois River south of County Road 32 during daylight hours only. Fishing may be closed seasonally during low river flows. Refuge ponds and wetlands are closed to fishing. Live bait and lead weights are prohibited. Watercraft are not allowed on water bodies. Pack your trash out.



















All fishing is closed from June 1 - July 31 to protect nesting birds. Fishing is closed during pronghorn rifle seasons and elk seasons 1-4 in Units 17 and 171.

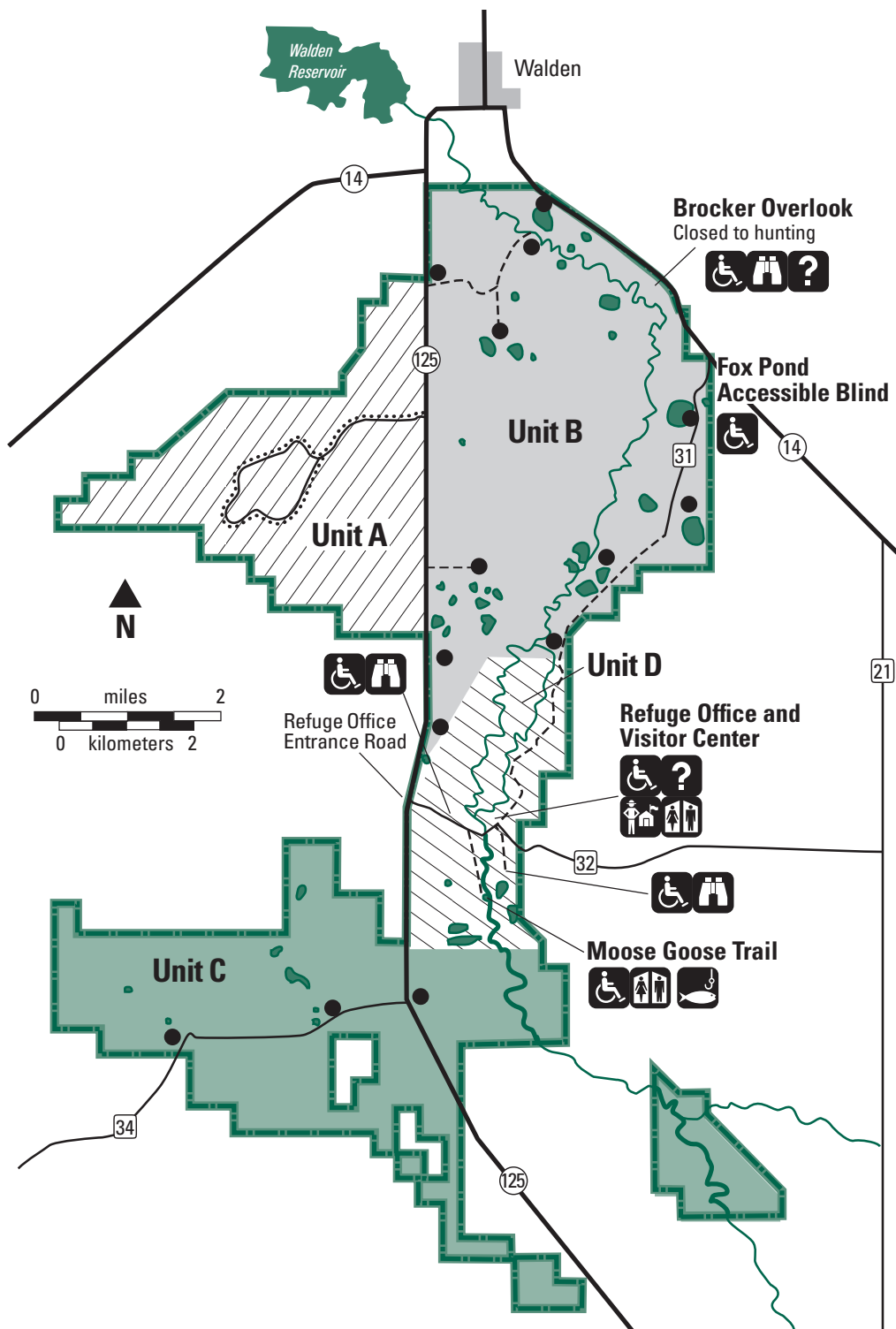
Accessibility

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, www.doi.gov/accessibility.

Arapaho

National Wildlife Refuge

-  Refuge boundary
-  State highway
-  County road
-  Auto tour
-  Refuge road (seasonal)
-  Unit A- closed to hunting
-  Unit B- consult regulations
-  Unit C- consult regulations
-  Unit D- closed to hunting
-  Open to fishing- consult regulations
-  Refuge Office and Visitor Center
-  Information
-  Restroom
-  Linked symbols designate accessible features
-  Overlook
-  Fishing access
-  Nature trail
-  Parking



Hunting Regulations

Hunting is permitted in designated areas for species listed in the table below. **Hunting of all other species is prohibited.**

All hunting on the Refuge closes December 31 each year. Shed antler collection is prohibited on the refuge.

Hunting Hours

Hunters can access the Refuge no earlier than 1 hour before legal shooting hours and must exit the Refuge no later than 1 hour after legal shooting hours.

Hunting Areas

Hunting is permitted only in the designated hunting areas posted and shown on the map. Hunting is prohibited within 200 feet of roads and parking areas.

Method of Take

Only legal shotguns, muzzleloaders, rifles, and hand-held bows meeting State regulations are permitted.

Non-toxic shot must be used for all shotgun hunting on the Refuge. It is illegal to use or possess lead shot while in the field.

Access

Vehicle travel is limited to open refuge roads. Hunting areas are only open during the hunting season. Roads may be closed seasonally due to weather and to protect sensitive habitats. Vehicles must be parked in parking areas so access by other Refuge visitors is not hindered.

Camping

Overnight camping and open fires are prohibited.

Retrieving

Contact Refuge or Colorado Parks and Wildlife staff if access to closed areas is needed to retrieve game. Regulate your shooting so that game does not fall into “Closed to Hunting” zones of the Refuge.

Blinds and Boats

Using a portable blind or natural vegetation as a blind is permitted. However, cutting or manipulating natural vegetation for a blind is prohibited. Blinds and decoy setups must be removed daily and are not permitted prior to the opening of the waterfowl season. All watercraft are prohibited.

Littering

Littering is prohibited. Pack your trash out with you, including shotgun shell casings.

Hunting Regulations Table

	Unit A and D	Unit B	Unit C
Small Game			
Sage Grouse	Closed	State Season	State Season
Cottontail, Jackrabbit	Closed	State Season ¹	State Season ¹
Migratory Birds			
Duck, Coot, Merganser	Closed	State Season ¹	Closed
Canada Goose	Closed	State Season ¹	Closed
Snipe, Rail	Closed	State Season ¹	Closed
Dove	Closed	State Season ¹	Closed
Big Game			
Pronghorn	Closed	State Season	State Season
Elk	Closed	Limited Draw	Limited Draw

¹ All hunting is in accordance with State seasons established for this area except that the Refuge is closed to hunting on December 31st annually.

Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge
953 JCR 32
Walden, CO 80480
970 / 723 8202
arapaho@fws.gov
www.fws.gov/refuge/arapaho

For State Transfer Relay Service
TTY / Voice:711

FWS TIPs line at
1-844-FWS-TIPS (1-844-397-8477)
1-877-WGFD-TIP (1-877-943-3847)

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
www.fws.gov

For Refuge Information
1 800 / 344 WILD

For State relay service
TTY / Voice: 711

November 2024

