

FISHING REGULATIONS

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need a Fishing License to fish or crab?	YES	Current Texas Saltwater Fishing License
Can I use crab trap/umbrella nets?	NO	Pole and line or hand held line only
Can I use a minnow trap?	NO	No traps are allowed
Can I cast net for baitfish?	YES	Baitfish only
Can I catch shrimp?	NO	This is a nursery area
Can I have alcohol?	YES	Plastic or Aluminum only, No glass

We allow fishing and crabbing on designated areas of the refuge in accordance with State regulations subject to the following conditions:

1. We only allow fishing and crabbing with pole and line, rod and reel, or handheld line. We prohibit the use of trotlines, set lines, jug lines, limb lines, bows and arrows, gigs, spears, and crab traps.
2. We allow cast netting for baitfish for personal use along waterways in areas open to the public and along public roads.
3. We allow fishing and crabbing on shoreline areas on East Galveston Bay, along East Bay Bayou on the East Bay Bayou Tract, along West Line Road to the southern end of Shoveler Pond, along the canal from the Oyster Bayou Boat Ramp to the southwest corner of Shoveler Pond, and along the banks of Shoveler Pond.
4. We prohibit boats and other floatation devices on inland waters. You may launch motorized boats in East Bay at the East Bay Boat Ramp on Westline Road and at the Oyster Bayou Boat Ramp (boat canal). We prohibit the launching of airboats or personal watercraft on the refuge. You may launch non-motorized boats only along East Bay Bayou and along the shoreline of East Galveston Bay.
5. We prohibit fishing from or mooring to water control structures.
6. Visitors must maintain a clean and neat area while on the refuge, trash must be kept inside trash receptacles or containers.