

# Marais des Cygnes

*National Wildlife  
Refuge*

## *Hunting Regulations*



### **Refuge Hunting Permit**

#### **Marais des Cygnes National Wildlife Refuge**

The signing of this leaflet validates it as your general Refuge hunting permit and must be in your possession while participating in authorized Refuge activities.

Not valid unless signed.

Permit valid from date of signature until the following June 1.

I have read and understand these Refuge regulations.

Hunter's  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Special access permit draw required for some hunts.  
Refer to Specific Hunting Regulations table.

## Welcome to Marais des Cygnes National Wildlife Refuge

The nearly 7,500-acre Marais des Cygnes National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is located along its namesake, the Marais des Cygnes River, in east-central Kansas. The Refuge was established in 1992 for the protection and restoration of bottomland hardwood forests, but a variety of other habitats are also managed and protected. The Refuge adjoins the Marais des Cygnes Wildlife Area, which is managed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism. This Refuge is one of over 560 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System – a network of lands set aside specifically for wildlife. Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Refuge System is a living heritage, preserving wildlife and habitat for people today and for generations to come.

## General Provisions and Access Regulations

The provisions listed below supplement the general regulations which govern public use on national wildlife refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations.

### *Access*

Motor vehicles are permitted only on public use roads. Hunters must park in a manner that will not interfere with the normal flow of traffic. Parking areas are available at several locations (*see map*).

### *Closed Areas*

Portions of the Refuge are closed to all public entry (*see map*).

### *Vehicles/Boats*

Only licensed vehicles are allowed on public roads. ATVs, OHVs, and UTVs are prohibited on all Refuge property and roads. All vehicles and boats must comply with State and Federal regulations. The use of bikes or other forms of transportation other than foot travel is prohibited. Air-thrust or in-board water-thrust boats are prohibited. Outboard motor use is restricted to the westernmost 5½ miles of the Marais des Cygnes River within the Refuge boundary. Non-motorized boats and electric trolling motors are allowed on all other Refuge waters within open areas.

### *Weapons/Fireworks/Explosives*

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on Refuge System lands 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).

The use of center-fire or rim-fire firearms is prohibited at all times. Shotguns, muzzleloaders, and archery equipment are allowed as per State regulations. The fall deer hunt is archery only. Refer to the Specific Hunting Regulations table for more information.

Carrying, possessing, or discharging fireworks or explosives on national wildlife refuges is prohibited. The use or possession of air guns, spears, gigs, or other weapons on national wildlife refuges is prohibited.

### *Non-toxic Shot*

Non-toxic shot is required for hunting on the Refuge.

### *Natural and Cultural Resources*

Natural and cultural items such as antlers, plants, historic, and archaeological features, as well as other government property, are protected by Federal law. Searching for or removing of objects of antiquity or other value is strictly prohibited. Molesting, harassing, or injuring any animal or plant, except fish and game taken in season, is prohibited.

### *Prohibited Activities*

The following actions are prohibited:

- Distribution of or hunting over bait;
- Possession or consumption of alcohol while hunting;
- Camping and fires;
- Use of unattended electronic or photographic monitoring devices such as trail cameras;
- Discharge of firearms within 150 yards of any residence or occupied building;
- Use of a spotlight or other artificial light, or automotive headlights, for the purpose of spotting, locating, or taking any animal within the boundaries of any national wildlife refuge or along rights-of-way for public or private roads within a national wildlife refuge.

## **Hunting Regulations**

Hunting is allowed on all Refuge lands except in Closed Areas. Hunting on the Refuge must be conducted in accordance with Federal and State regulations. State hunting regulations, seasons, bag limits, and license requirements apply. All hunters must carry a Refuge Hunting Permit (*see cover*) on their person while participating in authorized Refuge hunting.

Persons with disabilities are encouraged to participate in Refuge hunts and other activities. Contact the Marais des Cygnes NWR manager for guidelines to obtain a special use access.

Pets must be leashed except dogs used for hunting during appropriate hunting seasons. Hunting dogs must remain under voice control at all times. Field trials are prohibited.

