



Horicon Marsh Trapping Information 2015/2016



The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be holding a public trapping auction at the Horicon Marsh Education and Visitor Center, N7725 Hwy 28, Horicon, WI 53032 on Wednesday, October 14, 2015. Doors will open at 5 p.m. to allow trappers the opportunity to ask questions and review information. **The auction will begin promptly at 6 p.m.** USFWS and DNR personnel will then review trapping seasons and regulations, unit boundaries, special conditions/restrictions pertaining to each individual unit, trapping reports, as well as other information with the successful bidders.

The Refuge will be open on Tuesday, October 13 and Wednesday, October 14, daylight hours only, to all trappers who wish to scout the areas of the Refuge that will be open to trapping. Interested trappers must obtain a permit at the Refuge Office/Visitor Center off of County Road Z (W4279 Headquarters Road, Mayville, WI 53050) before viewing the units. Permits can be picked up prior to October 13.

Trapping units will be awarded to the highest bidder with a limit of one unit per trapper (on either Refuge or DNR part of the Horicon Marsh). Bidders must be at least 18 years of age at the time of the auction. Trappers must be present at the auction. The Refuge will accept payments by check, money order, debit card, or credit card (no cash). The DNR will only accept checks or cash. Both the Refuge and the DNR reserve the right to reject any or all bids.

For questions on the Refuge trapping, please call Sadie O'Dell at 920/387-2658 x 114. Questions pertaining to DNR trapping, please call Chris Cole at 920/387-7883.

Horicon National Wildlife Refuge
Fur Harvest
Special Conditions
2015-2016

Pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 50, Section 31.16, the following conditions apply to the trapping of furbearing animals on Horicon National Wildlife Refuge and are attached to and become a part of the Special Use Permit.

1. State and Federal requirements - Trapping will be done in compliance with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources trapping laws and regulations, and may be further restricted by general and special conditions of this Refuge Special Use Permit for trapping. Permittees will also comply with all other regulations and conditions affecting access to and use of the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge. Any rights and combinations to locked gated areas granted under this trapping permit are to be used for trapping purposes only and for access only in the trapping area as outlined in the Special Use Permit. No other rights or access is allowed.

2. Trapping permits - Any person trapping furbearing animals within Horicon National Wildlife Refuge boundaries must possess a valid Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources trapping license and a Refuge Special Use Permit. Trappers must carry such State trapping license and Special Use Permit (or permit card) while trapping. Permits are not transferrable. Any person helping or accompanying the permittee must be listed on the permittee Special Use permit and obtain their permit card. A trapper, which includes the helper, will only be allowed one trapping area on the Horicon Marsh and may not have a unit on both the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge and the Horicon Marsh State Wildlife Area.

The Trapping Special Use Permit shall not restrict Horicon National Wildlife Refuge from carrying out any wildlife management practices, such as but not limited to, prescribed burning, manipulations of water levels, or the destruction or removal of animals or plants.

The Refuge Manager may at any time, before, or during the trapping season, halt or limit trapping on the Refuge or any portion thereof. No refunds of payment will be granted. Conditions of the permit may be modified as needed. Any changes will be made by an addendum which becomes part of this permit.

3. Approved traps, trap inspections and practices - Furbearing animals authorized to be taken on the Refuge may be taken only by methods approved by the Refuge Manager under terms of this Special Use Permit or other pertinent Service policy or regulation.

a. All State regulations apply to the type and use of traps.

6. Non-target species - Every effort must be made to prevent the capture of non-target species. If an unauthorized animal is found alive and in satisfactory condition in a trap, it shall be released immediately and must be reported on the required reporting form. A high incidence of non-target species being trapped may result in closure of the season on the Refuge, as warranted by the Refuge Manager.

Animals found dead or seriously injured shall be euthanized and tagged. The information on the tag must be reported to a Refuge Officer or State Game Warden for a location to drop animal off. The tag should contain the following information: date trapped, name of trapper, and trapping unit number.

If an otter is trapped and the trapper does not have an otter tag, then the trapper needs to call a Refuge Officer or State Game Warden prior to taking the animal out of the trap. Any otters killed are to be turned into Horicon Refuge Office/Visitor Center by the end of the business day or the following Monday morning.

7. Reports - The trapper and helper shall each provide a record of all animals taken, both target and non-target species, and the number of traps used each day within their unit and submit this report via phone, fax, letter, or e-mail to the Horicon Refuge Office/Visitor Center on a monthly basis, even if no active trapping takes place. **Not reporting this required information could result in termination of trapping for current and future years.**

Trappers and helpers should also promptly report the presence of diseased animals or other unusual events to the Refuge Manager.

