

History

Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge (NWR/Refuge) is one of over 565 National Wildlife Refuges managed as part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wildlife Refuge System. Grand Bay NWR encompasses 10,188 acres and was established in 1992 to protect one of the largest expanses of undisturbed pine savanna habitats in the Gulf Coastal Plain region.

Permit Information

These regulations apply to all Refuge hunts. Each Grand Bay NWR hunter must have in their possession a valid, signed copy of the Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Brochure and all required state license(s). All hunters under 16 years of age must be in the presence and under direct supervision of a licensed or exempt hunter at least 21 years of age. State regulations define youth hunter age and hunter education requirements.

Refuge Hours

General Refuge hours are from sunrise to sunset. During hunting season, hunters may enter the Refuge at 4 am and must exit no later than two hours after legal shooting hours unless otherwise specified.

Restricted and/or Closed Areas

It is unlawful to hunt from or shoot into an area within 300 feet of a feral hog trap.

It is unlawful to hunt from or shoot into the area that is within 100 feet of a pipeline or power line right-of-way, and within 300 feet of a designated road, trail, or parking lot. Areas marked in red on Refuge map are closed.

Vehicles must not obstruct roads, gates, turn rows, field access ramps, or fire lanes and must be only operated on designated roads.

Temporary or permanent closure of Refuge areas may occur due to unforeseen circumstances and not be in this brochure.

Weapons and Ammunition

Big Game Hunting

We allow hunting of white-tailed deer and feral hog on designated areas of the Refuge subject to State regulations and the following conditions: Hunting is permitted only with

bow and arrow and crossbows, according to state regulations.

Incidental take of feral hogs is only permitted during refuge deer hunts.

Small Game Hunting

We allow hunting of squirrels and rabbits on designated areas of the Refuge using .22 caliber rimfire only, all other state regulations apply.

Migratory Bird Hunting

Migratory bird hunting (including duck, goose, coot, and dove) is allowed on designated areas of the Refuge and subject to State regulation and the following conditions: You must possess only approved nontoxic shot while hunting migratory birds. You must only use portable or temporary blinds.

Other Opportunities

We allow incidental take of coyote and nutria during any refuge hunt with the weapons legal for that hunt, applicable to State seasons and regulations.

Pets/Animals

Dogs are allowed only for hunting waterfowl (duck, goose and coot). Dogs must be leashed or under control of owner during hunt. Dogs must wear a collar displaying the owner's contact information.

All other domestic animals are prohibited while hunting.

State Bag Limits

State season bag and possession limits apply.

Deer Stands

We allow portable and climbing tree stands. Hunters must remove tree stands from the Refuge at the end of each day's hunt.

Fluorescent Orange

Hunters must wear hunter orange in accordance with State law.

Prohibited Activities

- All commercial activities including guiding or participating in a paid guided hunt.
- Searching for or removing any object of archeological or historical significance as well as any natural materials such as plants, mushrooms, berries, and antler sheds.

- The use of artificial light, including vehicle headlights, to locate or take any animal.

- Use of ATVs and UTVs on the Refuge.

- Use or possession of any drug or device for employing such drug.

- Use of flagging tape, bright eyes, or other trail marking devices.

- Use or possession of alcohol.

- Fire, camping, or littering.

- Organized drives for deer or feral hog.

- Alligator hunting.

- Baiting, possession of bait in the field, and hunting over bait.

- Removal or destruction of vegetation for any reason.

- Overnight parking.

- Target shooting.

- Field dressing game (hogs included) within 300 feet of any road, trail or parking lot.

- Leaving personal property overnight on Refuge.

- Airboats, mudboats, jetskis, motorized pirogue, and air cooled propulsion engines.

- Use or possession of game cameras.

Signs and Boundaries

Signs are useful tools in regulating the use of a public area. The wording of the sign applies to the area behind the sign. Please respect the following signs:



Refuge Boundary

Entry permitted in accordance with refuge regulations.



Closed Area

All entry prohibited.



No Hunting Zone

Hunting, weapons, or game retrieval prohibited.

