

# RULES AND REGULATIONS

# THINGS TO DO

## Welcome

**Endangered Songbird Destination**  
Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge offers some of the best bird watching and breeding habitat left in Texas for two endangered songbirds—the golden-cheeked warbler and the now recovered black-capped vireo. Both songbirds face a common dilemma. They depend on very specialized habitats to make a living, and those places grow fewer by the day in the wake of development and human activity. That is why this refuge has a critical role to play in both preserving and restoring their homes.

## A Melting Pot for Rarities

When you enter Balcones Canyonlands NWR, you may not realize that these hills carpeted in juniper and hardwood trees fall at the juncture of the Great Plains and the Gulf Coast bioregions. Life at nature's intersections tends to be rich and unique. Add the unusual limestone geology of the Edwards Plateau and it's not surprising to find plants and animals adapted to live here and nowhere else.

## Meeting Your Needs

The refuge's public use areas are open 365 days a year from sunrise to sunset. However, some areas may be temporarily closed to the public to allow for other activities like prescribed burning or hunting. Visitors can learn more about the refuge by stopping by the Refuge Headquarters on FM 1431 or from the Lago Vista Chamber of Commerce. To reach the Refuge Headquarters from Lago Vista, go west on FM 1431 for 5 miles past the intersection with Lohman Ford Road. If you are coming west on FM 1431, the office will be one mile from the intersection with Cow Creek Road. The office is on the north side of the highway.



Balcones Canyonlands  
National Wildlife Refuge  
Headquarters Office  
Hours: Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**24518 E. FM 1431**  
**Marble Falls, TX 78654**  
**(512) 339-9432**  
**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**  
**1-800-344-WILD**  
**January 2021**



Photo: Jim Baines

<b>Shin Oak Observation Deck</b>	No bathrooms or trails at this location FM 1869 Beltram, TX 78605
<b>DoeSkin Ranch</b>	Rimrock Trail – Difficult, 1.6 mi. loop on a natural and rocky path Creek Trail – Easy, 0.6 mi. on a natural path Pond and Prairie Trail – Easy, 0.5 mi. Half of this trail is paved and half is natural 10645 FM 1174 Beltram, TX 78605
<b>Wildlife Observation, Photography, and Hiking</b>	Public use areas are open 365 days a year between sunrise and sunset. There are no entrance fees or passes required to visit. Overnight parking, camping, and fires are prohibited. Stay on designated trails and always hike with a partner. Please bring water, sunscreen, hat, bug spray, and appropriate clothing for the weather.
<b>Pack In/Pack Out</b>	Littering is strictly prohibited. Pack it in and pack it out. Leave the refuge as you found it for others to enjoy.
<b>Alcohol</b>	Visitors may not possess or be under the influence of alcohol on the refuge. Violators will be prosecuted.

