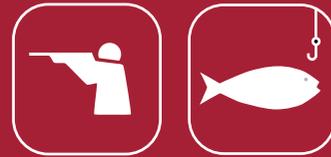


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Morgan Brake, Mathews Brake and Hillside

*National Wildlife
Refuges Hunting and
Fishing Regulations
2015-2016*



This brochure is designed to provide the public with information and a summary of regulations pertaining to hunting and fishing on Theodore Roosevelt NWR Complex. These 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 Permit in addition to prosecution.

For additional information contact:
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
12595 MS Hwy 149
Yazoo City, MS 39194
662/836 3004

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
12595 MS Hwy 149
Yazoo City, MS 39194
www.fws.gov/refuge/morgan_brake
www.fws.gov/refuge/hillside
www.fws.gov/refuge/mathews_brake
Email: yazoo@fws.gov

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD

July 2015



State Hunting License(s) and Regulations

Persons utilizing the refuge are required to have in their possession appropriate State licenses and stamps. Unless further restricted by refuge regulations, State bag, possession limits and regulations apply. Please consult current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Park Regulations at www.mdwfp.com for details.

TR Complex Annual Public Use Permit

Each person 16 years of age and older hunting or fishing must possess the TR Complex Annual Public Use Permit which certifies they understand and will comply with refuge regulations contained in this brochure. This permit is nontransferable and is required in order to be eligible for Limited Draw Hunts. Public Use Permits (\$15 permit + \$5 convenience fee) are available for purchase online at www.fws.gov/refuge/morgan_brake or may be obtained via check or money order, **NO CASH**, at the following locations: Panther Swamp NWR, Yazoo City, MS and Yazoo NWR, Hollandale, MS. Office hours are Monday - Friday, 7:30 am - 4 pm. Permits are valid August 1, 2015 - July 31, 2016. Mail-in requests for permits will not be accepted.

Limited Draw Hunt Permits

Limited Draw Hunt participants are selected by random computer drawing. Applicants must apply online at www.fws.gov/refuge/morgan_brake. The purchase of an Annual Public Use Permit is required in order to apply. Selectees will be notified and Limited Draw Permits will be mailed within two weeks after the drawing is complete. This permit is non-transferable and is required to be in your possession while participating in the designated hunt. Hunt participants who do not return the Limited Draw Permits with the requested information upon completion of the hunt will not be allowed to apply for Limited Draw Hunts on TR Complex the following hunt season.

Daily Visitor Information Card

Each day before hunting or fishing, all participants must obtain a Daily Visitor Information Card available at the Visitor Information Stations (see maps) and follow the printed instructions on the card. All harvested fish and game must be recorded and cards submitted prior to leaving the refuge. This card must be displayed on the vehicle dash. Self Check Stations are provided (see map).

General Regulations

The following acts are prohibited:

- operation of vehicles on "Closed" roads
- all commercial activities including guiding or participating in a paid guided hunt
- hunting in designated closed or no hunting areas

- the use of artificial light, including vehicle headlights, to locate or take any animal except as authorized for raccoon and frog hunting
- use or possession of toxic shot, including buckshot
- use or possession of climbing spikes or hunting from a tree which has metal objects driven or screwed into it
- use or possession of any drug or device for employing such drug for hunting
- use of plastic flagging tape or other trail marking devices
- use or possession of alcohol
- camping
- fires
- horses and mules
- organized drives for deer or hogs
- baiting and hunting over bait
- use of trail cameras

Firearms

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 50 CFR part 32).

Closed Areas and Times

It is unlawful to hunt from or shoot into a 100' zone along either side of pipeline or power line rights-of-way, designated roads, trails or around parking lots (see maps).

Vehicles must not obstruct roads, gates, trails, turn rows, field access ramps or fire lanes and may only be operated on designated roads (see maps).

