

Hunt Regulations

Pocket, Cowhouse, and Suwannee Canal Recreation Area
Hunters are responsible for knowing and following all State and Federal hunting regulations.

Additionally, these refuge-specific regulations apply:

All hunters must possess all applicable Georgia state hunting licenses.

Sign-in and out daily at refuge kiosk is **mandatory**.

Baiting is strictly prohibited.

Licenses, all hunting equipment, effects, and vehicles or other conveyances are subject to inspection by Federal or State Officers.

Remove all deer stands daily. Use of nails or other metal devices to secure deer stands to trees is prohibited. Do not use metal spikes to climb trees.

You must have a valid refuge entrance pass (Pocket Unit). Purchase passes at Stephen C. Foster State Park near Fargo, or the Suwannee Canal Recreation Area near Folkston. A current Duck Stamp is also valid for entry, which may be purchased at a U.S. Post Office or Okefenokee Adventures at the Suwannee Canal Recreation Area.

Hunters under 16 years old must have successfully passed a state-approved hunter education course and be accompanied by an adult.

Enter, park, and exit the refuge only at designated points. Motor vehicles are allowed only on the paved roads shown on the attached maps. Park vehicles on the shoulder of the road. Do not block access roads.

Use of ATVs/UTVs on the refuge is prohibited. Walk or bicycle into the hunt area from the paved road.

Use of flagging, reflective tape, reflective beads or paint to mark scouted areas is strictly prohibited.

Field dress deer or hogs out of public sight.

Overnight camping, fires, possession and/or use of alcohol, and hunting with dogs are prohibited.

Non-motorized scouting is allowed during daylight hours beginning seven days prior to the hunt.

Alligator and bear hunting are prohibited.

Cowhouse Unit

All hunt dates on the Cowhouse Unit coincide with the Dixon Memorial WMA. Please refer to the GA DNR hunt regulations for Dixon Memorial for dates/seasons. Hunting alligators and black bear are prohibited on the refuge.

See map for boundaries of the Cowhouse Unit. **Areas outside the Cowhouse Unit and within Dixon Memorial State Forest are not included in the hunt area.**

Pointing dogs allowed for quail hunting only. No furbearer season. Feral hog may be taken during small game dates after October 31.

The Pocket Unit

The hunt boundary to the North and South is the swamp/upland boundary. The Suwannee River Sill is not included in the hunt area.

The refuge gates will open at 5 am. All hunters must leave the refuge by 8:30 pm. No exceptions.

If you are camping at Stephen C. Foster State Park, inform them you are hunting and they will make arrangements for access through their gate. You may not clean or hang deer at state park.

Suwannee Canal Recreation Area (Lottery Quota Hunt)

This is a lottery quota deer hunt. 30 spaces are available for hunters with a valid GA hunting license, 10 spaces are available for **mobility-impaired** (i.e. confined to a wheelchair, hemiplegia, monoplegia, paraplegia, or single-leg amputation above the knee) and **youth hunters** (16 years of age and younger). Each mobility-impaired/youth hunter drawn for Chesser Island can have one escort to assist with their hunt. The escorts of these individuals are authorized to hunt under the same permit.

Lottery applications can be found on the refuge website.

Lottery applications will be accepted from August 15 to September 15 and should be submitted as follows:

In person: Richard S. Bolt Visitor Center (check website for hours of operation)

Mail: Attn: Okefenokee Hunt Program
2700 Suwannee Canal Road
Folkston, GA 31537

A lottery drawing will be held for each day of the hunt. If you are available and interested in hunting on both days, you **MUST** indicate that on your lottery form. Only one lottery form needs to be submitted per person.

Only mobility-impaired hunters on Chesser Island may use ATVs and vehicles on firebreaks and non-paved roads.

