

Piedmont Refuge is part of a system of more than 560 National Wildlife Refuges, which provide for the conservation and management of habitats to benefit fish and wildlife. The refuge uses a variety of management techniques, primarily timber harvest and prescribed burning to sustain a healthy pine / hardwood forest. The refuge strives to provide quality hunting and fishing opportunities when compatible with the refuge management objectives.

The refuge is open to the public year round for visitation and pre-hunt scouting during day light hours, **except during firearm deer hunts.** A portion of Little Rock Wildlife Drive, west of Pond 21A, will be seasonally closed from November 15 to February 15.

General Hunt Regulations

Public hunting is permitted on approximately 34,000 acres of Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge with a refuge hunting permit.



Areas closed to hunting are marked with signs and orange paint. The refuge boundary is marked with signs and yellow paint.



In addition to Federal regulations, State Game and Fish laws and regulations are adopted and in effect unless they have been further restricted by Federal laws or regulations. Licenses, permits, all hunting and fishing equipment and effects, and vehicles or other conveyances are subject to inspection by Federal and State officers.



Camping by permitted hunters in Pippins Lake Campground is authorized only during big game hunts. The campground will open 8 am the day before each hunt and close at 11 am the day after each hunt. Hunters participating in more than one quota hunt may leave campers in the campground between quota hunts at their own risk.

Refuge hunt permits and quota hunt permits are required for all hunters and anyone who accompanies them and to enter and or stay in the Pippins Lake Campground.

Some access roads may be closed for small game and turkey seasons or in bad weather. Some areas may be closed during turkey hunts for prescribed burning. Check with the refuge office for updates January through April.

Hunter access is permitted from two hours before sunrise to two hours after sunset during open seasons.

Disposal of carcasses or entrails - Permitted refuge hunters and fisherman may dispose of

Hunting Season 2016-2017

Type Hunt	Required Permits	Season Dates	Bag Limits
Deer-Either sex-Archery	General Refuge Permit	September 10 - October 2, 2016	State limit
Deer-Either sex Disabled Hunt	Special Refuge Permit for Wheelchair Bound Persons	October 14 - 15, 2016	2 deer
Deer-Either sex Primitive Weapons	Quota 1250	October 27 - 29, 2016	2 deer
Deer-Either sex-Firearms	Quota 1250	November 3 - 5, 2016 November 10 - 12, 2016	2 deer
Quail, Squirrel, Rabbit	General Refuge Permit	State Season except Refuge small game hunts will be closed during all refuge deer hunts.	State limit
Raccoon, Opossum	General Refuge Permit	January 6 - 7, 2017 January 13 - 14, 2017 January 20 - 21, 2017 January 27 - 28, 2017	State limit
Spring Turkey	Quota 300	March 28 – April 1, 2017 April 11 – 15, 2017 April 25 – 29, 2017	State limit

carcasses and entrails of game and fish legally taken from the refuge on the refuge. Carcasses and entrails may be placed in the woods, but may not be placed within the campground, any dumpster, or within 25 yards of any road, trail, gate, boat ramp, parking area or private property.

Hitchiti Experimental Forest

The Hitchiti Experimental Forest is open for hunting only during refuge hunting seasons with a valid Piedmont Refuge hunting permit and in accordance with refuge regulations.

Hunter Education / Children

Hunters age 16-25 must possess the hunter education certificate while hunting. Children age 15 and under must remain within sight and normal voice contact of an adult age 21 or older possessing a valid hunting or fishing license to hunt or fish on the refuge.

One adult may supervise no more than one youth hunter during refuge quota hunts. Youth hunters, age 15 and under, may hunt on quota hunts with a permitted adult by obtaining a free refuge youth permit. Youth permits will be available the day after each quota drawing through the quota hunt season. Hunters age 16 and over are required to have a paid permit.

Big Game Hunting

No hunter sign-in required. All big game must be checked on the day killed at the refuge check station as designated before leaving the refuge. The whole animal, except entrails, must be brought to the check station. During all deer hunts the check station is located on Piedmont Shop Road as marked on the map. During the turkey hunts the check station is located at the visitor center.

During refuge quota turkey hunts, harvest counts toward a hunter's season limit of three gobblers. Turkeys harvested on the refuge must be checked at the refuge check station on the day of kill AND with the new Georgia DNR turkey harvest system including the state harvest record.

During refuge deer archery season, harvest counts toward a hunters season limit. Deer harvested must be checked at the refuge check station on the day of kill AND with the new Georgia DNR deer harvest system including the state harvest record.

On refuge quota deer firearm hunts, a special tag will be issued at the check station. Two deer limit per hunter per quota hunt. Do not record kill on the state harvest record. These deer will not count towards a hunter's season limit.

Hunter orange is required to be worn during all deer firearm hunts. At least 500 square inches of hunter orange must be worn as an outer garment above the waist.

Tree Stands/Hunting Blinds

Tree stands and hunting blinds may be placed the day prior to each big game hunt and must be removed by 11 am the day after the hunt.

Small Game

During the Refuge small game season only squirrel, rabbit and quail may be taken. Weapons are limited to firearms and archery equipment listed in the state game laws for small game.

