

Central Mississippi Refuges:

Yazoo, Panther Swamp,
Hillside, Morgan Brake,
Mathews Brake

*National Wildlife Refuges
Hunting & Fishing
Regulations 2003-2004*



CELEBRATING A
CENTURY
of CONSERVATION

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This brochure is designed to provide the public with information and a summary of regulations pertaining to hunting and fishing on Central Mississippi Refuges. The following regulations supplement regulations governing hunting and fishing on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations and applicable state regulations. Violation of Refuge or State regulations may result in confiscation of Refuge Permits in addition to prosecution.

Request maps, permits and additional information from:
Central Mississippi Refuges
728 Yazoo Refuge Road
Hollandale, MS 38748
662/839 2638

Permit, Stamp and License Information

Persons utilizing the refuge are required to have appropriate licenses, stamps, and permits. All persons hunting on this refuge must have the following in their possession:

1. Applicable State hunting license(s), permit(s) and stamp(s). Consult current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Regulations for details.
2. Refuge Annual Public Use Permit: Each person 16 years of age and older hunting or fishing on the refuge(s) must have on their person a valid Refuge Annual Public Use Permit which certifies that you understand and will comply with the regulations contained in this brochure.

This \$12.00 permit is not transferable nor refundable and is valid for all unlimited hunting and fishing on Yazoo, Panther Swamp, Hillside, Morgan Brake, and Mathews Brake National Wildlife Refuges. Consult individual refuge regulations in this brochure.

3. Refuge Limited Hunt Permit: This \$12.50 permit is required to hunt on the refuge during designated limited draw hunts. Limited Hunt Permits are not transferable nor refundable. Consult individual refuge regulations in this brochure.

Refuge Annual Public Use Permit Application Procedures

Mail the complete name, address, and date of birth for each applicant on a plain sheet of paper to:

Central MS Refuges
728 Yazoo Refuge Road
Hollandale, MS 38748

Enclose a money order or cashiers check **payable to USFWS (no personal checks will be accepted)** which includes \$12.00 for each permit requested. Permits are also available at the Complex headquarters (Hollandale, MS) Monday - Friday, 7:30am - 4:00pm. Permits will be

available beginning August 1, 2003. There is no deadline for obtaining Refuge Annual Public Use Permits. Refuge Annual Public Use Permits expire on July 31, 2004.

Refuge Limited Hunt Permit Application Procedures

To apply provide the following information on a plain sheet of paper:

1. Complete name, address and date of birth for each applicant.
2. Refuge name, type and dates of hunt for which you are applying. Consult individual refuge regulations in this brochure.
3. Sign application and mail to the address listed above. Group application must be signed by at least one applicant.
4. At Yazoo NWR, only two applicants per application except the youth gun hunt which allows only one applicant per application. At Panther Swamp NWR, only five applicants per application, except the spring turkey hunt which allows only two applicants per application.

If an applicant is under 16 years of age, the name of an adult sponsor over 21 years of age must be included on the application. Duplicate applications will be rejected. Only successful applicants will be notified. If selected, you will be notified of procedures to submit the \$12.50 fee for the limited hunt permit. Limited hunt drawings will be conducted in mid October.

Bag and Possession Limits

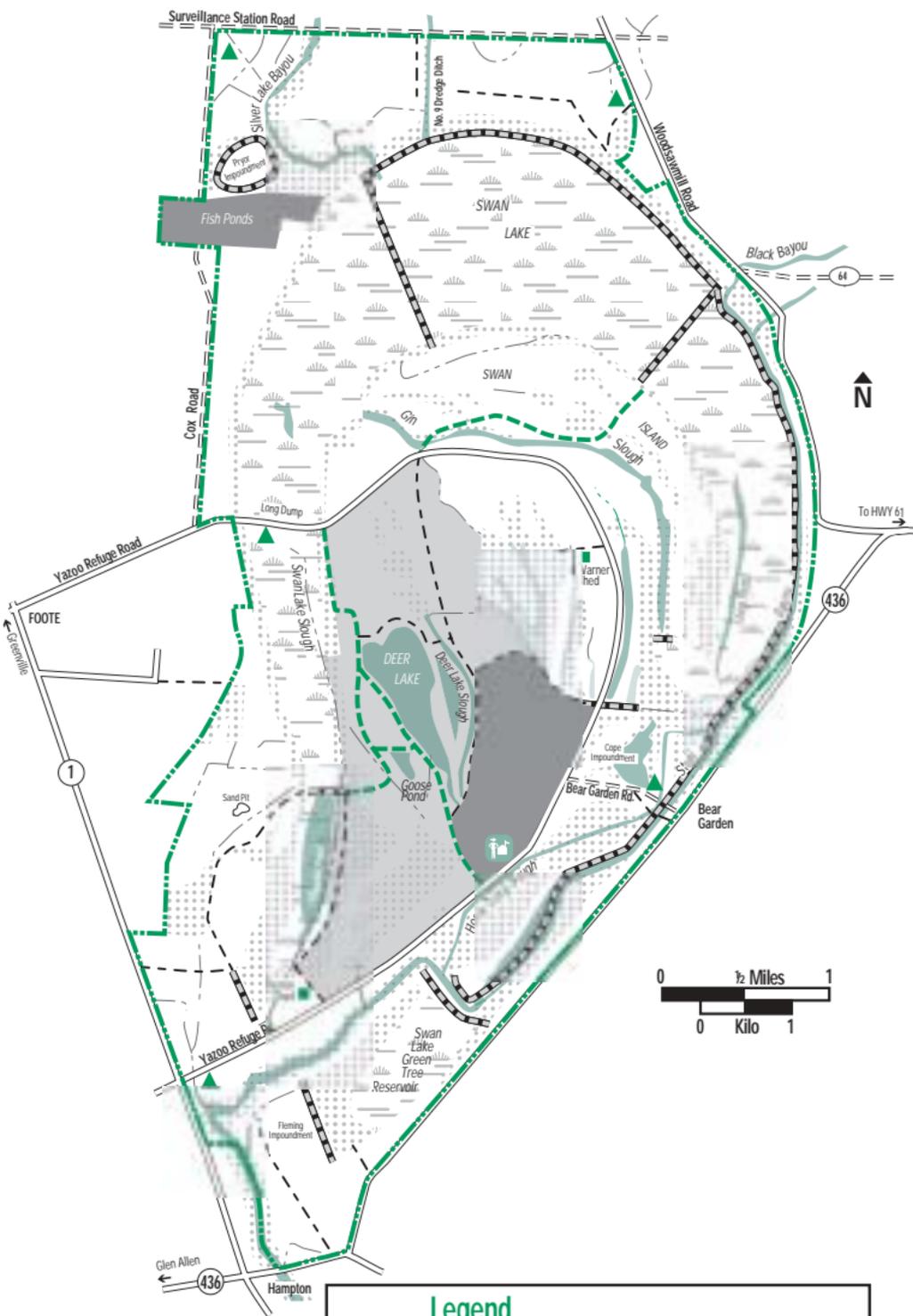
Unless further restricted by refuge regulations, State bag and possession limits apply. Consult current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Regulations for details.