### *Species*

Hunting for the following species is allowed: migratory game birds (goose, duck, coot, rail, common snipe, and mourning dove); upland game (quail, rabbit, and squirrel); and big game (white-tailed deer and turkey). See the table for more information. All other species are protected

from hunting. Hunting or running dogs for furbearers and coyotes is prohibited. Trapping is prohibited.

### *Game Retrieval*

Reasonable effort must be made to retrieve harvested game. However, dogs and hunters are prohibited from retrieving game in Closed Areas.

### *Tree Stands/Blinds*

The use of permanent blinds, tree stands, nails, screw-in steps, or other items that penetrate the bark of a tree is prohibited. Tree stands and/or blinds must be removed each day at the end of that day's hunt.

### **Signs and Boundaries**

Signs are important to guide visitors and their recreational activities while protecting the natural resources on the Refuge. Please obey all Refuge signs.



Refuge Boundary - Entry permitted in accordance with Refuge regulations.



Closed Area - All entry prohibited.



No Hunting Zone - Hunting, weapons, and game retrieval prohibited.



Refuge property. Entry permitted in accordance with Refuge regulations.



No Vehicles - All vehicle traffic prohibited.



Parking Area - Designated areas to park vehicles.

### **Marais des Cygnes National Wildlife Refuge**

24141 Kansas Hwy 52

Pleasanton, KS 66075

913 / 352 8956

[maraisdescygnnes@fws.gov](mailto:maraisdescygnnes@fws.gov)

[http://www.fws.gov/refuge/marais des cygnnes](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/marais_des_cygnnes)

For State relay service

TTY / Voice: 711

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

<http://www.fws.gov>

For Refuge Information

1 800 / 344 WILD

1 800 / 344 9453

May 2015



## Specific Hunting Regulations - State hunting regulations apply unless otherwise listed.

*The use of center-fire or rim-fire firearms is prohibited at all times.*

Season Description	Dates	Special Regulations
Archery Deer	State season and regulations apply	LIMITED DRAW ONLY; additional Special Access Permit required. State approved archery equipment only.
Muzzleloader Deer	CLOSED ON REFUGE	
Youth and Disabled Deer	State season and regulations apply	LIMITED DRAW ONLY; additional Special Access Permit required. State approved archery equipment only.
Regular Firearms Deer	CLOSED ON REFUGE	
Pre-rut Whitetail Antlerless Firearm	CLOSED ON REFUGE	
Extended Firearm (January antlerless whitetail)	State season and regulations apply	LIMITED DRAW ONLY; additional Special Access Permit required. State approved archery, muzzleloader, and shotgun equipment only.
Migratory Game Birds – Only these species: goose, duck, coot, rail, common snipe, woodcock, and mourning dove.	State season and regulations apply	State approved equipment only. Non-toxic shot. Crow hunting prohibited.
Youth Waterfowl	State season and regulations apply	State approved equipment only. Non-toxic shot.
Upland Game (quail, rabbit, squirrel)	State season and regulations apply	Non-toxic shot.
Spring Turkey	State season and regulations apply	LIMITED DRAW ONLY; additional Special Access Permit required. State approved equipment only. Non-toxic shot.
Fall Turkey	State season and regulations apply	State approved equipment. Non-toxic shot.
Furbearers (including coyote)	CLOSED ON REFUGE	
Trapping	CLOSED ON REFUGE	

### Fishing Regulations

Fishing is allowed in accordance with State seasons and creel limits. All Refuge waters except in Closed Areas are open to fishing.

### Accessibility

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of physical or mental ability. Dial 711 for a free connection to the State relay service for TTY and voice calls to and from the speech and hearing impaired. For more information or to address accessibility needs, please contact the Refuge staff at 913 / 352 8956, or the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.

# Marais des Cygnes

National Wildlife Refuge

- Federal highway
- State highway
- Unpaved road
- Foot trail
- Highway exit
- Marais des Cygnes River
- Paddle, float, and trolling motors only.  
No outboard, air-thrust, or water-thrust motors
- National Wildlife Refuge
- Closed Area
- Refuge headquarters
- Information kiosk
- Restroom
- Parking