Squirrel, rabbit, and quail hunting are not permitted during refuge deer hunt dates.

Hunting dogs may be used to hunt squirrel, rabbit, quail, raccoon and opossum. Hunters using dogs may not hunt from their vehicle by driving while dogs are out hunting along roads. Hunters must be out of their vehicle and off roads open to vehicle traffic.

During raccoon and opossum hunts permitted weapons are limited to .22 cal or smaller rim fire firearms. Hunting hours are from 6 pm to 6 am during specified dates only.

Sport Fish Regulations

Fishing is open March 15 through September 30, from sunrise to sunset.

Fishing is permitted in ponds designated as open to fishing. Refuge streams are open for bank fishing in all areas not designated as "Area Closed".

Species and limits: Bass – 5 (at least 10 inches in length); Catfish – 5; Bream – 15; Crappie - 15.

Fishermen may not use or possess fish (minnows) for bait. Fishermen may use only rod and reel or pole and line to fish. Two poles per person allowed. Fishermen may not possess, place or throw feeds to attract fish. Fishermen may not use or possess alcoholic beverages while fishing on the refuge.

Boats

Non-motorized boats or boats with electric motors are permitted in all ponds open to fishing only during fishing season. Gasoline motors are prohibited. Boat ramp access is available only at Allison Lake and Pond 2A.

State boating laws and equipment requirements are in effect on refuge waters.

Pond 2a, Pond 11a and Pond 11b have been treated for Hydrilla, an invasive aquatic plant. The refuge will continue to monitor all ponds and may restrict access if invasive species are identified.

After fishing or boating always clean your fishing equipment, boat, trailer and vehicle before leaving the site. This can help stop the spread of invasive plants or animals to the next lake or river you visit.

Commercial and Special Use Activities

No person, including but not limited to a guide, guide service, outfitter, club, or other organization shall provide assistance, services, or equipment on the refuge to 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. Violations of this regulation subjects each hunter, fisherman, or member 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 including but not limited to commercial filming and photography; collecting plants or parts of plants; collecting wildlife, mussels, mushrooms or other resources.

How to Get Refuge Permits

Refuge permits are required for all hunters and fishermen and anyone who accompanies them. In addition to refuge permits all state license requirements must be met. The refuge requires all hunters to have a paper copy of their state licenses and harvest record in their possession while participating on refuge hunts. A Georgia WMA license is not required since the refuge is NOT a state area. Refuge permits are NOT transferable. When signed, this brochure serves as your permit for fishing, small game, raccoon and deer archery hunts. Additional permits may be obtained at the entrance of the Little Rock Wildlife Drive, the Refuge Visitor Center, Allison Lake parking, and on the web at www.fws.gov/piedmont or by mail.

Deer and turkey quota hunt applications must be obtained from the refuge office. A quota hunt permit is required for all hunters, and anyone who accompanies them, participating in designated quota hunts. The Refuge will mail requests made by phone, mail, or email to a postal address. Application forms for the deer gun hunts will be available in July and must be returned to the refuge office by **12 noon on August 31, 2016.** A public drawing will be held at **1 pm August 31, 2016.** Applications for the spring turkey hunts will be available in January and must be returned to the refuge office by **12 noon on February 22, 2017.** A public drawing will be held at **1 pm February 22, 2017.**

Persons interested in the special disabled hunt (only for wheel-chair bound persons) should contact the Refuge Office for information concerning this hunt by October 1.

Contact the refuge office for more information or to report any violations of refuge regulations at 478/986 5441.

General Prohibited Activities

Taking, collecting or disturbing any artifact, property, plant, wildlife or part thereof; other than that specifically permitted by refuge regulation.

Taking or possessing frogs, turtles, snakes, or other amphibians or reptiles.

Entering refuge during deer firearms hunts without a refuge quota hunt permit.

Entering refuge hunt areas during refuge turkey hunts without a refuge quota hunt permit.

Possession or use of alcoholic beverages except in the designated camping area. Possession of alcoholic beverages by persons under age 21.

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

Hunting or shooting from or within 50 yards of a road open to vehicle travel or 200 yards of a building.

Possess or hunt with buckshot.

Target shooting or non-hunting discharge of firearms.

Discharge of weapons in the campground.

Possess or use of any suppressor on any firearm.

Possess, place, and/or hunt over any feed or attractants (baiting).

Use of trail or game cameras or leaving any other electronic device on the refuge.