8. Penalties - Failure of a permittee or partner to comply with any of the trapping provisions or with any applicable Federal or State law or regulation may be sufficient cause for refusal of any use on the Refuge for which a permit may be required.

Failure to report catch is a violation of 50 CFR 31.16.

This permit may be revoked or suspended by the issuing officer for just cause. Just cause may be a violation of or non-compliance with permit conditions, or nonuse. Permittees who wish to appeal adverse decisions should follow the appeals procedure designed in 50 Code of Federal Regulations 24.45.

9. Damages - The United States shall not be responsible for any loss or damage to property, including but not limited to, animals and equipment; for injury to the permittee, partner(s) or assistant(s); or for damages or interference caused by wildlife or employees or representatives of the Government carrying out their official responsibilities.

10. Vehicles/Boats/Other equipment - No snowmobiles are allowed. ATVs are allowed on the marsh and dike units as long as the ATVs have flotation when over the ice (follow the guidelines for the Dane County ordinance as to the type of flotation.) ATVs will not remain on the Refuge overnight or be used in the uplands. ATV users are not allowed to make any trails through the cattails or any other vegetation without prior permission. If ATVs cause damage, go through the ice, or cause a noise problem for other users, then the use of ATVs for trapping will be re-evaluated. Boats with electric motors are allowed. Dike and Marsh trappers can use more than one boat while trapping, but only one boat per marsh trapper will be allowed to stay on the Refuge overnight. Vehicle and ATV travel will be allowed only on roads, dikes, or mowed paths. However, trappers need to stay off of the roads, dikes, and mowed paths when conditions are not suitable for driving. For example, snow covered roads or wet roads such that ruts are being made and damage is being done to the road. Refuge staff will not assist stuck vehicles/equipment. Any Refuge road or portion of the road may be closed to vehicle travel by the Refuge Manager to prevent damage to the road. Trappers will not block any gates and will remain far enough over on the road to allow Refuge staff to pass. Vehicles will not be allowed to remain on the Refuge overnight.

11. Other restrictions - All stakes, traps, flags and other miscellaneous items must be removed from the Refuge before the end of the season. Trappers must report immediately any lost, stolen, or misplaced traps prior to the last day of the season.

The Refuge is open for general public access from December 1, 2015, to March 15, 2016, trappers should be aware of other people using the Refuge during this time. Because the Refuge is open to the general public during this time period, trappers may have others accompany them, but are only allowed to have one helper who assists with the trapping. All other persons may not physically assist with the trapping. At all other times of the year, approval from the Refuge Manager must be obtained if the trapper will have anyone with them.

The Refuge is open during daylight hours only. Trappers are allowed access to and from their unit one hour before and one hour after daylight.

Trappers are only allowed to be in their unit during their trapping season. Early entry into the Refuge for cutting stakes or marking runs will not be allowed.

Trappers will wear blaze orange during any firearm deer season on the Refuge (November 21- 29 and December 10-13).

Any time there is an active eagle nest on the Refuge; trappers will be required to stay a minimum of ¼ mile from the nest.

12. Senior/Youth Trapping Program Additional Regulations - Two areas of the Refuge have been set aside for this program. The Frankfurth area will be set aside for any youth between the ages of 12 and 17 who wants to trap. No random drawing will be held, but the youth must obtain a (free) Refuge permit. Adult supervisors may also accompany the youth trapper(s), but may only provide advice and guidance. They may not physically assist in trapping. Adult supervisors are allowed to bid and trap on their own unit. No pre-staking will be allowed since the area will be shared with other youth trappers.

The Hiking Trails area will be set aside for any senior or trapper with a disability through a random drawing. Two trappers will be randomly drawn for trapping in this area, at no charge. The area will not be divided between the trappers. The drawing will be held at the auction. Trappers do not have to be present at the drawing. To be eligible for the drawing, seniors must be 62 years of age or older and trappers with disabilities must have a disabled hunting permit from the DNR (Note, the trapper must meet the age requirements prior to the start of their trapping season, not necessarily by the auction date.) Each trapper may have one helper who also must meet the age requirements. No pre-staking will be allowed since the area is shared by two trappers.