Temporary or permanent closure of Refuge areas may occur due to unforeseen circumstances. Check for on-the-ground signage and/or updates at information stations and entry points.

All other public activities on the refuge are prohibited during firearm deer hunts.

All lands managed under TR Complex, including refuge roads, parking areas and boat ramps are closed 1½ hours after sunset until 4 am.

Refuge hours do not apply to individuals actively participating in refuge raccoon and frog hunting season.

Deer hunting within or adjacent to brushy fields and tree plantations less than 5 feet in height must be from a stand a minimum of 10 feet above ground. Deer hunting in agricultural or open fields is prohibited.

Where waterfowl hunting is allowed, shooting hours are from ½ hour before sunrise to noon. All decoys, blind material and boats must be removed from the hunt area no later than 1 pm each day.

ATVs & Boats

All-terrain vehicles (ATVs) are allowed from September 15 through February 28 on designated trails only (see maps).

Boats left unattended for more than 72 hours will be considered abandoned and will be confiscated.

Youth

All persons under 16 years of age, while hunting on Refuges, must be in the presence and under direct supervision of a licensed or exempt hunter at least twenty-one years of age. Youth hunters are not required to possess a Refuge Annual Public Use Permit unless participating in a Limited Draw Hunt.

Hunter Orange

November 9, 2015 to January 31, 2016, all deer hunters (including while in the stand) must wear at least 500 square inches of solid unbroken fluorescent orange material visible above the waistline. Ground blinds must display a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange visible from all sides. Rabbit hunters must wear at least 500 square inches of solid unbroken fluorescent orange material visible above the waistline from February 1-28, 2016.

Other Regulations

Field dressing game within 300' of any road, trail or parking lot is prohibited.

Raccoon, opossum, coyote, beaver, bobcat and nutria may be taken during other refuge hunts within the State season and limit for each species with weapons authorized for the specified refuge hunt.

Hogs may be taken only during Refuge big game season (deer and turkey) with weapons legal for those hunts.

Deer

Legal bucks are those with an inside spread of at least 15 inches OR one main beam length of at least 18 inches.

State approved archery equipment is allowed for deer hunt dates. Bag Limit: one buck and one doe per day not to exceed State bag.

Only muzzleloaders loaded with a single projectile are permitted. Breech-loading firearms of any type or caliber are prohibited.

Small Game

All hunters using shotguns for small game must use approved non-toxic shot. Small game may also be hunted with .22-mag, .17 and .22 caliber rim-fire rifles and archery equipment using arrows with points other than broadheads.

Hunting Stands/Blinds

Valid permit holders are allowed to possess and hunt from one portable stand or blind on each refuge within TR Complex. Portable stands, tripods and blinds must have the hunter's valid permit number legibly written on a tag attached to the stand. Stands left on the refuge do not reserve hunting locations. Stands or blinds may be placed 48 hours prior to a hunt and must be removed within 48 hours after each designated hunt. All stands without proper identification are subject to seizure.

While climbing a tree, installing a stand that uses climbing aids, or while hunting from a tree stand, all hunters must use a fall arrest system that is manufactured to Treestand Manufacturers Association standards.

Check-In

Prior to leaving the Refuge, all harvested fish and game must be checked at the Self Service Check Stations (see map) according to the instructions provided. Deer jawbones must be removed, tagged and placed in drop boxes at Self Check Stations prior to leaving the refuge.

Dogs

Dogs may be used for hunting squirrel, raccoon, and February rabbit hunts. Retrievers are permitted while migratory bird hunting.

Hillside NWR Limited Hunts

Turkey

Limited draw hunts held within the State spring season. Limited Draw Hunt Applications may have up to two applicants and must be submitted by February 15, 2016. To apply, visit www.fws.gov/refuge/hillside. The Annual Public Use Permit is required to apply. Hunt Bag Limit: 2 adult gobblers.