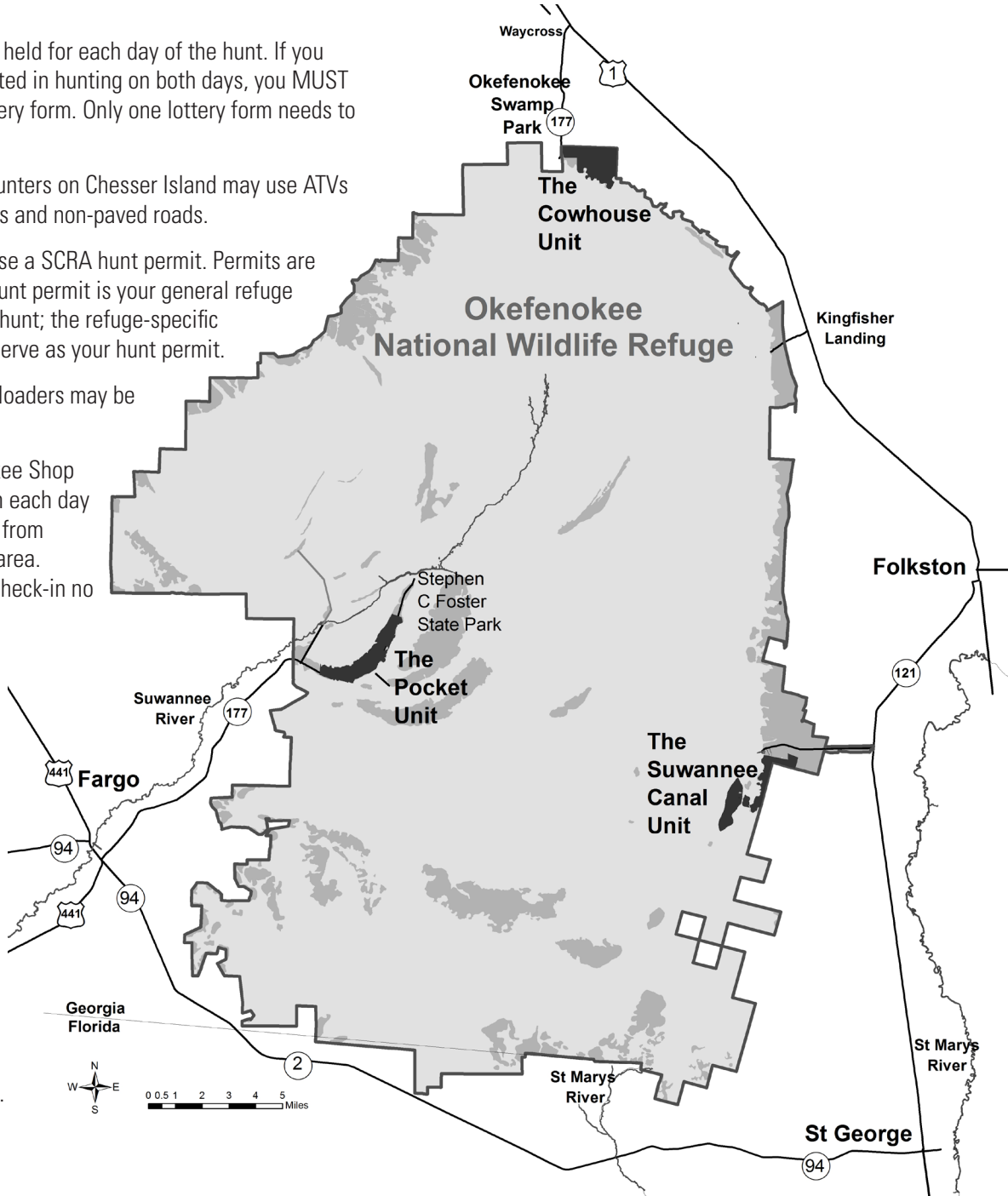
Each hunter must purchase a SCRA hunt permit. Permits are \$15/hunter. Your SCRA hunt permit is your general refuge entrance the days of the hunt; the refuge-specific annual pass DOES NOT serve as your hunt permit.

Only shotguns or muzzleloaders may be used during this hunt.