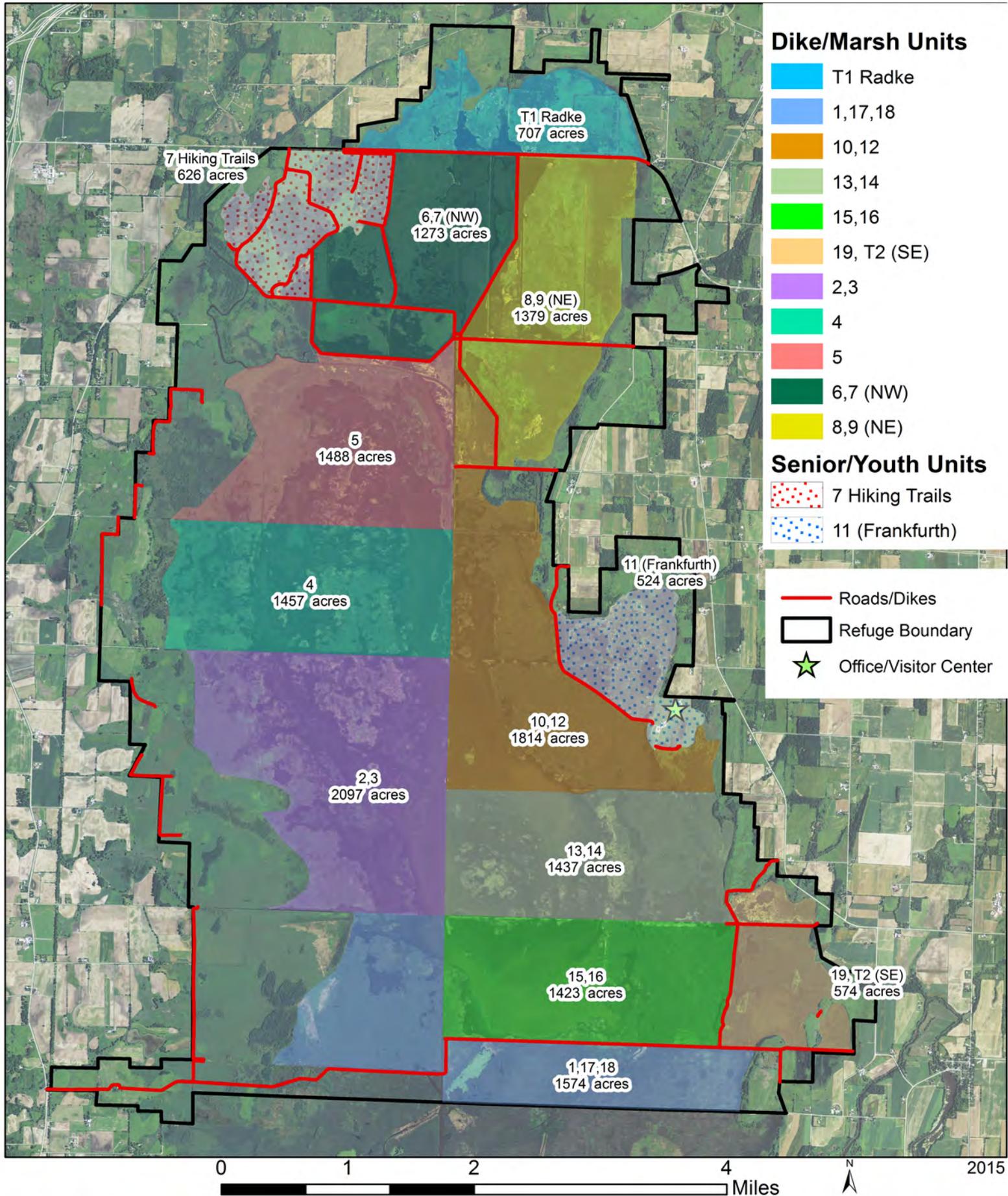
2014-2015 Trapping Totals - Horicon NWR

Unit	Bid	Muskrat	Raccoon	Mink	Beaver	Skunk	Opossum	Coyote	Rabbit	Squirrel	Grand Total
2014-2015											
NE	\$475.00	866	2	6							874
NW	\$850.00	1908	1	9							1918
Radke	\$200.00	256	22	6		5	5				294
SE	\$800.00	957	11	1	2	2					973
Unit 1/17/18	\$200.00	336	27	4	19						386
Unit 10/12	\$850.00	369									369
Unit 13/14	\$100.00	245									245
Unit 15/16	\$350.00	207	16								223
Unit 2/3	\$950.00	313									313
Unit 4	\$660.00	1335		3							1338
Unit 5	\$725.00	188	30								218
Upland	Free	13	100	1		12	1	5	4	3	139
Y/S Frankfurth	Free	20	6								26
Y/S Hiking	Free	373	1	2							376
Grand Total		7386	216	32	21	19	6	5	4	3	7692



