General Information
Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 560 National Wildlife Refuges administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The primary objective of a National Wildlife Refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. The harvest of surplus animals is one tool used to manage wildlife populations. Carefully managed hunts maintain wildlife populations at a level compatible with the environment provide recreational opportunities and permit the use of a valuable renewable resource.

Public hunting and fishing on Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge is currently permitted on approximately 9,500 acres located in Marshall, McCracken and Graves counties in western Kentucky. All refuge property is clearly marked on the outside boundary with yellow paint hash marks and blue goose boundary signs. Some landowners adjacent to the refuge may mark their boundary with blue paint hash marks and no trespassing signs. Trespassing on posted or unmarked private property is a violation of Kentucky State law.

Individuals utilizing the Refuge are subject to inspections of permits, licenses, hunting equipment, game bag limits, boats, vehicles, and their contents by Federal or State Law Enforcement Officers.

Volunteers
The refuge offers a wide variety of volunteer opportunities. To receive more information, or an application, please contact the refuge headquarters at 270/527 5770.

Friends of Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge
The Friends of the Clarks River NWR is a nonprofit group formed to give assistance and support for refuge projects, land acquisition and educational programs. To obtain more information visit www.clarksriverfriends.org.

Accessibility Statement:
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in all programs and activities of the Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge. Discrimination complaints should be filed with: U.S. Department of Interior Office of Equal Opportunity 1849 C Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20240 or 1/800/344/ WILD.

General Refuge Regulations
All Refuge specific regulations apply to hunting and fishing on the Clarks River NWR.

The regulations listed below include but are not limited to the federal regulations governing hunting and fishing on wildlife refuge areas set forth in Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Kentucky State Regulations and Refuge specific regulations. The following regulations apply to all seasons and species.

TO REPORT A VIOLATION CALL 270/703 2836 and leave a detailed message of the violation and location. Information may be reported anonymously or with a return telephone number.

Prohibited Activities
- Littering
- Camping
- Fires
- Trapping
- The use of nails, wire, screws or bolts to attach a stand to a tree, or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven to support a hunter.
- Discarding any animal carcass on the refuge.

Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge Hunting/ Fishing Brochure 2019-2020
CRNWR Permits are required for anyone that is also required to have a Kentucky State hunting/fishing license and is engaged in hunting/fishing activities on the Refuge. This permit is only valid when signed and must be carried on the hunter’s person while engaged in hunting/fishing activities. Signing this permit is an indication that you have read, fully understand and will comply with the special regulations of the permit. Permits are available 24 hours a day at the Refuge Headquarters. This permit is valid through February 28, 2020.

Signature
(Valid only when signed)
Horses and mules are prohibited on the refuge during the muzzleloader and modern gun deer hunts. Horseback riding is permitted on refuge-graveled roads and the portions of the abandoned railroad tracks owned by the refuge for access purposes while engaged in wildlife related activities only. Horses and mules are not permitted off these secondary access routes for any purpose.

The use of flagging tape not marked as biodegradable by the manufacturer, reflective tacks, or other non-biodegradable devices/ materials used to identify paths, mark tree stands, blinds, or other areas.

Searching for or removal of any object of antiquity including arrowheads, pottery or other artifacts.

Target practice with any weapon or non-hunting discharge of firearms.

The Clarks River Waterfowl Units are closed to all entry from November 1 through March 31, with the exception of drawn permit holders. During periods of high water or flood, unauthorized persons shall not enter upon the Clarks River Waterfowl Units by boat for any purpose. High water or flood conditions do not affect or change the Water Management Area boundary, which is marked with white “Area Beyond This Sign Closed” signs.

Possession or use of alcoholic beverages.

Taking of wildlife (outside legal hunting season) or plants (including cutting trees and brush) is prohibited.

No unauthorized person shall use or direct the rays of a spotlight or other artificial light, or automotive headlights for the purpose of spotting, locating or taking any animal within the boundaries of the refuge or along right-of-way for public or private roads within the refuge.