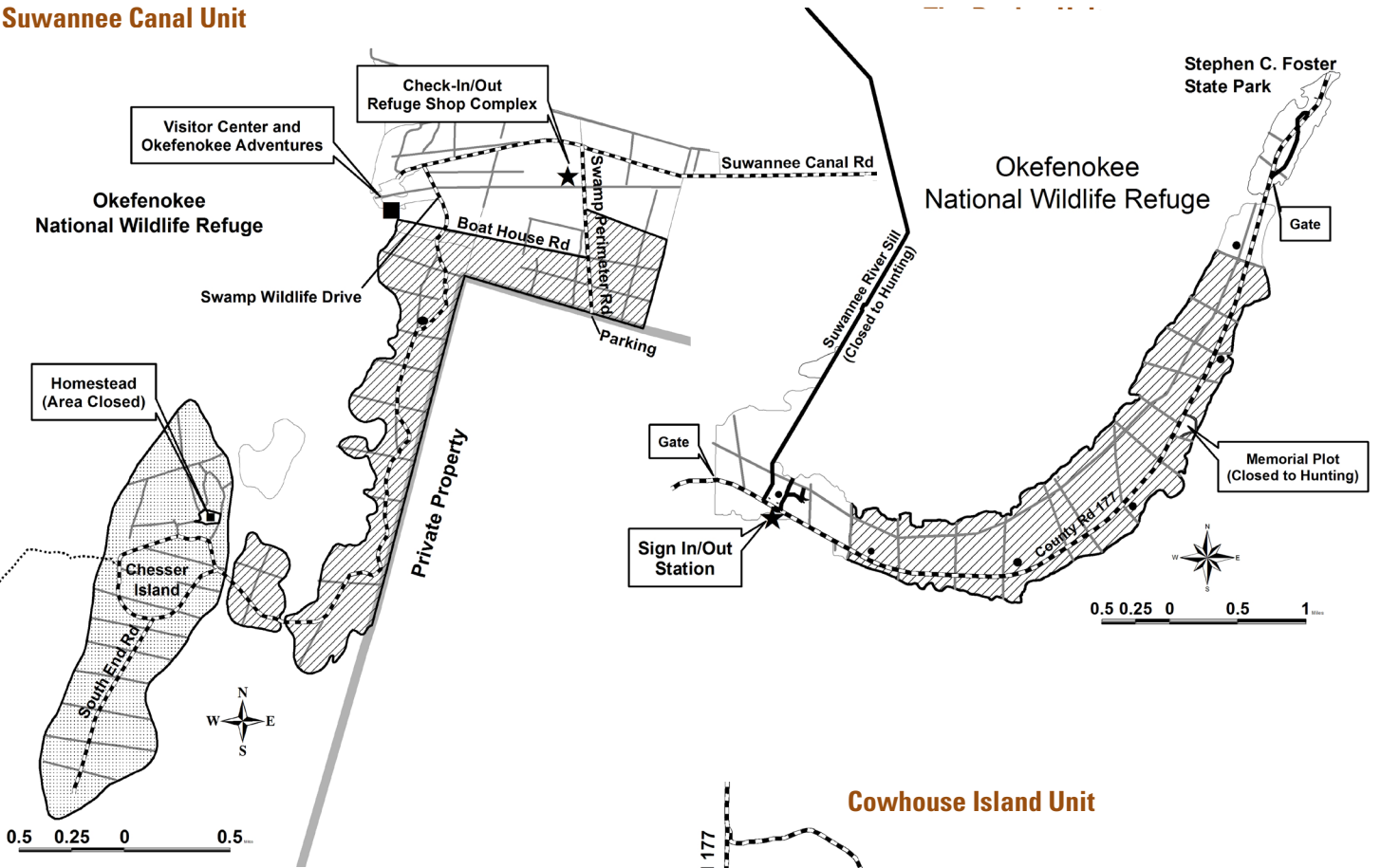
Check-in at the Okefenokee Shop Area commences at 5 am each day of the hunt. Follow signs from entrance road to sign-in area. Hunters may line up for check-in no earlier than 4 am.


Check-in and out of the hunt area each day. Refuge staff will tag all deer harvested with a special refuge tag. Harvested deer do not count towards your state bag limit.

Hunting areas are open on hunt dates from 30 minutes before sunrise until noon. Remain on your stand from 30 minutes before sunrise until 9 am.



Suwannee Canal Unit

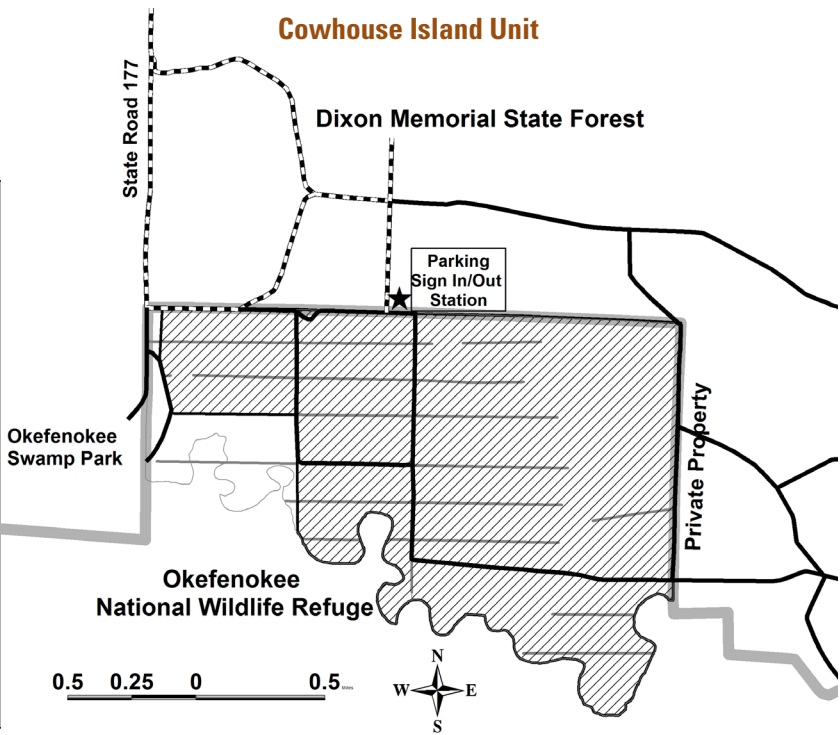




The blue goose, designed by "Ding" Darling, has become a symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

- Refuge Boundary
- Sign In/Out Station
- Access Road
- Other Road
- Hunt Area
- Disabled Hunt Area
- Closed to Hunting
- Firebreak
- Boardwalk
- Pond

Cowhouse Island Unit



Okefenokee

National Wildlife Refuge
Hunting Regulations

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge
2700 Suwannee Canal Road
Folkston, GA 31537

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD

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