

# Texas Point

## National Wildlife Refuge Waterfowl Hunting Regulations 2023–2024



### Welcome

The Texas Point NWR has one large hunting unit. We ask that hunters be good sportsmen and respect the rights of other hunters afield. Sky-blasting flares game, leaves cripples, and disrupts other hunters. Allowing birds to decoy increases your hunting success. Hunting of ducks, geese and coots ONLY permitted in accordance with all federal, state, and local laws; in addition to refuge specific hunting regulations outlined in this hunting brochure below. NOTE: Opening of the hunting unit can change based on weather, marsh conditions, or safety concerns. Emergency changes to regulations will be posted on the Texas Point NWR webpage ([www.fws.gov/refuge/texas-point](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/texas-point)).

*Failure to abide by or excessive violations of these refuge specific hunting regulations, federal regulations or state laws may result in revocation of your hunting privileges by the refuge manager. The regulations listed are a supplement to the general regulations set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations which govern all activities on National Wildlife Refuges.*

### Access

The Texas Point NWR hunting unit is made up of one large hunting unit with two main hunter access points: the cattle-walk and the Texas Bayou boat ramp. Access is by foot and boat. Walk-in access is located at the cattle-walk, located off Hwy 87, west of Sabine Pass. Boat access through Texas Bayou and ramps are located off Dowling Street and 1st Avenue in Sabine Pass just South of the Coast Guard Station.

**Open for Hunting:** Early Teal Season: 7 days a week; Regular Waterfowl season: open Saturday, Monday, and Wednesday.

**Closed for Hunting:** Closed during hunt split, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day, Light Goose Conservation Order, and Early Canada Goose season.

### Refuge Specific Hunting Regulations

- All individuals entering the hunting unit are considered hunters and MUST 1) be legally licensed to hunt waterfowl and 2) carry a signed copy of the Texas Point Waterfowl Hunting Permit (included on this document).
- Hunters may not enter any hunting units prior to 4:00am or later than 30 minutes before legal shooting time. Hunters may not shoot before legal shooting time and must stop shooting by 12:00 pm. Hunters must leave hunt units by 12:30 pm.
- Hunters age 17 or younger must be under the supervision of an adult age 18 or older.
- Hunters must remain a minimum of 200 yards from other hunting groups and spaced ponds. Individual hunters within a party must remain within 50 feet from one another.
- Scouting is only permitted from sunrise to sunset during the seven days prior to Veterans and Youth Waterfowl Weekend. You may not scout at any other time.
- Hunters 16 years of age or younger who plan on hunting during the Veterans and Youth Waterfowl Weekend must have a valid hunting license and be under the direct supervision of an adult age 18 or older.

### We permit the following:

- Possession of firearms in accordance with federal and state laws. All hunters must unload and encase shotguns while traveling in boats and vehicles on the refuge.
- Vehicle travel on designated roads and parking areas only.
- Temporary portable blinds. You must remove all blinds, decoys, boats, spent shells, chairs, and equipment from the refuge at the end of each day's hunt.
- Use of retriever dogs is encouraged. They must be under the control of their handlers at all times.

### Texas Point Hunting Permit 2023-2024

When signed and carried, this serves as your permit for all refuge hunts and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein. This permit is valid only when signed below and must be carried with you at all times while on the refuge.

Expires August 31, 2024

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Signature (permits are not transferable)

## We prohibit the following:

- Discharge of a firearm for purposes other than hunting.
- Use or possession of toxic shot, e.g., lead, including those shells in boats and vehicles.
- Individual possession of more than 50 approved shotgun shells, including those in boats and vehicles.
- Driving and parking on levees and non-designated roads. Parked vehicles must not block the roadway or access to levees.
- Hunting from a roadway.
- Any form of blocking the following: roadways, gates, trails, catwalks, boat ramps, or any facility.
- Mooring to water control structures.
- Operation of motorized boats on or through emergent wetland vegetation and mudflats.
- Boat motors greater than 25 HP in the hunting units.
- Motorized boats powered by air-cooled or radiator-cooled engines with a propeller larger than 9 inches in diameter in the hunting units.
- Airboats, marsh buggies, ATV's/UTV's, and personal watercraft (PWC). Drone use.
- Possession or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Campfires, charcoal, and wood grills. (Gas grills may be utilized).
- Construction, use, or occupancy of permanent hunting blinds.
- Deliberate destruction, cutting, or harvesting of refuge plants.
- Introduction of non-native, invasive, or exotic plants.
- Use of plastic flagging, reflectors, or reflective tape.
- Leaving personal property, trash, or spent shells.

## Signs and Boundaries

The signs below apply to the areas behind the signs. Please respect all refuge signs whenever you see them as you travel throughout the refuge.



National Wildlife Refuge. This sign marks the boundary of the refuge. Consult refuge management for authorized activities.



Area Closed. Certain areas of the refuge are closed to visitors for management purposes. Unauthorized entry beyond this sign is prohibited.



No Hunting Zone. This sign marks the boundary of no hunting areas on the refuge. All hunting is prohibited beyond this sign.



Public Hunting Area. This sign marks the boundaries of the waterfowl hunting areas.



Waterfowl Hunting Only. This sign marks the boundaries of the waterfowl hunting areas.

Hunting on all National Wildlife Refuges is a privilege, please respect it.

**Texas Point National Wildlife Refuge**  
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Sabine Pass, TX 77655  
409-971-2909

[www.fws.gov/refuge/texas-point](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/texas-point)

August 2023