General Area Regulations

1. During all gun or muzzleloader hunts for deer, the rabbit with dog hunts, and quail hunts, all participants must wear at least 500 square inches of unbroken fluorescent-orange material above the waistline as an outer garment while hunting and enroute to and from hunting areas.
2. Use or possession of any drug, or device for employing such drug for hunting, is prohibited.
3. Possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
4. Plastic flagging tape is prohibited.
5. Hunting or entry into areas designated as "CLOSED" is prohibited (see maps).
6. Camping is prohibited.

7. Fires are prohibited.
8. Littering is prohibited.
9. No person shall cut or destroy any tree, shrub or bush on the refuge.
10. During all gun and muzzleloader deer hunts, all other public use on that refuge is prohibited.
11. By state law non-residents may not take antlerless deer.
12. Man-drives for deer are prohibited.
13. Hunting from or shooting across open fields from ground level is prohibited during gun deer hunts.
14. All commercial activities are prohibited; including guiding or participating in a paid guided hunt.
15. During all limited permit hunts, each hunter may possess only his/her current permit and/or tags.
16. Dogs are permitted for the squirrel, waterfowl, raccoon, quail, and February rabbit hunts only. Consult individual refuge regulations in this brochure.
17. Crossbows are only permitted in accordance with state law. State crossbow permit required.
18. Valid permit holders may take the following furbearers in season incidental to other refuge hunts with legal firearms used for that hunt: raccoon, opossum, coyote, beaver, bobcat, and nutria.
19. Youth under 16 years of age may not be in possession of a gun unless in the immediate presence of a supervising adult at least 21 years of age.
20. The use of artificial light, including vehicle headlights, to locate or take any animal except as authorized in these regulations, is prohibited.
21. A loaded gun is defined as shells in the gun or percussion caps on muzzleloaders.
22. Guns are allowed only during periods in which their use for hunting is allowed.
23. Handguns are prohibited at all times.
24. Guns must be **unloaded** while standing beside, in, or walking across any portion of a field, tree plantation, road, pipeline, or powerline right-of-way.
25. Guns transported in/on vehicles, ATV's, and boats under power must be unloaded and cased.
26. The use or possession of .22 magnum and .17 remington guns is prohibited.

27. Vehicles may be operated only on designated roads (see maps). No motor vehicle shall be operated on any part of the refuge designated and posted as "CLOSED" due to inclement weather, poor road conditions, construction, management activities or wildlife surveys.
28. Vehicles shall not be parked in such a manner as to obstruct roads, gates, turnrows or firelanes.
29. ATV's are permitted only on designated refuges and will not be allowed off trails to retrieve deer. Consult individual refuge regulations in this brochure.
30. Boats left unattended for more than 72 hours will be considered abandoned and will be confiscated.
31. U.S. Coast Guard and State boating regulations including personal floatation device, lighting, and registration requirements shall apply.
32. Horses are prohibited.
33. Driving a metal object into any tree or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven, is prohibited.
34. During muzzleloader, rifle and youth gun deer hunts, hunting from tripods and other free-standing platforms is prohibited in fields and tree plantations.
35. Stands adjacent to fields and tree plantations must be a minimum of 10 feet above the ground.
36. Permanent blinds or stands are prohibited.
37. Stands may not be attached to any power or utility pole.
38. Stands may be placed on the refuge seven days prior to and must be removed within seven days after the close of the refuge deer season.
39. Each day before hunting or fishing, all participants must obtain a pink User Information Card available at the Hunter Information Stations (see maps) and follow the printed instructions on the card. This card must be displayed on the dash of all vehicles while hunting or fishing and placed in a hunter information return box before leaving the refuge.
40. Deer must be field dressed.
41. A Youth Hunter is defined as anyone under 16 years of age.
42. Youth Hunters must possess a Hunter Safety Course Card or Certificate and be in the immediate presence of an accompanying adult 21 years of age or older at all times. An adult may supervise only one youth.