Hillside & Morgan Brake NWR Annual Public Use Permit Required

Deer Archery

October 1 – December 1, 2015
December 16, 2015 – January 31, 2016

Deer Muzzleloader

December 2-15, 2015

Raccoon

October 1 – December 1, 2015
December 16, 2015 – February 28, 2016

Squirrel

October 1 – December 1, 2015
December 16, 2015 – February 28, 2016

Rabbit

October 17 – December 1, 2015 (without dogs)
December 16, 2015 – February 28, 2016 (without dogs)
February 1 – 28, 2016 (with/without dogs)

Waterfowl - Duck, Goose, Merganser and Coot

State season except closed December 2 – 15, 2015. Hunting is allowed only in the designated Waterfowl Hunt Area (see map). There is no early teal season.

Youth Waterfowl – Duck, Goose, Merganser, Coot

State season. An adult may supervise only one youth. Hunting is allowed only in the designated Waterfowl Hunt Area (see map).

Turkey – CLOSED

Trapping – CLOSED

Mathews Brake NWR

In addition to refuge hours (see General Regulations), beginning the day before waterfowl season opens and ending the last day of waterfowl season (State youth hunt) refuge waters are closed to all public use from 1 pm to 4 am each day.

Beginning the day before waterfowl season opens, hunting is allowed only in the designated Waterfowl Hunt Area (see map).

Mathews Brake NWR Limited Hunt

Waterfowl - Duck, Goose, Merganser and Coot

Limited draw hunts held for the first two days and all weekends (Saturday and Sunday) during State season. Limited Draw Hunt Application requires only one applicant and must be submitted by November 1, 2015. To apply, visit www.fws.gov/refuge/mathews_brake. Each permit is valid for the applicant, who must be present and up to three additional guests (maximum four per party). The Annual Public Use Permit is required to apply. Hunting is allowed only in the designated Waterfowl Hunt Area (see map). One boat per party. There is no early teal season. All Limited Draw Hunt participants must launch from and return to the USFWS boat ramp.

Mathews Brake NWR Annual Public Use Permit Required

Deer Archery

October 1, 2015 – January 31, 2016

Raccoon

October 1, 2015 – February 28, 2016

Squirrel

October 1, 2015 – February 28, 2016

Rabbit

October 17, 2015 – February 28, 2016 (without dogs)
February 1 – February 28, 2016 (with/without dogs)

Waterfowl - Duck, Goose, Merganser and Coot

Monday through Friday of State season (except first two days of season – see Limited Hunt above). There is no early teal season.

Youth Waterfowl - Duck, Goose, Merganser, Coot

State season. An adult may supervise only one youth. Hunting is allowed only in the designated waterfowl hunt area (see map).

Turkey – CLOSED

Trapping – CLOSED

Fish

Annual Public Use Permit Required

Trot lines, limb lines, jugs, seines and traps are prohibited.

Hillside NWR: Fishing is allowed in the all refuge waters March 1 through November 15. The borrow ponds along the north levee are open throughout the year except closed during the muzzleloader deer hunt.

Morgan Brake NWR:

Fishing is permitted in refuge waters north of Providence Road throughout the year except closed December 2 – 15. Providence Ponds are closed one day prior to the beginning of waterfowl season through February 28. See informational kiosk for creel limits at Providence Ponds.

Mathews Brake: Fishing is allowed in all refuge waters throughout the year except closed in the Waterfowl Sanctuary one day prior to the beginning of waterfowl season through March 1. (see map).