Man-drives for deer

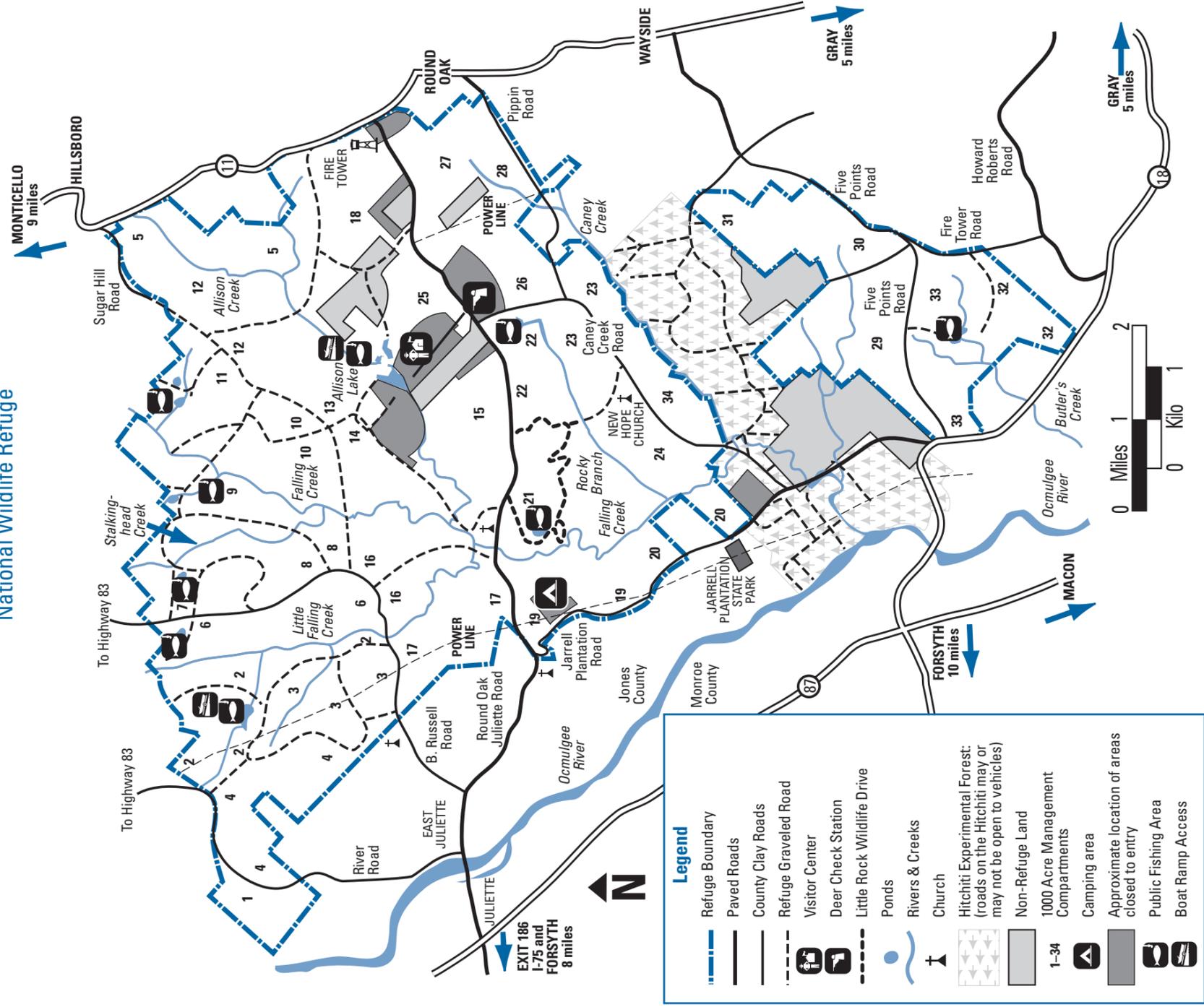
Possess or use of any night vision or thermal imaging equipment

Possess or use of any electronic calls

Training dogs or release of birds

Falconry

Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge



Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge • 718 Juliette Road • Round Oak, Georgia 31038 • 478/986 5441

General Prohibited Activities continued

- Driving metal objects into trees or hunting from a tree in which metal objects have been driven.
- Marking trails with flagging, blazing, painting, paper, trash or other devices.
- Off road vehicle travel. Vehicle travel is limited to open graveled roads unless posted otherwise
- Use of ATVs or other off road vehicles
- Leaving vehicles, boats or trailers on refuge overnight
- Overnight camping and/or parking, except as permitted during big game hunts and only in Pippins Lake campground by permitted hunters
- Blocking refuge road, boat ramp or gate with vehicles or vehicle travel around a closed gate
- Bicycles on foot travel roads or off road. Bicycles are restricted to gravel roads designated open to vehicles.
- Disturbing, annoying or interfering with other persons
- Use audio equipment, noise making devices or generators after 10 pm or before 6 am in the campground
- Possess or use of drones or unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).
- Open fires except in the designated camping area
- Bringing firewood from home
- Unleashed pets
- Littering
- Horses or mules

Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge
718 Round Oak-Juliette Road
Round Oak, GA 31038
478/986 5441
<http://www.fws.gov/piedmont>

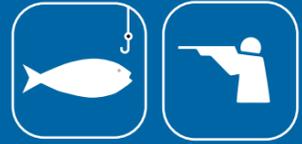
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov>

May 2016



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing Regulations 2016-2017



Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing Permit 2016-2017

When signed and in your possession, this brochure serves as your permit for fishing, small game, deer archery, and raccoon hunts. Your signature acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein. Quota hunts require an additional Refuge specific special use permit.

You must have this brochure in your possession for ALL hunting and fishing, in addition to state license requirements.

Signature _____