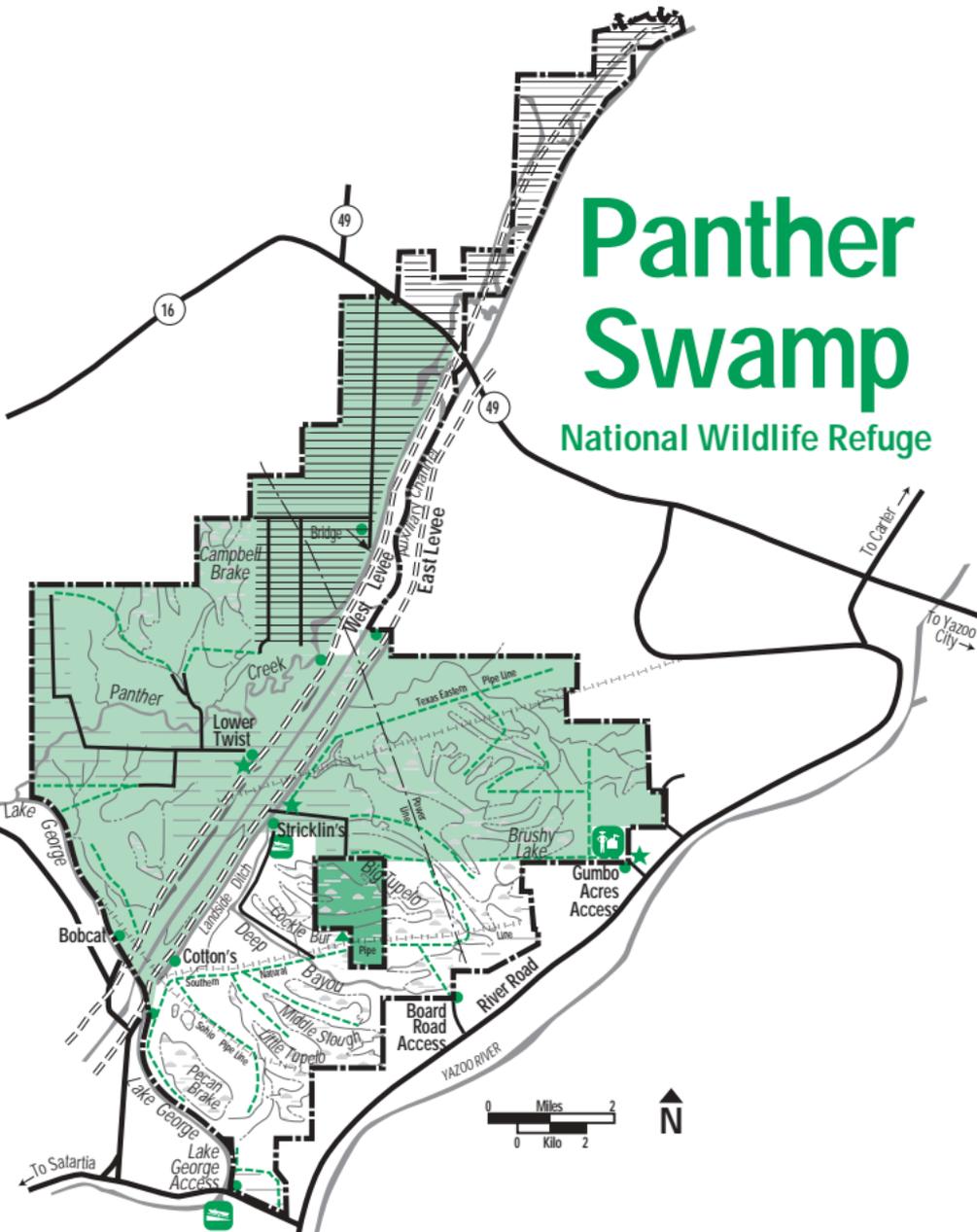
Yazoo

National Wildlife Refuge

Legend	
	Area Open to Hunting Unless Otherwise Indicated
	Area Closed January and February
	Area Closed
	Forest or Brush
	Swamp
	Refuge Boundary
	Hunter Information Center
	Refuge Headquarters and Check Station
	State Highway or Paved County Road
	Improved County Road
	Improved Refuge Road (Open to Vehicle Use)
	Field Road (No Motor Vehicles)
	Earthen Dam or Dike

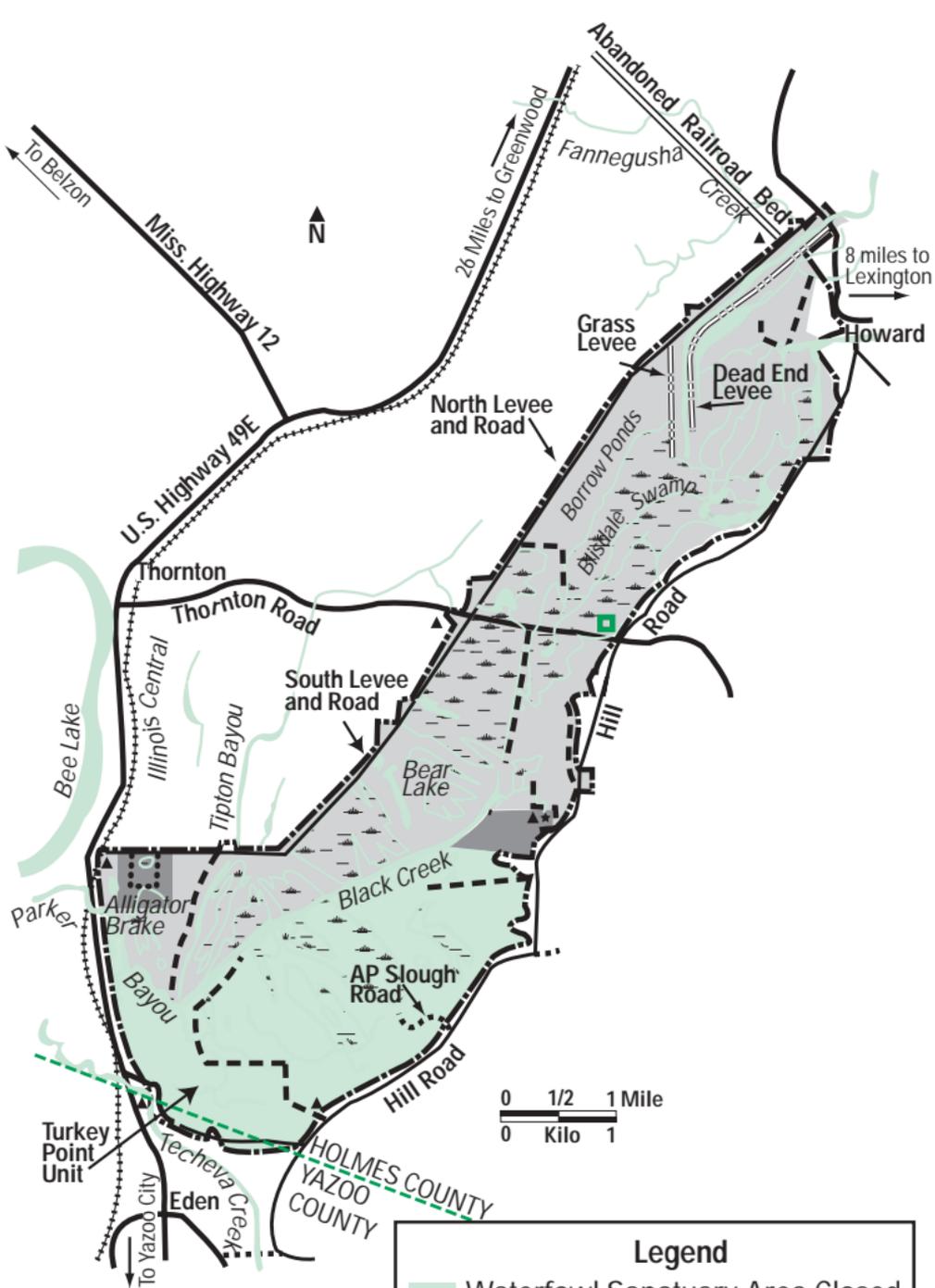
Panther Swamp

National Wildlife Refuge



Legend

-  Refuge Headquarters Area (No Hunting)
-  Boat Ramp
-  Open to Hunting except Waterfowl
(See small Game & Deer Hunt Restrictions)
-  Open Fields (See Deer Hunt Restrictions)
-  Waterfowl Hunting Area Open to Other Hunts
(See Small game Restrictions)
-  Private Land
-  Open Water
-  Permanent Water Wetlands
-  Refuge Boundary
-  Paved Road
-  Gravel Road
-  ATV Trail
-  ATV Trail Limit During Spring Turkey Season
-  Access Point/Hunter's Permit Station
-  Deer Check Station
-  Big Twist Area