Frog

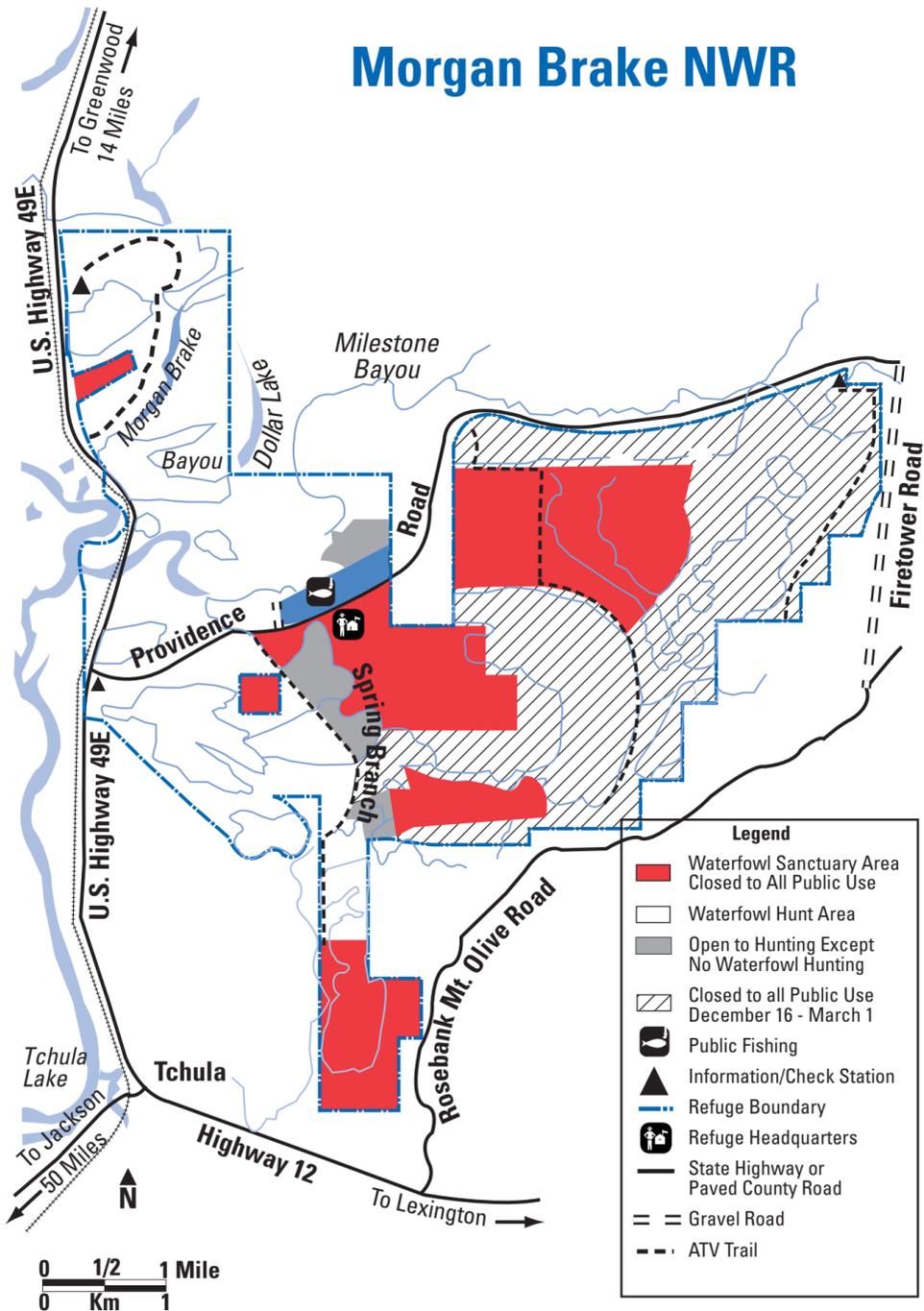
Annual Public Use Permit Required
State season.

Hillside NWR: Frogging is allowed in all refuge waters.