Hunting of any wildlife by the aid of or distributing any feed, salt or other minerals.

**Weapons/Ammunition**

The use or possession of any lead shot is prohibited on the Refuge with the exception of lead shot ammunition legal for the taking of turkey during statewide turkey seasons. This regulation does not apply to rim fire or center fire ammunition.

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms must comply with all provisions of state and local law. Persons may only discharge firearms in accordance with refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and specific regulations in 50 CFR Part 32).

No person shall discharge a firearm on or within 200 feet of any home, refuge grazed roads or portions of the abandoned railroad tracks.

**Vehicles**

The use of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and/or any unlicensed vehicle is prohibited on all refuge property.

Licensed vehicles are permitted on open grazed roadways only. Abandoned railroad tracks are not considered a roadway. Vehicles blocking refuge gates will be towed.

Bicycles are permitted while engaged in wildlife related activities on refuge grazed roads and portions of the abandoned railroad tracks that are owned by the Clarks River NWR.

**Animals/Pets**

The running or training of dogs outside the hunting season for a particular species is permitted by special use permits only. For information on obtaining a special use permit for running dogs call the Refuge Headquarters at 270/527 5770.

Dog owners/handlers must have a collar on each dog with the owner’s State hunting license identification number. It is not required but the owner may provide the owner’s name, address and telephone number instead of the hunting license identification number. Cameras must be clearly identified as described or they may be confiscated.

To retrieve or track game from a posted closed area of the refuge the hunter must first receive authorization from the Refuge Manager at 270/527 5770 or the Refuge Law Enforcement Officer at 270/703 2836.

Hunters may not kill or cripple a wild animal without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the animal and harvest a reasonable portion of that animal and include it in the person’s daily bag limit.

Fishing on the Refuge is allowed under Kentucky statewide regulations with the exception of the Environmental Education and Recreation Area Pond.

**Environmental Education Recreation Area (EERA)**

The EERA is designated for educational activities, wildlife viewing and fishing opportunities located on Highway 408 east of Benton, Kentucky.

**EERA Area Specific Regulations**

- **Daylight use only.**

- Portions of the EERA are closed to all entry from November 1 to March 31.

- Area is pole fishing only with limit of one pole per person.

- Use of any watercraft is prohibited.

- Horseback riding is prohibited.
Waterfowl Quota Hunt
Waterfowl hunting will be allowed on the Clarks River Waterfowl Units by a quota draw hunt only. The Units will be closed to all entry with the exception of the drawn permit holder and their guests on drawn hunt days ONLY.

The Lindsey Unit is available for use by mobility impaired hunters. For more information or to utilize the Lindsey Unit contact the Refuge Headquarters at 270/527 5770.

The Mallard Point Unit will be open on Saturdays and Sundays of the statewide waterfowl season, with the exception of the modern rifle or muzzleloader deer seasons, for the drawn permit holders. The Redhead and Wolfe Unit will be open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the statewide waterfowl season, with the exception of drawn permit holders.

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a. To obtain a permit a person will be required to fill out a post card with their name, address, and telephone number and submit to Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 89, Benton, Kentucky 42025. The postcard will be accepted starting September 1st and must be received no later than October 15th to be considered for the drawing.

b. Only one entry may be submitted per person. Preferred dates and units may be requested on the card. If the dates or units have already been assigned then refuge personnel will select the first available date and unit remaining. Individuals drawn for the quota hunt will be notified within 2 weeks of the drawing by the U.S. Mail.

c. To be considered eligible for the drawing the individuals must be at least 16 years of age and possess valid and current state and federal licenses and stamps for hunting waterfowl. Hunters under 16 years of age may submit a postcard for the youth hunt weekend drawing.

d. Permit holders will be allowed to hunt their assigned unit on the designated date.

e. The individual drawn may bring up to four guests with them to the unit. Guests are not allowed in the unit without the attendance of the permit holder (no exceptions).

f. No person may sell, trade or barter their permit. The permit is the sole property of the permit holder and is non-transferable. If a person cannot make it to the blind on the dates they are drawn for, the blind will be considered closed for those dates.

g. No watercraft is allowed in the Clarks River Waterfowl Units with the exception of drawn permit holders, which may use watercraft to access their assigned units and to retrieve waterfowl.