Hillside

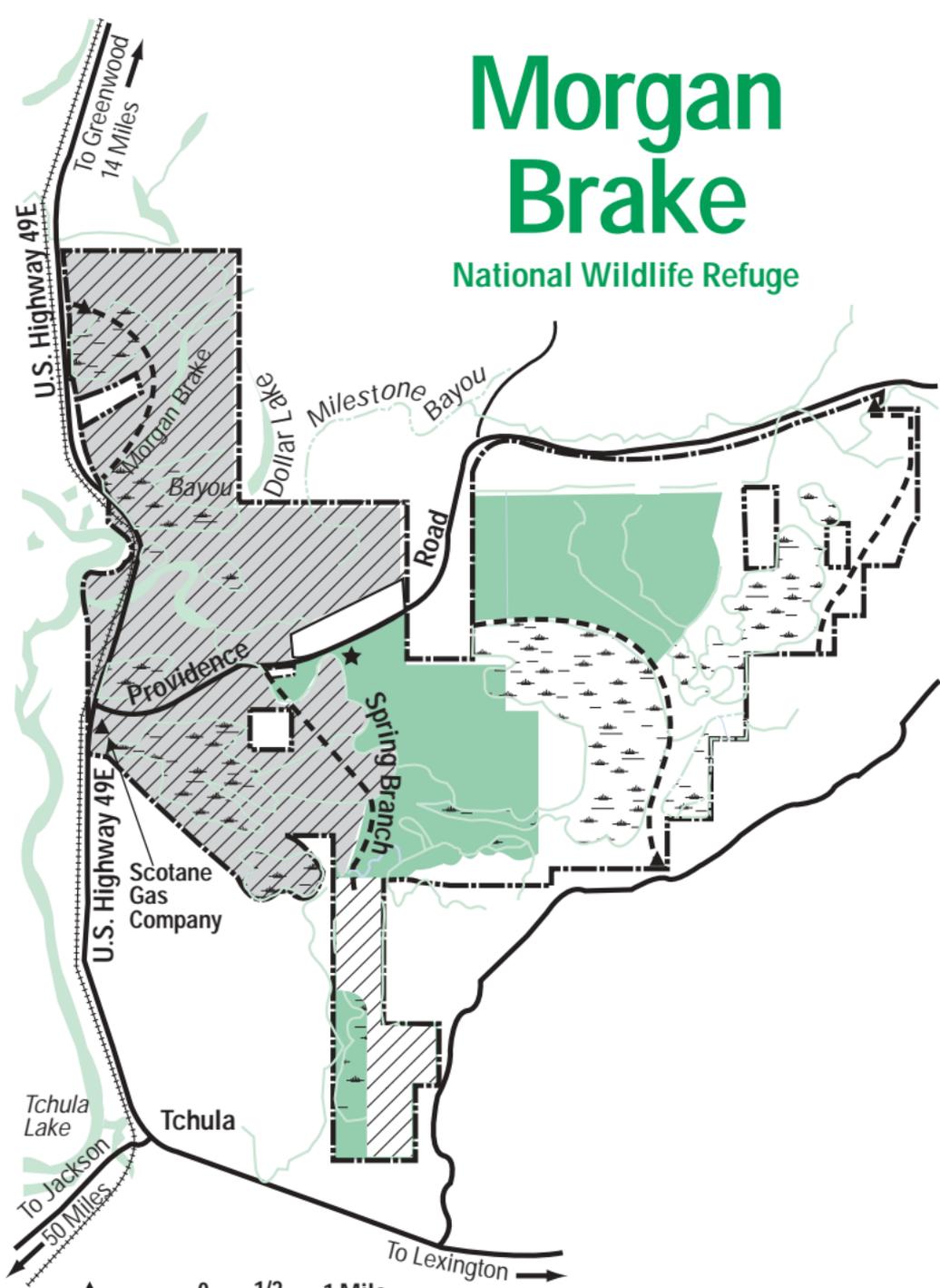
National Wildlife Refuge

Legend

- Waterfowl Sanctuary Area Closed to all Public Use except for October-December Deer Hunts
- Waterfowl Hunt Area
- Closed Areas
- Swamp
- Information Station
- Refuge Boundary
- Deer Check Station
- Refuge Shop
- Paved Road
- Nature Trail
- Gravel Road
- ATV Trail