Dike/Marsh Trapping Units

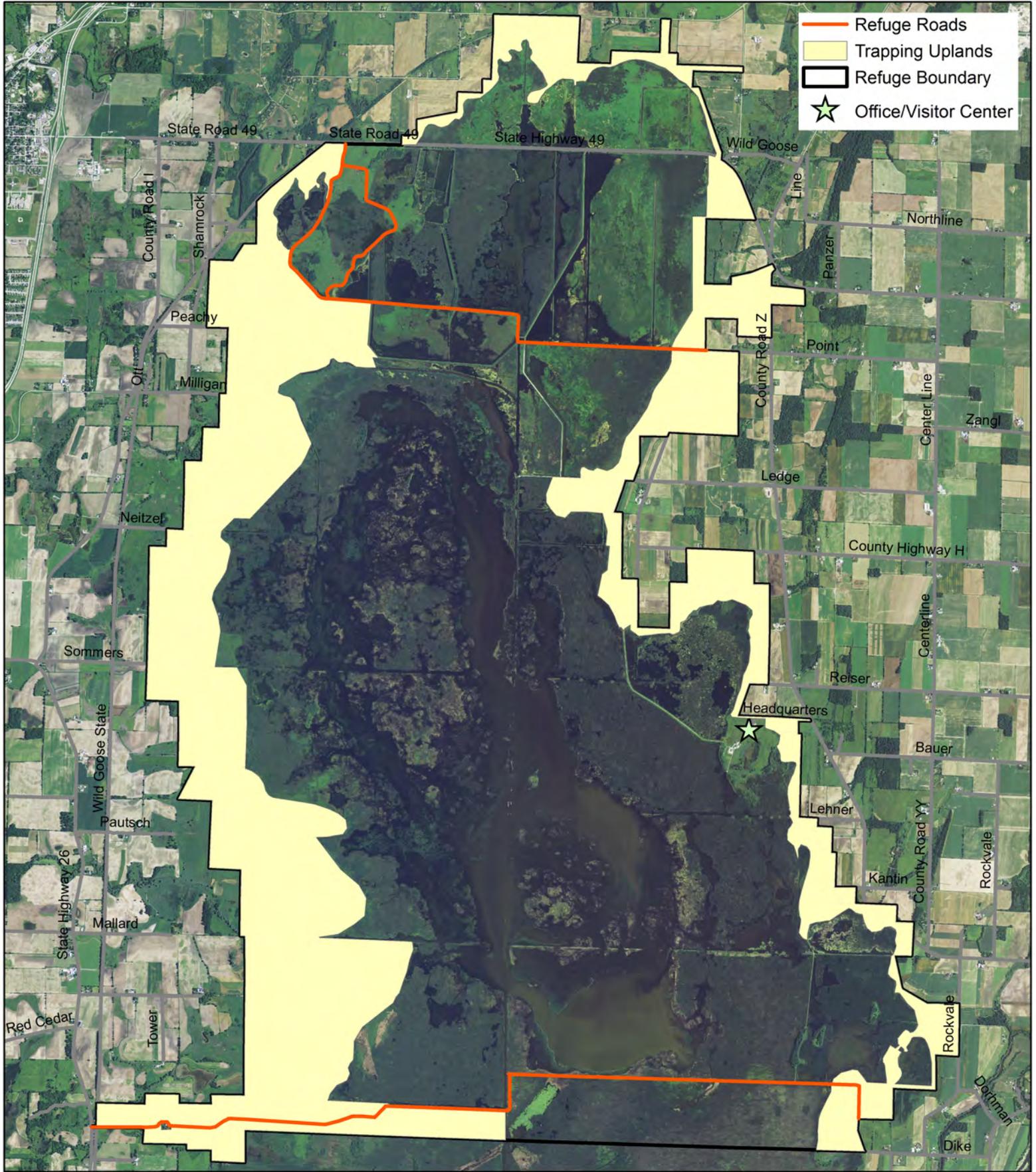
Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties, Wisconsin





Upland Trapping Areas

Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties, Wisconsin



- Refuge Roads
- Trapping Uplands
- Refuge Boundary
- ☆ Office/Visitor Center