Please respect the following signs
Millions of people visit national wildlife refuges each year. The impact of human activity, if not regulated, can degrade these wild lands. Signs help control recreational activities and respect private property while protecting natural resources on the refuge.

This sign and yellow paint clearly marks all refuge property. It is your responsibility to know where the property lines are and hunt within the boundaries.

This area is closed to all entry. No entering, hunting or sightseeing is permitted. No roads or trails beyond this sign are open to the public. Some of these signs may have dates indicating the length of time the area is closed.

This area is closed to all hunting. Firearms and archery equipment are prohibited. Some of these signs may have dates indicating the length of time the area is closed to all hunting.
### 2019-2020 Hunting Season Dates and Regulations

The hunting of any species not listed below is considered closed. All state bag limits, season lengths and weapon regulations apply unless otherwise specified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>Season Dates/ Bag Limits</th>
<th>Refuge Specific Regulations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Duck</td>
<td>Same as State Waterfowl Seasons and Bag Limits</td>
<td>Hunting will cease and hunters will be out of the field by 12 noon each day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goose</td>
<td></td>
<td>- Only portable and temporary blinds are permitted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coot</td>
<td></td>
<td>- Decoys and blinds must be removed each day.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Only nontoxic shot permitted.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*Waterfowl hunting on Clarks River Waterfowl Units by Quota Permit only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dove, Woodcock, Snipe, Crow, Quail</td>
<td>Same as State Season and Bag Limits. Closed during all refuge modern gun and muzzleloader deer seasons</td>
<td>- Only nontoxic shot permitted. (does not apply to rimfire or pellets fired from air guns).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel, Rabbit</td>
<td>Same as State Season and Bag Limits. Closed during all refuge modern gun and muzzleloader deer seasons</td>
<td>- Use of dogs outside hunting season is by special use permit only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raccoon, Opossum</td>
<td>Same as State Season and Bag Limits</td>
<td>You may hunt coyote under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>- Only nontoxic shot permitted</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Use of dogs is not permitted.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- May only be taken during daylight hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coyote</td>
<td>Same as State Season and Bag Limits</td>
<td>Deer taken on Refuge will be telechecked through State 1800/245 4263 with public land code for Clarks River NWR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Construction or use of any permanent tree stand is prohibited. Only climbing and/or portable stands may be used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>- Tree stands may be placed in the field no earlier than two weeks prior to the opening of season and must be removed from the field within one-week after the season closes.</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>- All stands left in the field must be identified by hunter’s State hunting license identification number. It is not required but the owner may provide the owner’s name, address and telephone number instead of the hunting identification number. If the stand does not contain this information it will be confiscated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Safety belts are required at all times with use of tree stand.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>- Hunters may not hunt by organized deer drives of two or more hunters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>- Hunting of deer by the aid of or distributing any feed, salt, minerals or other ingestible attractants is prohibited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-tail Deer</td>
<td>Same as State Season and Bag Limits for Zone 1</td>
<td>- Deer taken on Refuge will be telechecked through State 1800/245 4263 with public land code for Clarks River NWR.</td>
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### 2019-2020 HUNTING SEASON DATES AND REGULATIONS CONTINUED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Same as State Seasons and Bag Limits</th>
<th>-Turkey taken on Refuge will be telechecked through State 1800/245 4263 with public land code for Clarks River NWR.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing</td>
<td></td>
<td>-Refuge specific regulations for EERA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobcat, River Otter, Beaver, Fox</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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**LEGEND**

- Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters
- Environmental Education and Recreation Area
- Clarks River NWR Waterfowl Units
- Parking
- Roads
- Areas Closed Year-Round
- Seasonally Closed Areas
- Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge
- Clarks River
- County Boundary

1 inch = 2 miles