Morgan Brake

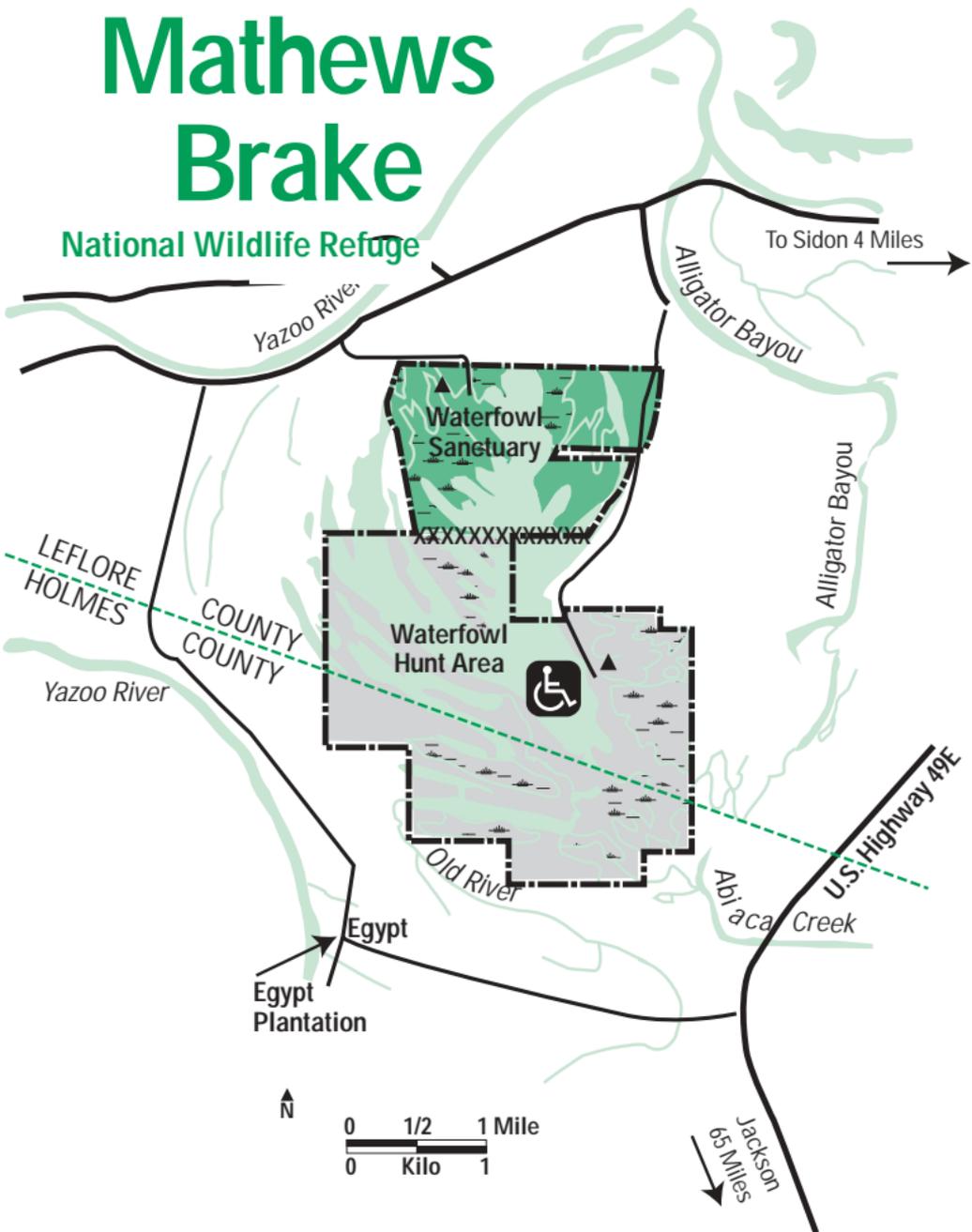
National Wildlife Refuge



Legend

- Area Closed
- Waterfowl Hunt Area
- Swamp
- Information Station
- Refuge Boundary
- Refuge Subheadquarters/ Deer Check Station
- State Highway or Paved County Road
- Late Archery Area, December 16 - January 31
- Gravel Road
- ATV Trail

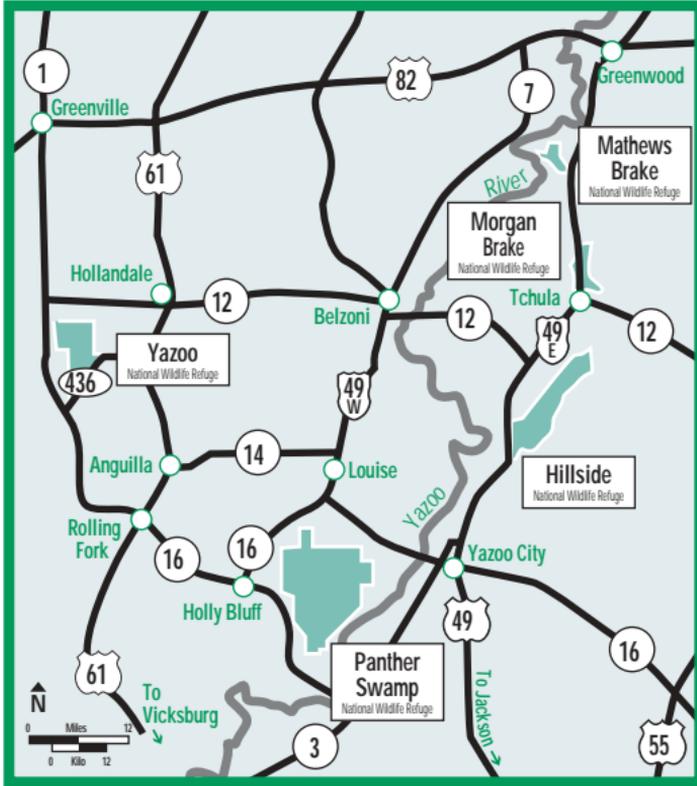
Mathews Brake



Legend

- Waterfowl Sanctuary Area Closed to all Public Use December 1 - March 15
- XXXX Waterfowl Sanctuary Boundary
- Waterfowl Hunt Area
- Swamp
- Information Station
- Public Boat Ramp - Disabled Accessible
- Refuge Boundary
- Paved Road
- Gravel Road

Central Mississippi Refuges



43. Youth hunters are not required to possess a Refuge Annual Public Use Permit.

Yazoo NWR Limited Hunts

The youth regular gun deer, muzzleloader deer and senior citizen gun deer hunts require a Limited Hunt Permit which is assigned by random computer drawing. If drawn, there is a \$12.50 fee for each permit. Limited Hunt Permits are not transferable and are non-refundable. Applications for the Limited Hunt Permits will be accepted only from **August 15 through September 15, 2003**.

Youth are permitted to apply for the Youth Regular Gun Hunt and a Muzzleloader Gun Hunt.

Senior citizens are permitted to apply for the Senior Citizen Hunt and a Muzzleloader Gun Hunt.

Refuge Specific Regulations

All deer must be checked at Refuge Headquarters.

Stands in the January/February closed area must be removed by the day after the last gun hunt.

Motorized boats authorized in Silver Lake Bayou only.

Electronic gates are open 4:00am - 8:00pm.

Youth Regular Gun Hunt November 28 or 29, 2003

Youth age 11-15 may apply for only one day of the hunt. Each application must include the name and signature of

an adult, 21 years of age or older, who will accompany the youth on the hunt. Youth is required to have documentation of completed Hunter Safety Course. Only the youth may handle or discharge firearms. Only one youth may apply on each application and each adult may supervise only one youth. The adult must possess a refuge brochure and is responsible for any violations by the youth under their supervision. All hunters and supervisors must check-in and check-out at refuge headquarters. Legal to take: One deer of either sex, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Senior Citizen Gun Hunt

December 2 - 3, 2003

Senior citizens, 65 years of age and older, may apply for this hunt. All applications must be signed by at least one applicant. Groups of no more than two hunters may apply on one application. Legal to take: one deer of either sex and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Muzzleloader Gun Hunt

December 5-6; 9-10; or 12-13, 2003

All applications must be signed by at least one applicant. Groups of no more than two hunters may apply on one application. You may apply for only one of the two day muzzleloader hunts. Muzzleloading rifles or muzzleloading shotguns loaded with a single ball are allowed. Legal to take: two deer (one buck and one doe) and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Yazoo NWR-Unlimited Hunts

Possession of toxic shot, buckshot or slugs is prohibited.

