Overflow National Wildlife Refuge
Public Use Regulations
2019-2020

This is an annual permit. To save tax dollars, please use this permit for the entire season.

Overflow National Wildlife Refuge
Refuge Access Permit
Expires July 2020
When signed and in your possession, this portion of the brochure will serve as your permit for all permissible refuge activities, and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

Signature __________________________

Permits are not transferable and are valid only when signed.

Take pride in your Refuge. Don’t litter.
Report violations. 1-844-FWS-TIPS (397-8477)
Terrain Vehicles (ATV) and Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV) are natural events that may pose a hazard to public safety. All roads and trails may be closed to vehicle use due to these events. All motor vehicles are restricted to normal passenger vehicle use and will be allowed on roads open to vehicles and trails and levees that are marked by ATV/UTV signs. Roadside and trails may be closed to vehicle use due to periods of high water, during wildlife occurrences or other natural events that may pose a hazard to public safety. All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) and Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV) are allowed on roads, trails and levees designated by ATV signs and marked with yellow paint. The use of ATV/UTVs is restricted to wildlife-dependent recreation only. Trails marked by yellow paint are open September 1 - January 31. We define an ATV and a UTV as off-road vehicles (not legal for highway use) with factory specifications not to exceed the following: engine size not to exceed 700cc displacement, a width of 63” or less and tires with maximum 1” lug height and maximum allowable tire pressure of 6 psi. Bicycles are permitted on roads and designated ATV trails. The maximum legal speed for any land vehicle is 25 mph.

Permits

Refuge access permits are required for all refuge users. When signed and in your possession, the cover section of this brochure serves as your permit for all permissible refuge activities and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

General Regulations

Public use regulations are designed to protect the sportmen and wildlife populations. The regulations below supplement the general regulations which govern all public use on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. All users are permitted on the refuge in accordance with state and federal regulations as supplemented by the following special refuge regulations contained herein.

Special Hunts

Special Hunt permits are required in addition to the Refuge Access Permits. Permits are non-transferable and non-refundable. Applications for the Special Youth Turkey Hunt permits will be accepted during the month of January.

Commercial/Special Use Activities

No person including but not limited to a guide, service, outfitter, club or other organization shall provide assistance, equipment or services to the refuge or any other person for compensation. For the purpose of this regulation, any fee paid or services rendered to a person for lodging, meals, club membership or similar services will be considered compensation. Violation of this regulation subjects each hunter in the party to a fine if convicted of this violation.

A Refuge Special Use Permit is required for all commercial activities on the refuge. Permits may be obtained by contacting our Refuge Headquarters with a formal request. All Special Use Permit applications will be subject to a two week turn-around time and applicable fees.

Motor Vehicles

All motor vehicles are restricted to normal passenger vehicle roads. Roads and trails may be closed to vehicle use due to periods of high water, during wildlife occurrences or other natural events that may pose a hazard to public safety. All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) and Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV) are allowed on roads, trails and levees designated by ATV signs and marked with yellow paint. The use of ATV/UTVs is restricted to wildlife-dependent recreation only. Trails marked by yellow paint are open September 1 - January 31. We define an ATV and a UTV as off-road vehicle (not legal for highway use) with maximum 1” lug height and maximum allowable tire pressure of 6 psi. Bicycles are permitted on roads and designated ATV trails. The maximum legal speed for any land vehicle is 25 mph.

Firearms/Ammunition

Persons may only use (discharge) firearms during authorized hunting seasons while attempting to take game species and/or wildlife species approved for incidental take. All hunting weapons used on the refuge must comply with state regulations for each game species. Possession of shot larger than that legal for waterfowl hunting is prohibited. Lead shot is prohibited. Refugewide except during Quota Turkey Hunts. Only .22 caliber and shotguns are permitted except during the Muzzleloader and Gun Deer Hunts when hunting equipment legal for these hunts is also permitted. Use or possession of buckshot is prohibited wildlife-wide.

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuges must comply with all provisions of state and federal law. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and specific refuge regulations in 50 CFR Part 92).

Animals/Pets

Dogs are allowed for hunting migratory birds and small game during designated seasons. Dogs and other pets not being utilized for wildlife-dependent recreation must be on a leash. Horses may be used on roads open to vehicles and trails and levees that are open to ATV/UTV’s for on-refuge, wildlife-dependent activities only. Horses are prohibited during the Muzzleloader Hunt.

Refuge Regulations

- Duck, Goose, and Coot
  - State Duck Season
  - Special Permit Required
  - Refuge Special Use Permit required and available at refuge office.
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- Squirrel and Rabbit
  - Dogs allowed December 1-January 31.

- Woodcock
  - State Season
  - Bag limit applies.

