



Arrowwood

National Wildlife Refuge

Fishing Regulations

General Refuge Information

Welcome to Arrowwood National Wildlife Refuge, one of over 565 refuges and 38 wetland management districts 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, conserving wildlife and habitat for people today and for generations to come.

Refuge headquarters is open from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except for Federal holidays. The Refuge is open from 1½ hours before sunrise until 1½ hours after sunset.

The Refuge headquarters can be reached via Highway 281 by driving east on 11th Street SE for 5½ miles and 1 mile north on the refuge road. To reach the Refuge headquarters from Highway 9, travel west on 11th Street SE for 5½ miles and 1 mile north on the refuge road.

General Regulations

Vehicles are restricted to established trails open to public use.

Vehicles and trailers must not block access points.

Snowmobiles and all other off-road vehicles are prohibited.

Water activities not related to fishing (swimming, jet skiing, sailing, skiing, tubing, etc.) are prohibited.

Open fires, camping, and littering are prohibited.

Fireworks are prohibited.

Pets must be under the owner's control at all times.

General Fishing Information

Fishing is allowed on the Refuge in accordance with State and Refuge regulations. Regulations are set by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department and must be observed in all Refuge fishing areas. In addition, become familiar with all special Refuge regulations and access restrictions before entering the Refuge.

All fish allowed to be taken under State fishing regulations are legal on the Refuge. Species that may be present include northern pike, walleye, yellow perch, crappie, white sucker, big-mouth buffalo, bullhead, and common carp. Several non-game minnow species also inhabit Refuge waters.

Refuge fisheries are temporary and sporadic in nature. Fish occur in Refuge impoundments largely as a result of flooding events that allow fish to enter the Refuge from the Jamestown Reservoir. The impoundments are shallow and very productive, which allows fish to grow rapidly. Unfortunately, these impoundments are also subject to winterkill when fish suffocate from the lack of dissolved oxygen. When winterkill occurs, fish may naturally re-stock very quickly, or it may take years before Refuge waters again provide fishing opportunities.

Anglers requiring special accommodations should contact the Refuge Manager.

Boat Fishing Regulations
Motorized boats for fishing are allowed
only on Arrowwood and Jim Lakes from
May 1 through September 30 of each
fishing year.

Boat motors are restricted to a maximum of 25 horsepower.

Only non-motorized boats may be used on Mud Lake.

The Refuge is closed to all boating from April 1 through April 30 and October 1 through March 31.

Primitive boat launch facilities are located in the Warbler Woodland Watchable Wildlife Area on Arrowwood Lake and at the southwest corner of Jim Lake.

Boat Access Regulations and Areas
The Arrowwood Lake boat fishing area
extends from the inlet channel on the
north side to the Arrowwood Lake Dam.
A primitive boat launch, restrooms, and
tables are located in the Warbler
Woodland Watchable Wildlife Area.

Jim Lake boat fishing area extends from the Humpback Road on the north side to the Jim Lake Dam on the south side. A primitive boat launch is located at the southwest corner of the lake.

Bank Fishing Regulations
Bank fishing is allowed along the major road right-of-ways, interior portions of the Refuge, and the by-pass channel in accordance with State regulations.

Archery and Spearfishing Regulations Archery fishing and spearfishing for non-game fish is allowed in accordance with State regulations.

It is illegal to return fish to the water after they are shot with an arrow or speared. All fish must be removed from the Refuge.

Ice Fishing and Darkhouse
Spearfishing Regulations
Arrowwood and Jim Lakes, and the
southern portion of Mud Lake, are open
to ice fishing in accordance with State
regulations.

Fish houses and vehicles, with the exception of snowmobiles and all other off-road vehicles, are allowed on the ice as conditions allow. Fish houses must be removed no later than March 15. After March 15, portable fish houses are allowed but must be removed daily.

Refuge Signs and Their Meaning



Refuge Boundary Areas are open to permitted activities only. Regulations and further information are available at the Refuge headquarters.



Area Beyond This Sign Closed These areas are closed to all public entry.

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. Dial 711 for a free connection to the State relay service for TTY and voice calls to and from people with hearing and speech disabilities. For more information or to address accessibility needs, please contact the Refuge staff at 701 / 285 3341, or the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240.

Arrowwood National Wildlife Refuge http://www.fws.gov/refuge/arrowwood