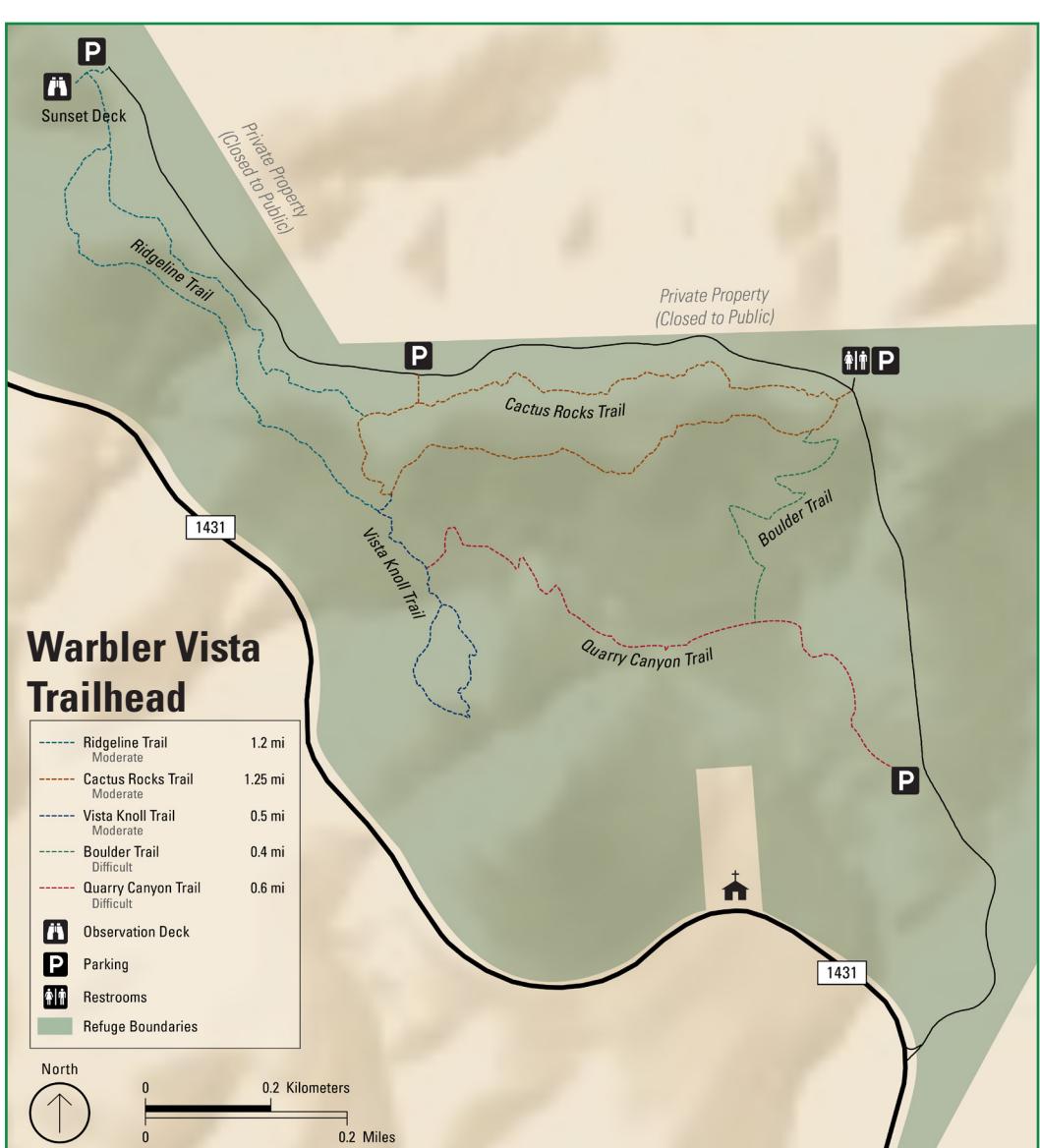
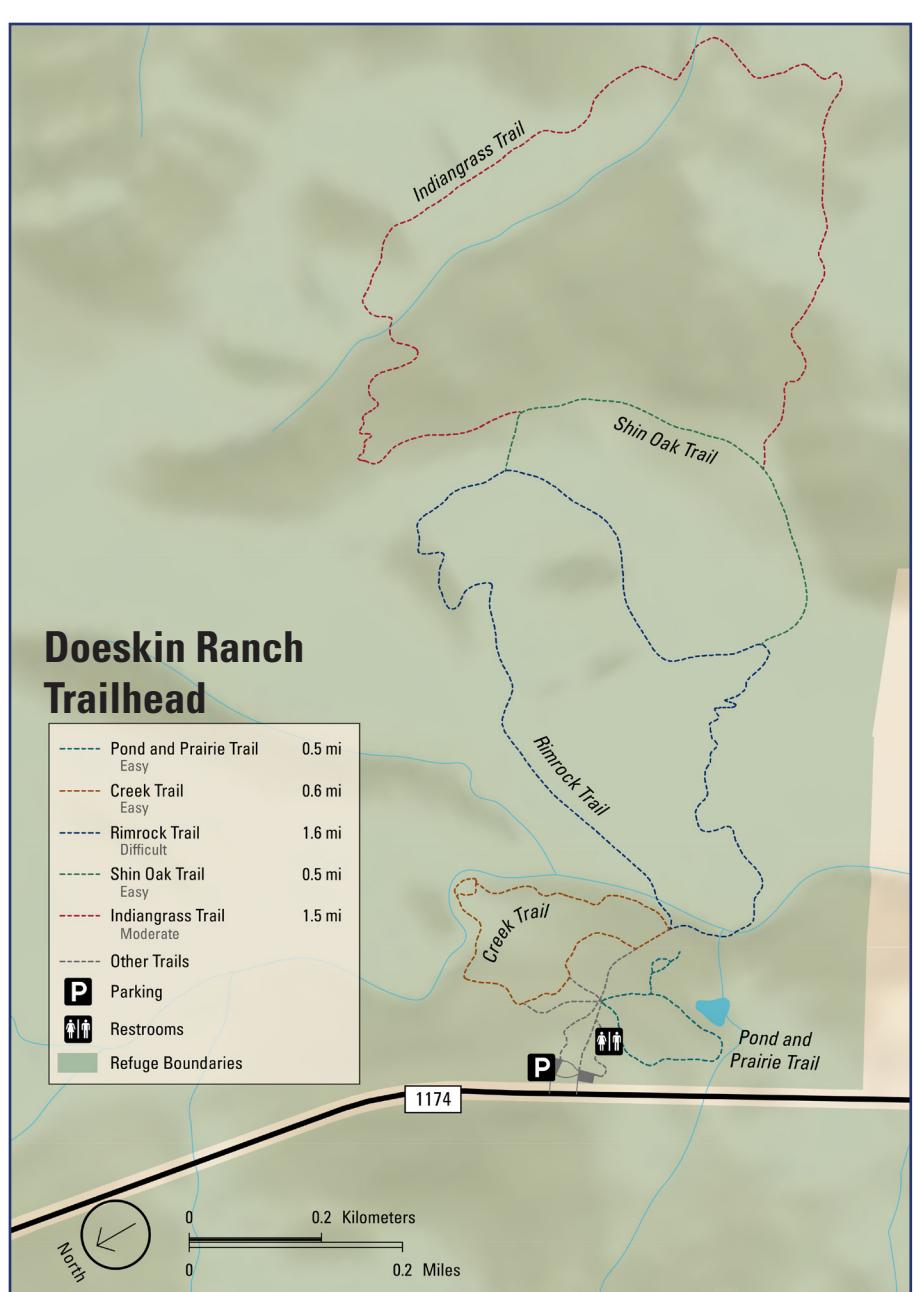
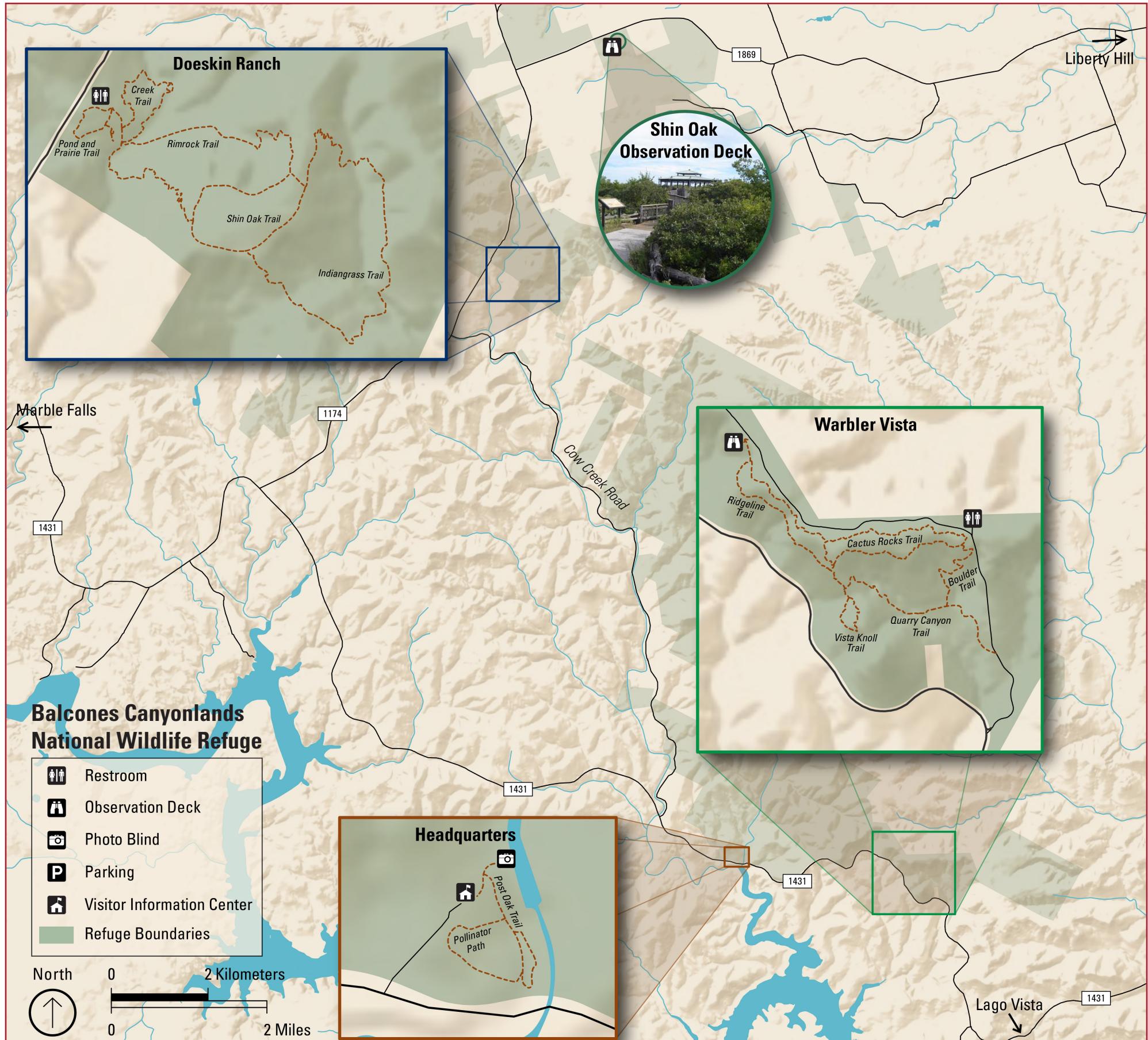
<b>Respect Wildlife</b>	Public areas are open 365 days a year between sunrise and sunset. There are no entrance fees or passes required to visit. Overnight parking, camping, and fires are prohibited. Capture the scenic views, black-capped vireos, wildflowers, or that elusive bald eagle—whatever you can get up close to watch wildlife at Balcones Canyonlands NWR. You can get up close to watch wildlife at Balcones Canyonlands NWR. Between hiking, driving, or enjoying the trails, exploring the refuge can be an easy stroll or challenging hike.
<b>Hunting</b>	The refuge offers hunting by permit headwaters for more information. Enjoy a variety of educational events offered by staff and volunteers. Follow our calendar of events for more information.
<b>Seasonal Activities</b>	Enjoy a variety of education and events offered by staff and volunteers to assist with many tasks. Call or visit the refuge headquarters for more opportunities.
<b>Volunteering</b>	Disturbing or collecting plants, animals and artifacts is strictly prohibited. The refuge has a no-take policy. Recording wildlife calls and the use of playback tapes are prohibited. Please help keep the wildlife healthy and safe by not feeding or harassing them.
<b>Permits</b>	Commercial groups (birding and photography) or researchers require special use permits and fees. Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms possess provisions with all provisions of state and local law. Firearms are prohibited in all buildings. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with refuge regulations.
<b>Firearms</b>	Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms possess provisions with all provisions of state and local law. Firearms are prohibited in all buildings. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with refuge regulations.
<b>Pets</b>	Pets are not permitted on the refuge.