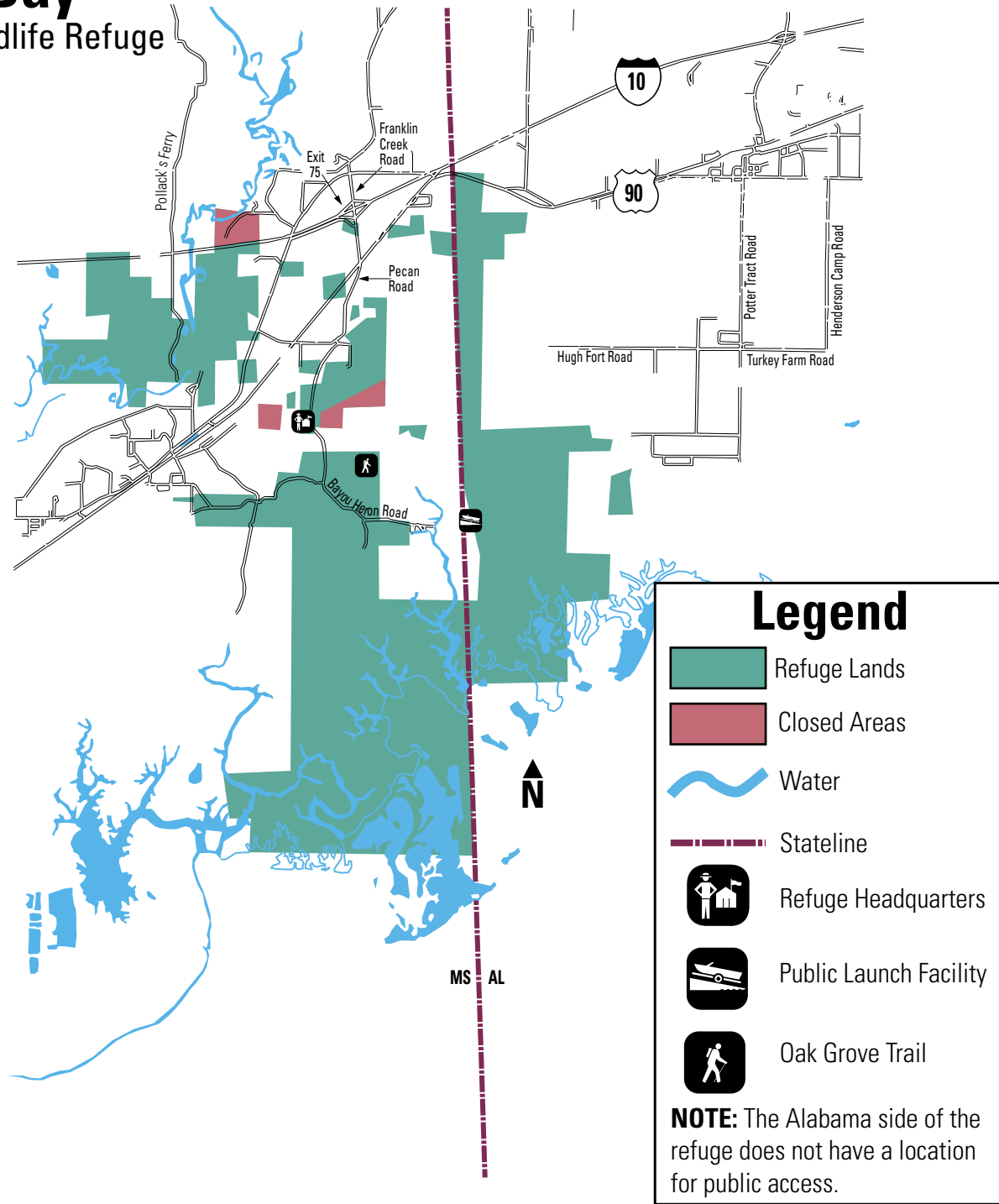


No Vehicles

All vehicle traffic prohibited.

Grand Bay

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Hunting Regulations 2023-2024

Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge
 Gulf Coast Refuge Complex
 7200 Crane Lane
 Gautier, MS 39553

Phone: 228/497 6322
 Fax: 228/497 5407

<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/grand-bay/>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
 1 800/344 WILD
<https://www.fws.gov>

September 2023



Grand Bay Refuge Hunting Permit 2023-2024

When signed and in your possession this brochure serves as your permit for all refuge hunts and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

I have read and understand these refuge regulations.

 Signature (permits are not transferable)

Expires June 30, 2024

Season dates and bag limits may vary between states. A valid state hunting license, refuge permit, and identification, are required to be carried on person by hunters.