Archery Hunt

October 1-November 21, 2003 and January 2-16, 2004

The possession of guns is prohibited. Before each buck with 8-points or better may be taken, each hunter must harvest a doe at least 1 1/2 years old, or a 1 1/2 year old buck with 5 -points or less, or a buck with less than 8-points which is at least 2 1/2 years old. Legal to take: deer of either sex and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Squirrel and Rabbit Hunt

October 18 - November 21, 2003

Shotgun with steel shot only. Legal to take: squirrel, rabbit and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Raccoon with Dogs Hunt

January 29 - 31, 2004

Dogs are required. Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot and .22 rimfire are permitted. Legal to take: raccoon, opossum and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Squirrel with Dogs Hunt

February 1-28, 2004

Dogs allowed for squirrel hunting from February 1-28, 2004 only. Shotgun with steel shot or .22 rimfire only. Legal to take: squirrel and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Rabbit with Dogs Hunt

February 12-28, 2004

Dogs allowed for rabbit hunting from February 12-28, 2004 only. During the rabbit-with-dog hunt, any person hunting or accompanying another person hunting shall wear at least 500 square inches of unbroken fluorescent orange material visible above the waistline as an outer garment. Shotgun with steel shot only. Legal to take: rabbit, squirrel and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Snow Goose Hunt

Hunting is by special use permit only. Contact the Refuge office for details.

Turkey: Closed

Trapping: Closed

Fishing: Closed

Panther Swamp NWR

The regular gun deer and turkey hunts require a Limited Hunt Permit which is assigned by random computer drawing. If drawn, there is a \$12.50 fee for each permit. Limited Hunt Permits are not transferable and are non-refundable.

Hunters may apply for only one Limited Deer Hunt at Panther Swamp NWR.

ATV's are permitted only on designated trails (see map) from September 15, 2003 through February 28, 2004 (see turkey hunt exception).

Regular Gun Deer Hunts

November 22-24, 2003 or December 16-20, 2003

All applications must be signed by at least one applicant. Groups of no more than 5 hunters may apply on one application. Applications for the Limited Gun Deer Hunts will be accepted only from August 15 through September 15, 2003. All deer harvested during limited gun hunts must be checked at check station located at Gumbo Acres, unless additional check stations with refuge staff are provided. Legal to take: one deer of either sex, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Spring Turkey Hunt

March 20 - May 1, 2004

Groups of no more than 2 people may apply on one application. Applications for the limited turkey hunt

permits will be accepted only from **January 15 through February 20, 2004**. ATV's are permitted only on Southern Natural Gas pipeline from Cotton's access to Tupelo Brake Duck Club boundary (see map). All harvested turkeys must be tagged immediately and prior to being moved. Possession of toxic shot, buckshot, and slugs is prohibited. Shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot and archery only. Legal to take: two legal gobblers.

Panther Swamp NWR Unlimited Hunts

Possession of toxic shot, buckshot or slugs is prohibited.

Archery Hunt

*October 1 - November 21, 2003 and
December 21, 2003 - January 31, 2004*

Beginning December 21, hunting is restricted to the designated waterfowl hunting area (see map). The possession of guns is prohibited. Legal to take: deer of either sex, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Muzzleloader Gun Deer Hunt

December 2-15, 2003

Muzzleloader rifles or muzzleloader shotguns loaded with a single ball are allowed. Legal to take: deer of either sex, hog and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Raccoon with Dogs Hunt

October 1 - November 21, 2003 and February 1-28, 2004

Dogs are required. Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot and .22 rimfire are permitted. Legal to take: Raccoon, opossum, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Squirrel and Rabbit Hunt

*October 18 - November 21, 2003,
November 25 - December 1, 2003, and
December 21, 2003 - February 28, 2004*

Beginning December 21, hunting is restricted to the designated waterfowl hunting area (see map). Any dog allowed to pursue or molest deer will be removed from the refuge and your permit will be revoked. Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot and .22 rimfire rifles are permitted. Legal to take: squirrel, rabbit, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Rabbit with Dogs Hunt February 12 - 28, 2004

Quail Hunt: February 1 - 28, 2004

Dogs allowed for rabbit hunting from February 12 - 28, 2004 only. All refuge areas east of the Auxiliary Channel and the Big Twist hunting area adjacent to the west levee are open to walk-in only (see map). During the rabbit-with-dog and quail hunts, any person hunting or accompanying another person hunting shall wear at least 500 square inches of unbroken fluorescent orange

material visible above the waistline as an outer garment. Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot are permitted. Legal to take: rabbit, quail, squirrel, raccoon, opossum, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Duck, Merganser, and Coot Hunt

State season except closed during all Gun deer hunts. See current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks regulations for season dates. **December 27 and 28, 2003 is restricted to youth hunt only.** There is no early teal season. Legal shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 12:00 noon. Hunters must remove all decoys, blind material, and harvested waterfowl from the area no later than 1:00 pm each day. Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot are permitted. Legal to take: Ducks, mergansers, coots, hogs, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

State Youth Squirrel Hunt

October 11- 12, 2003

Youth under the age of sixteen may hunt. Youth is required to have documentation of completed Hunter Safety Course and be accompanied by an adult 21 years of age or older. Only youth may hunt. Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot and .22 rimfire rifles are permitted. Legal to take: squirrel and hogs.

Youth Duck, Merganser, and Coot Hunt

December 27-28, 2003

Youth under the age of sixteen may hunt. Youth is required to have documentation of completed Hunter Safety Course and be accompanied by an adult 21 years of age or older. Both youth and accompanying adult may hunt. Only one adult may accompany each youth. Legal shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 12:00 noon. Hunters must remove all decoys, blind material, and harvested waterfowl from the area no later than 1:00 pm each day. Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot are permitted. Legal to take: Ducks, mergansers, coots, hogs, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

State Youth Turkey Hunt

March 13-14, 2004

Youth under the age of sixteen may hunt. Youth is required to have documentation of completed Hunter Safety Course and be accompanied by an adult 21 years of age or older. Only youth may hunt. ATV's are permitted only on Southern Natural Gas pipeline from Cotton's access to Tupelo Brake Duck Club boundary. Shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot and archery only. Legal to take: one legal gobbler.