<b>Entry/Exit</b>	Between sunrise and sunset. There are no entrance fees or passes required to visit. Overnight parking, camping, and fires are prohibited. Public areas are open 365 days a year between sunrise and sunset. There are no entrance fees or passes required to visit. Overnight parking, camping, and fires are prohibited. Stay on designated trails and always hike with a partner. Please bring water, sunscreen, hat, bug spray, and appropriate clothing for the weather.
<b>Photography</b>	Black-capped vireos, wildflowers, or that elusive bald eagle—whatever you can get up close to watch wildlife at Balcones Canyonlands NWR. You can get up close to watch wildlife at Balcones Canyonlands NWR. Whether hiking, driving, or enjoying the trails, exploring the refuge can be an easy stroll or challenging hike.
<b>Wildlife Observation</b>	Whether hiking, driving, or enjoying the trails, exploring the refuge can be an easy stroll or challenging hike.
<b>Hiking</b>	With over 10 miles of hiking trails, exploring the refuge can be an easy stroll or challenging hike.
<b>Things To Do</b>	Between sunrise and sunset. There are no entrance fees or passes required to visit. Overnight parking, camping, and fires are prohibited. Stay on designated trails and always hike with a partner. Please bring water, sunscreen, hat, bug spray, and appropriate clothing for the weather.

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

## Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge Trail Map





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