

Two Rivers

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing Regulations 2020–2021



| Activity | Season | Hunting Hours | Special Regulations |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Archery Deer and Turkey Hunting | Applicable state seasons | State Shooting Hours | State regulations apply. All State approved archery equipment is allowed. |
| Firearm Deer Hunting | Applicable state seasons | State Shooting Hours | State regulations apply. Special draw for Batchtown, Gilbert Lake and Calhoun divisions. |
| Waterfowl Hunting - (Ducks, Geese, and Coot) | Applicable state seasons | To be designated | State regulations apply. Special draw for Batchtown, Gilbert Lake and Calhoun divisions |
| Firearm Turkey Hunting | Applicable state seasons | State Shooting Hours | State regulations apply. Hunters must possess and use only non-toxic shot shells while hunting wild turkey. |
| Migratory Bird Hunting (All non-waterfowl species) | Applicable state seasons | State Shooting Hours | State regulations apply. Hunters must possess and use only non-toxic shot shells. |
| Upland Game Hunting | Applicable state seasons | Daylight hours only | State regulations apply. Hunters must possess and use only non-toxic shot shells. Nighttime furbearer hunting prohibited. |
| Fishing and Bow Fishing | Applicable state seasons | Daylight hours only | State regulations apply. Nighttime fishing prohibited |
| State regulations apply for bag limits. | | | |

Welcome

Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1958 to protect and enhance habitat for migratory birds. Located between the Mississippi River and Illinois River, the refuge encompasses 9,225 acres of riverine and floodplain habitat scattered around the confluence of the rivers for both resident and migratory wildlife. The Refuge functions as an important link along the Mississippi Flyway. The Refuge headquarters and visitor center are located near Brussels, Illinois in Calhoun County. Two Rivers NWR manages six divisions - Calhoun (4820 acres), Gilbert Lake (735 acres), Batchtown (2300 acres), Portage Island (230 acres), Apple Creek (270 acres) and Clarksville Island (870 acres) – each with its own unique hunting and fishing regulations.

Safety

At any time, hunters may encounter other users of the refuge, and should use caution when in proximity to these users.

Firearms

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife 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.)

Vehicles

Licensed motor vehicles are permitted only on public use roads and trails as shown on the map. ATVs and UTVs are prohibited.

Boats

The Refuge allows boats in the Batchtown and Calhoun divisions, and non-motorized boats only are allowed in Gilbert Lake division during the open period. Gilbert Lake division and the Prairie Pond area of Batchtown division are closed to all boating October 16th through December 31st without special use permit.

Accessibility Information

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. For more information please contact the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, <https://www.doi.gov/pmb/eeo/public-civil-rights>.

Hunting and Fishing Regulations

Hunting and fishing regulations are designed to provide safe recreational opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. Hunting and fishing are permitted in accordance with Federal regulations governing public use on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Hunting and fishing will be in accordance with applicable States of Illinois and Missouri regulations subject to the conditions stated below. Waterfowl and firearms deer by special draw permit only in Batchtown, Calhoun and Gilbert Lake divisions. Use of non-toxic shot is required on all divisions for all hunted species. Brochures may be obtained by mail, at the refuge headquarters, or from the refuge website.

Access

Hunters may only access the Refuge two hours before legal sunrise until two hours after legal sunset.

Hunters must park in designated parking areas, as identified on the map below, to access the Refuge for hunting. Gates opened to enter the hunting area from designated access points must be closed immediately after passing through. Access to the Refuge from private property is prohibited.

Tree Stands

Portable stands and blinds may be used but they must be removed at the end of each day's hunt. No nails, screws, or other hardware may be used to climb or secure stands to the trees that penetrate the outer layer of bark.

Harvest Reporting

Harvest reporting for all species must be in accordance with applicable States of Illinois and Missouri regulations.

Camping

Camping is not permitted on the refuge.

