



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Stewart B. McKinney

## National Wildlife Refuge, Chimon and Sheffield Island Hunting Regulations

### Welcome

Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge consists of ten units located along the coast of Connecticut from Westbrook to Greenwich. Due to its location within the Atlantic Flyway, the refuge provides important resting, feeding, and nesting habitat for many species of birds including the endangered roseate tern and threatened piping plover. Part of the Norwalk Islands archipelago, the Sheffield (51 acres as part of the refuge) and Chimon Island (68 acres) Units are located south of the bustling Norwalk Harbor

**Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge**  
733 Old Clinton Road, Westbrook, CT 06498  
860-399-2513  
860-399-2515 (Fax)

[https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Stewart\\_B\\_McKinney/](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Stewart_B_McKinney/)  
For State relay service  
TTY/Voice: 711 or 1-800-842-9710

123-456-7890  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1-800-344-WILD  
August 2020

I have read and agree to comply with the refuge rules and regulations described in this hunt brochure. Permit valid for current season only.  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

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



### Hunt Information

Waterfowl and white-tailed deer hunting occurs on all areas of the Chimon and Sheffield Island Units, unless denoted by "No Hunting Zone" signage. Hunters should be aware that a portion of Sheffield Island is privately owned and not part of the refuge (see map on reverse). All Connecticut hunting regulations apply, including season dates and harvest limits. Waterfowl may be hunted with all permitted methods of take, per State regulations. White-tailed deer hunting on these units is archery only.

**\*Note: Island Unit landmass may be different than what is depicted on the hunting map due to natural processes. The Service only regulates hunting on the islands to the mean high tide line. Lands below the mean high tide line are regulated by the State of Connecticut.**

### 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.)

### Safety

Hunters operating motorboats to reach refuge islands, or through refuge marsh areas, should always be aware of marine weather conditions and tide changes. Entering certain areas of the refuge is likely to expose hunters to mosquitoes, ticks, and other disease-carrying insects.

### Boats

There are a number of public boat launch areas near the refuge, with further information found on the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection website: <https://www.depdata.ct.gov/maps/coastalaccess/index.html>

### 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. For more information please contact the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, <https://www.doi.gov/pmb/eo/public-civil-rights>.

### Hunting Regulations

Hunting regulations are designed to provide safe recreational opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. 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 State of Connecticut regulations.