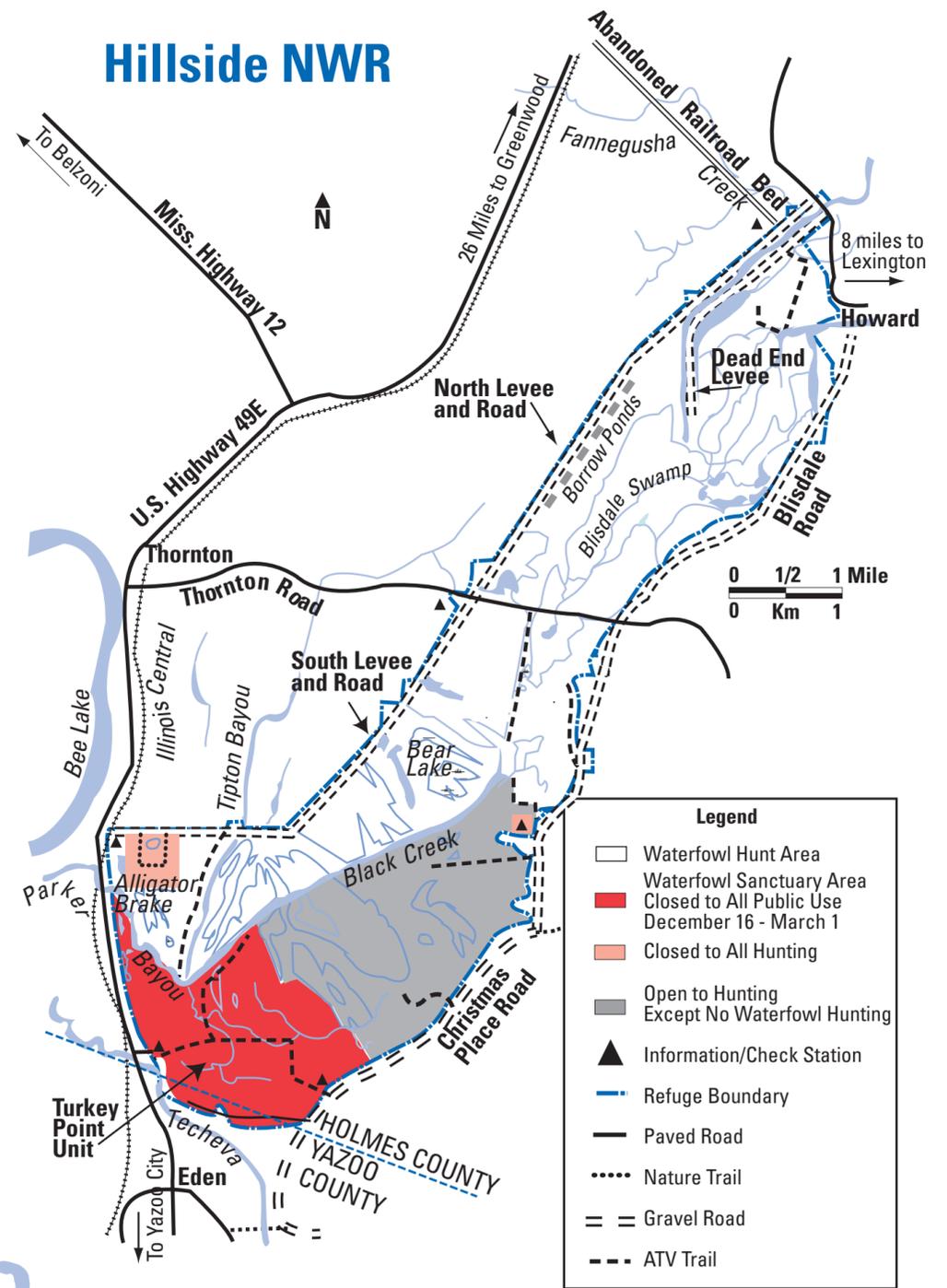
Morgan Brake NWR: Frogging is allowed in refuge waters north of Providence Road.

Mathews Brake NWR: Frogging is allowed in all refuge waters.

Morgan Brake NWR



Hillside NWR



Mathews Brake NWR