- Quail
  - Nov. 1 - Jan. 31
  - State bag limit applies.

- Raccoon and Opossum
  - Use of dogs required during hours of darkness.

- Deer Archery/Crossbows
  - Deer Muzzleloader
  - Special Permit Required
  - Turkey
  - Any Refuge Hunt
  - May be taken incidental to any daytime refuge hunt (without the use of dogs)

- Turkey (Spring Quota Gun-Youth)
  - Special Permit Required
  - Youth hunt restricted to youths, 15 years of age and younger (age at opening of state-wide youth waterfowl season) accompanied by one adult 21 years or older.

- Beaver, Nutria, Coyote
  - Refuge Special Use Permit required and available at refuge office.

- Feral Hog
  - In accordance with Arkansas Game and Fish Commission regulations concerning the taking of feral swine on WMAs. May be taken incidental to any daytime refuge hunt (without the use of dogs) with legal hunting equipment and ammunition allowed for that hunt. No bag limit. Live hogs may not be transported or possessed.

- Hunters may not enter the refuge until 4 am; with the exception of designated parking areas. Hunting ends at noon each day. Only portable blinds are permitted. All duck hunting equipment (blinds, guns, decoys, ammunition, etc.) must be removed by 1:30 pm each day, either to a vehicle or off the refuge. September Teal Season Closed. Unlawful to discharge or possess more than 25 shot shells per person (including vehicles), per day(except during the State Youth Hunt). All boat motors larger than 25 HP are prohibited including traditional motors, surface drive motors, outboard motors, etc., are prohibited. All boats are prohibited on the refuge between the hours of 1:30 pm and 4:00 am during waterfowl season to minimize disturbance.

- Dogs are allowed on roads, trails and levees designated by ATV signs and marked with yellow paint. The use of ATV/UTVs is restricted to wildlife-dependent recreation only. Trails marked by yellow paint are open September 1 - January 31. We define an ATV and a UTV as off-road vehicle (not legal for highway use) with maximum 1” lug height and maximum allowable tire pressure of 6 psi. Bicycles are permitted on roads and designated ATV trails. The maximum legal speed for any land vehicle is 25 mph.

- Firearms/Ammunition
  - Persons may only use (discharge) firearms during authorized hunting seasons while attempting to take game species and/or wildlife species approved for incidental take. All hunting weapons used on the refuge must comply with state regulations for each game species. Possession of shot larger than that legal for waterfowl hunting is prohibited. Lead shot is prohibited. Refugewide except during Quota Turkey Hunts. Only .22 caliber and shotguns are permitted except during the Muzzleloader and Gun Deer Hunts when hunting equipment legal for these hunts is also permitted. Use or possession of buckshot is prohibited wildlife-wide.

- Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuges must comply with all provisions of state and federal law. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and specific refuge regulations in 50 CFR Part 92).
Specific Hunting Regulations

Hunting from an area where a shooting lane has been cut is prohibited.

A hunter born after 1968 must carry a valid Hunter Education Card. Hunters under 16 years old do not need to have a card if they are under the direct supervision (within arms reach) of a holder of a valid hunting license of at least 21 years of age. Youth hunters under the age of 16 who have a valid Hunter Education Card must also be supervised by an adult not less than 21 years old, but they may remain only a yard from the adult while hunting. This applies to small game hunting.

Deer

Legal Buck Definition and Bag Limit: the total number of bucks that can be legally harvested is two (these are not bonus deer). Legal buck is any male deer.

Deer stands may be placed on the refuge starting on the opening day of the season and must be removed by January 31. Limit is one deer stand per person.

Portable, pop-up blinds must have 144 square inches of blaze orange or chartreuse visible from all sides of the blind during firearm deer seasons on the refuge.

Waterfowl

Possession and discharge of more than 25 shot shells on persons or in vehicles is prohibited for all hunters during waterfowl hunting seasons.

All boats are prohibited on the refuge between the hours of 1:30 pm and 4 am during the waterfowl season to minimize disturbance.

Special Youth Hunt - Waterfowl hunting will be allowed on the Youth Only Waterfowl Unit by a drawing hunt only. The Unit will be closed to all entry with the exception of the drawn permit holder and their guests on the hunt days. The Unit will be open on Saturdays and Sundays of the statewide waterfowl season for the drawn permit holder and their guests. Applications will be accepted during the month of October. See website or call the office for more details on how to apply.

To possess, or take or attempt to take waterfowl with the use of any simulated wing movement decoy or any decoy other than an artificial buoy that illustrates the appearance of a swimming or floating duck or goose is prohibited. An artificial buoy must be made of a material that floats in water, which is water-soluble and will disintegrate into small pieces if placed in water with waterfowl. Application forms and regulations are available online at the website.