### Access

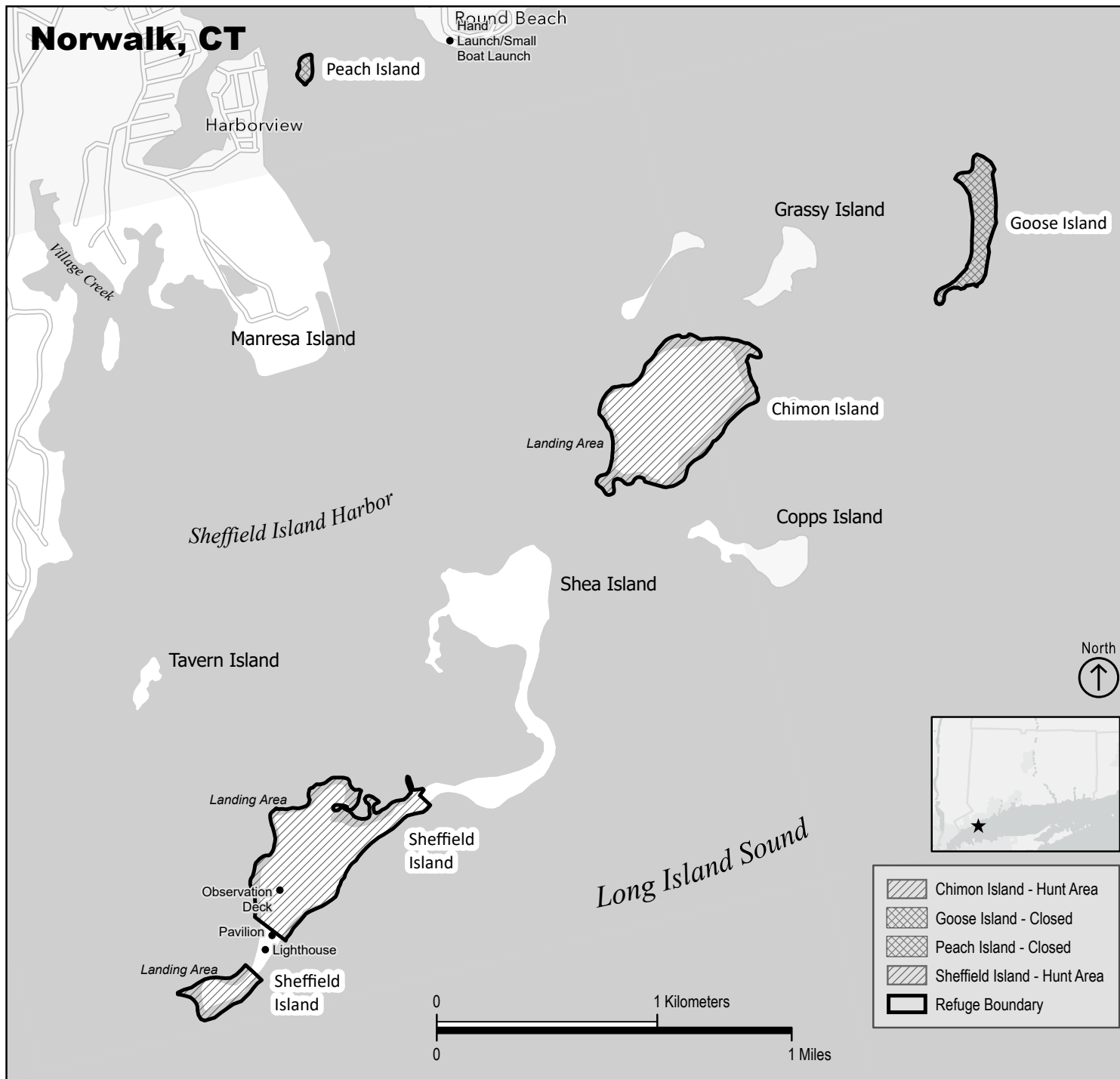
Hunters may access refuge hunting areas from 1 hour before legal sunrise until 1 hour after legal sunset. Hunters utilizing the Chimon Island and Sheffield Island Units may land boats on island beaches. See map on reverse. The dock on Sheffield Island is owned and operated by the Norwalk Seaport Association and can only be used with permission from that organization. Visit their website for more information: [www.seaport.org](http://www.seaport.org)

### Dogs

The use of dogs when hunting waterfowl on the refuge is allowed.

### Harvest Reporting

Successful hunters are requested to return a Big Game Harvest Report (FWS Form 3-2359) and/or a Migratory Bird Hunt report (FWS Form 3-2361) to the refuge at the end of the hunting season. These may be emailed to the Visitor Services Manager at [shaun\\_roche@fws.gov](mailto:shaun_roche@fws.gov), faxed to 860-399-2515 or sent by postal mail to refuge headquarters.



## Prohibited Activities

- Entering closed areas is prohibited.
- Camping and Fires are prohibited.
- Searching for or removal of any items such as antlers, skulls, plants, historic and archaeological features, which are protected by Federal law is prohibited.
- Use of electronic or photographic trail monitoring devices is prohibited. Use of drones is prohibited.
- Marking or flagging any tree or other Refuge feature with reflectors, paint, or other substance is prohibited.
- Permanent tree stands, nails, screw-in steps, or other items that penetrate the outer bark of a tree are prohibited. Tree stands, blinds, or other hunting equipment must be removed from the refuge at the end of each day.
- Access to the Refuge from private property is prohibited.
- Launching motorboats from the refuge is prohibited.
- Parking is prohibited on the refuge unless it is in the designated parking locations as indicated on the map or a public parking area.

## Signs and Boundaries

Please respect the following signs:

- No vehicles; Refuge Boundary; No Hunting Zone

Applies to the area behind the sign

- Refuge Boundary: Entry permitted in accordance with refuge regulations
- Closed Area: All entry prohibited
- No Hunting Zone: Hunting, weapons, and game retrieval prohibited.