Prohibited Activities

- By law, recreational activities on national wildlife refuges are prohibited unless expressly permitted.
- Possession of alcoholic beverages
- Camping and fires
- Searching for or removal of any natural items such as antlers, plants, historic, and archaeological features, are protected by Federal law.
- Motorized boats are prohibited on Gilbert Lake
- Use of electronic or photographic trail monitoring devices
- Marking or flagging any tree or other Refuge feature with reflectors, paint, or other substance.
- Permanent tree stands, nails, screw-in steps, or other items that penetrate the outer bark of a tree.
- Hunting is prohibited within 50 yards of any public use facility
- Nighttime fishing prohibited
- No target shooting or discharging of firearms in non-hunting activities

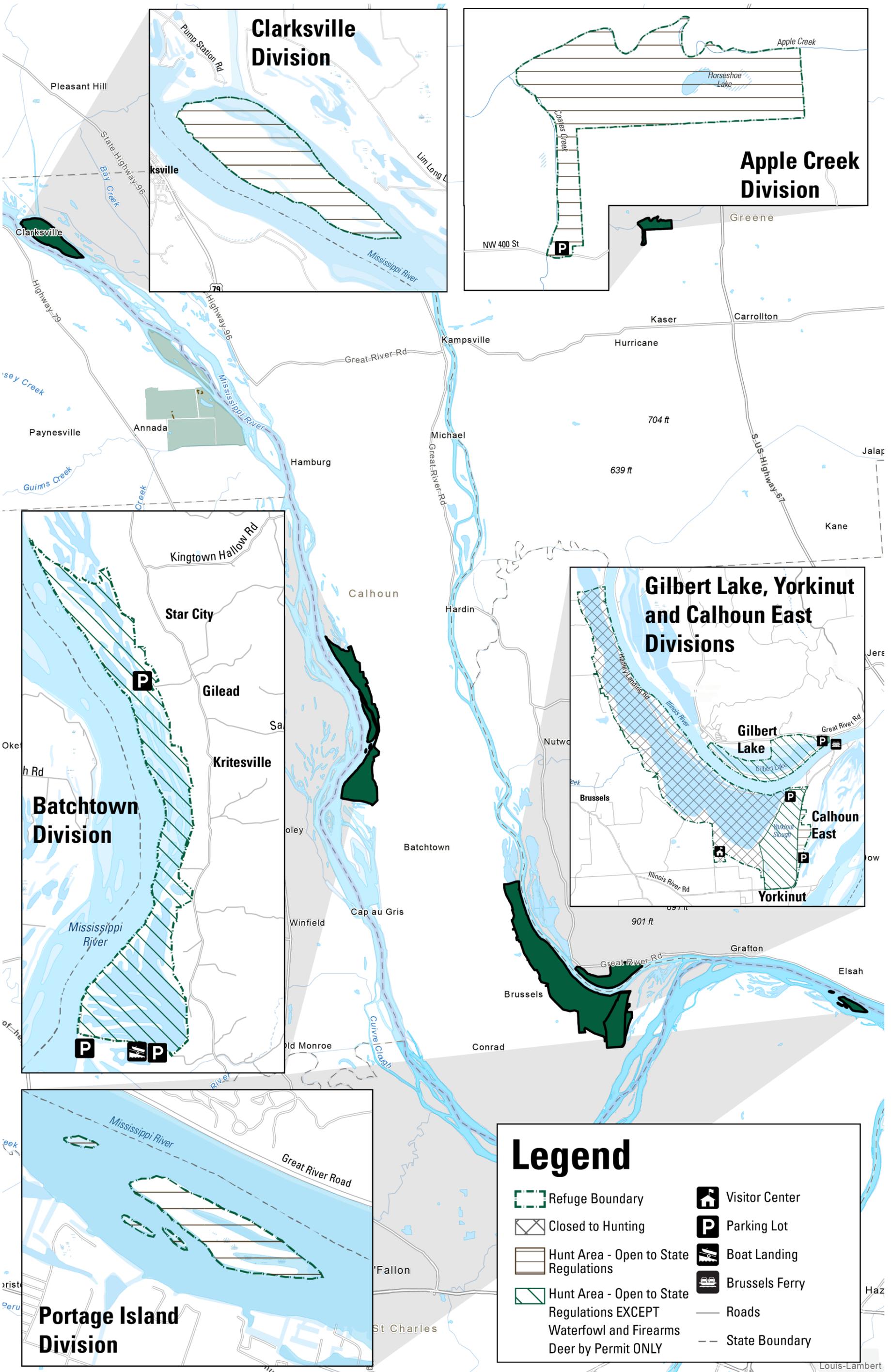
364 Wildlife Conservation Road
Brussels, IL 62013

618-883-2524

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

August 2020





This is a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands and waters managed for the benefit of wildlife and people.