Trapping: Closed

Fishing

Waters between the East and West levee, the Landside Ditch, and the portion of Panther Creek adjacent to the West Levee, are open year-round except that all fishing is closed during limited deer hunts. All other refuge waters are open from March 1 - November 15. ATV's are permitted for fishing access only on designated gravel roads when such roads are closed to vehicular traffic. Trot lines, limb lines, jugs, seines, and traps are prohibited. Legal to take: State creel limits apply. Consult current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Regulations for details.

Frogging

Frogging is permitted during State bullfrog season. Consult current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Regulations for details.

Hillside NWR Unlimited Hunts

Possession of toxic shot, buckshot or slugs is prohibited.

Dove Hunt

First and second State season. Consult current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Regulations for dates. Access is restricted to designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). ATV's are prohibited. Shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot only. Legal to take: doves.

Archery Hunt

*October 1 - November 23, 2003 and
December 22, 2003 - January 31, 2004*

Beginning December 22, hunting is restricted to the designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). The possession of guns is prohibited. Legal to take: deer of either sex, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Raccoon with Dogs Hunt

*October 1 - November 23, 2003 and
December 22, 2003 - January 31, 2004*

Dogs are required. Beginning December 22, hunting is restricted to the designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot and .22 rimfire are permitted. Legal to take: raccoon, opossum, hog and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Squirrel and Rabbit Hunt

*October 11 - November 23, 2003 and
December 8, 2003 - February 28, 2004*

Beginning December 9, hunting is restricted to the designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). Shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot and .22 rimfire rifles are permitted. Legal to take: squirrels, rabbits, hogs, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Muzzleloader Gun Hunt

November 24 - December 7, 2003

A check station will be operated November 24, 25 and 29 during the muzzleloader hunt. All deer harvested on those dates must stay in your possession and be checked at Refuge check station (see map). Muzzleloading rifles or muzzleloading shotguns loaded with a single ball are allowed. Legal to take: deer of either sex, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Rabbit with Dogs Hunt: February 12 - 28, 2004

Quail with dogs hunt: February 01 - 28, 2004

Dogs are permitted for rabbit hunting only from February 12 - 28, 2004. Hunting is restricted to the designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). During this time any person hunting or accompanying another person hunting shall wear at least 500 square inches of unbroken fluorescent orange material visible above the waistline as an outer garment. Shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot are permitted. Legal to take: rabbits, quail, squirrels, hogs, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Duck, Merganser, and Coot Hunt

State season except closed during muzzleloading gun deer hunt. See current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks regulations for season dates. Hunting is restricted to designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). There is no early teal season. Legal shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 12:00 noon. Hunters must remove all decoys, blind material, and harvested waterfowl from the area no later than 1:00 pm each day. Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot are permitted. Legal to take: Ducks, mergansers, coots, hogs, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Turkey: Closed

Trapping: Closed

Fishing

Fishing is permitted in the borrow ponds along the north levee (see map) throughout the year except during the muzzleloading gun deer hunt. Fishing is permitted in the remainder of refuge: March 1 through November 15. ATV's are permitted only on designated trails (see map) from September 15, 2003 - February 28, 2004. Trot lines, limb lines, jugs, seines, and traps are prohibited. Fishing from bridges is prohibited. Legal to take: State creel limits apply. Consult current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Regulations for details.

Frogging

Frogging is permitted during State bullfrog season. Consult current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Outdoor Digest for details.

Morgan Brake NWR Unlimited Hunts

Possession of toxic shot, buckshot or slugs is prohibited.

Archery Hunt

*October 1 - November 23, 2003 and
December 22, 2003 - January 31, 2004*

Beginning December 22, hunting is restricted to north of Providence Road and the area west and south of Spring Branch (see map). The possession of guns is prohibited. Legal to take: deer of either sex, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Raccoon with Dogs Hunt

*October 1 - November 23, 2003 and
December 22, 2003 - January 31, 2004*

Dogs are required. Beginning December 22, hunting is restricted to the designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot and .22 rimfire are permitted. Legal to take: raccoon, opossum, hog and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Squirrel and Rabbit Hunt

*October 11 - November 23, 2003 and
December 8, 2003 - February 28, 2004*

Beginning December 8, hunting is restricted to the designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). Shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot and .22 rimfire rifles are permitted. Legal to take: squirrels, rabbits, hogs, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Muzzleloader Gun Hunt

November 24 - December 7, 2003

A check station will be operated during the muzzleloader hunt on November 24, 25 and 29. All deer harvested on those dates must stay in your possession and be checked at Refuge check station (see map). Muzzleloading rifles or muzzleloading shotguns loaded with a single ball are allowed. Legal to take: deer of either sex, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Rabbit with Dogs Hunt: February 12 - 28, 2004

Quail with Dogs Hunt: February 01-28, 2004

Dogs are permitted for rabbit hunting only from February 12 - 28, 2004. Hunting is restricted to the designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). During this time any person hunting or accompanying another person hunting shall wear at least 500 square inches of unbroken fluorescent orange material visible above the waistline as

an outer garment. Shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot are permitted. Legal to take: rabbits, quail, squirrels, hogs, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Duck, Merganser, and Coot Hunt

State season except closed during muzzleloading gun deer hunt. See current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks regulations for season dates. Hunting is restricted to designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). There is no early teal season. Legal shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 12:00 noon. Hunters must remove all decoys, blind material, and harvested waterfowl from the area no later than 1:00 pm each day. Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot are permitted. Legal to take: ducks, mergansers, coots, hogs, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Turkey: Closed

Trapping: Closed

Fishing

Fishing is permitted only in refuge waters north of Providence Road throughout the year except during the muzzleloading gun deer hunt. ATV's are permitted only on designated trails (see map) from September 15, 2003 - February 28, 2004. Trot lines, limb lines, jugs, seines, and traps are prohibited. Fishing from bridges is prohibited. Legal to take: State creel limits apply. Consult current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Regulations for details.

Frogging

Frogging is permitted during State bullfrog season. Consult current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Outdoor Digest for details.

Mathews Brake NWR Unlimited Hunts

Possession of toxic shot, buckshot or slugs is prohibited.

Archery Hunt

October 1, 2003 - January 31, 2004

Beginning December 1, hunting is restricted to the designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). The possession of guns is prohibited. Legal to take: deer of either sex, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Raccoon with Dogs Hunt

*October 1 - November 23, 2003 and
December 22, 2003 - January 31, 2004*

Dogs are required. Beginning December 22, hunting is restricted to the designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot and .22 rimfire are permitted. Legal to take: raccoon, opossum, hog and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Squirrel and Rabbit Hunt

October 11, 2003 - February 28, 2004

Beginning December 1, hunting is restricted to the designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). Shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot and .22 rimfire rifles are permitted. Legal to take: squirrels, rabbits, hogs, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Rabbit with Dogs Hunt

February 12-28, 2004

Dogs are permitted for rabbit hunting only from February 12 - 28, 2004. During this time any person hunting or accompanying another person hunting shall wear at least 500 square inches of unbroken fluorescent orange material visible above the waistline as an outer garment. Shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot are permitted. Legal to take: squirrels, rabbits, hogs, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Duck, Merganser, and Coot Hunt

State season. See current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks regulations for season dates. **First two weekends in January 2004 are restricted to youth hunt only.** Hunting is restricted to designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). There is no early teal season. Legal shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 12:00 noon. Hunters must remove all decoys, blind material, and harvested waterfowl from the area no later than 1:00 pm each day. Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot are permitted. Legal to take: Ducks, mergansers, coots, hogs, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Youth Duck, Merganser and Coot Hunt

First two weekends in January 2004 are restricted to youth hunt only. Youth under the age of sixteen may hunt. Youth is required to have documentation of completed Hunter Safety Course and be accompanied by an adult 21 years of age or older. Both youth and accompanying adult may hunt. Only one adult may accompany each youth. Hunting is restricted to designated waterfowl hunt area only (see map). Legal shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 12:00 noon. Hunters must remove all decoys, blind material, and harvested waterfowl from the area no later than 1:00 PM each day. Only shotguns shooting approved non-toxic shot are permitted. Legal to take: Ducks, mergansers, coots, hogs, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Turkey: Closed

Trapping: Closed

Fishing

Fishing is permitted in all refuge waters throughout the year except for the waterfowl sanctuary which is closed from December 1 through March 15 (see map). Trot lines, limb lines, jugs, seines, and traps are prohibited. Legal to take: State creel limits apply. Consult current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Regulations for details.

Frogging

Frogging is permitted during State bullfrog season. Consult current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Outdoor Digest.

Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) Tracts

Only the Herron Tract, Brown Tract (east of the Sunflower River), and Middleton-Miller-Zepponi Tracts may be hunted for deer archery and rabbit. The Carter Tract may be hunted for rabbit only. Public Use Permit required. Contact Complex Headquarters for maps and additional information.

Archery Deer Hunt on FmHA Tracts

October 1, 2003 - January 31, 2004

The possession of guns is prohibited. Legal to take: deer of either sex, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

Rabbit with Dogs Hunt on FmHA Tracts

February 1 - 28, 2004

Dogs allowed for rabbit hunting from February 01 - 28, 2004 only. During the rabbit-with-dog hunt, any person hunting or accompanying another person hunting shall wear at least 500 square inches of unbroken fluorescent orange material visible above the waistline as an outer garment. Consult refuge office for maps of areas open to hunting. Shotgun with steel shot only. Legal to take: rabbit, squirrel, hog, and furbearers (Regulation #18).

2003 - 2004 Central Mississippi Refuges Hunt Schedule

Species	Yazoo	Panther Swamp
Deer-Youth Hunt	11/ 28/03 or 11/29/03	Closed
Squirrel-Youth Hunt	Closed	10/11/03-10/12/03
Turkey-Youth Hunt	Closed	3/13/04-3/14/04
Waterfowl-Youth Hunt	Closed	12/27/03-12/28/03
Deer-Archery	10/1/03-11/21/03 1/2/04-1/16/04	10/1/03-11/21/03 12/21/03-1/31/04
Deer-Muzzleloader	12/5/03-12/6/03 12/9/03-12/10/03 12/12/03-12/13/03	12/02/03 - 12/15/03
Deer-General Gun	Closed	11/22/03-11/24/03 or 12/16/03-12/20/03
Deer-Senior Citizen	12/2/03-12/3/03	Closed
Dove	Closed	Closed
Quail	Closed	02/01/04 - 02/28/04
Turkey	Closed	3/20/04-5/1/04
Waterfowl	Closed	State Season
Squirrel & Rabbit	10/18/03-11/21/03	10/18/03-11/21/03 11/25/03-12/1/03 12/21/03-2/28/04
Squirrel w/Dogs	2/1/04-2/28/04	10/18/03-11/21/03 11/25/03-12/1/03 12/21/04-2/28/04
Rabbit w/Dogs	2/12/04-2/28/04	2/12/04-2/28/04
Raccoon	1/29/04-1/31/04	10/1/03-11/21/03 2/1/04-2/28/04

 Unlimited Permit Required

 Limited Draw Permit Required

Hillside	Morgan Brake	Mathews Brake
Closed	Closed	Closed
Closed	Closed	Closed
Closed	Closed	Closed
Closed	Closed	1st & 2nd weekend in January
10/1/03-11/23/03 12/22/03-1/31/04	10/1/03-11/23/03 12/22/03-1/31/04	10/1/03-1/31/04
11/24/03-12/7/03	11/24/03-12/7/03	Closed
Closed	Closed	Closed
Closed	Closed	Closed
1st & 2nd State Season	Closed	Closed
2/01/04-2/28/04	2/01/04-2/28/04	Closed
Closed	Closed	Closed
State Season	State Season	State Season
10/11/03-11/23/03 12/8/03-2/28/04	10/11/03-11/23/03 12/8/03-2/28/04	10/11/03-2/28/04
10/11/03-11/23/03 12/8/03-2/28/04	10/11/03-11/23/03 12/8/03-2/28/04	10/11/03-2/28/04
2/12/04-2/28/04	2/12/04-2/28/04	2/12/04-2/28/04
10/1/03-11/23/03 12/22/03-1/31/04	10/1/03-11/23/03 12/22/03-1/31/04	10/1/03-11/23/03 12/22/03-1/31/04

NOTE: All waterfowl hunts are closed during Limited Draw Hunts. Refer to brochure for rules and regulations of each hunt.

Central Mississippi Refuges
728 Yazoo Refuge Road
Hollandale, MS 38748
662/839 2638
<http://www.fws.gov>

Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD

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