

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge

Bosque del Apache NWR is one of over 500 National Wildlife Refuges. The primary objective of the refuge is to provide high quality habitat for the conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. Organized hunting of surplus wildlife species is one tool used to maintain wildlife populations at a level compatible with the available habitat

General Hunting Regulations

Hunting on National Wildlife Refuges is a privilege, please respect it. The regulations listed in this document supplement the general regulations that govern hunting on wildlife refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations.

We allow hunting of quail, cottontail rabbits, dove, mule deer, and light geese (snow geese and Ross's geese) with the following regulations:

- State and federal hunting regulations regarding methods of take, dates, bag limits, etc., apply to all hunting on the refuge, in addition to refuge specific regulations.
- Transportation of weapons across areas closed to hunting is allowed only when weapons are unloaded and cased.
- Hunting of species not expressly mentioned is prohibited.
- No canoeing, boating, or floating is allowed through the refuge.
- Hunting dogs may be used to retrieve game, but must be kept on a leash when *not* hunting.

Small Game Hunting

Hunting for quail, cottontail rabbit, and dove is allowed during concurrent state designated hunting seasons.

West Side:

- Areas open for small game hunting are State Highway 1 to west boundary, with the exception of Unit 3 and those areas closed to hunting (see map). Look for signs in this area.
- No hunting within ½ mile of developed areas, including the Refuge Visitor Center and Headquarters area, maintenance areas, Volunteer RV Park.

East Side:

- The east side is open to small game hunting from the Rio Grande to the east boundary.

Permitted Shot Type for Small Game Hunting

Non-toxic shotgun shells required for all small game hunting.

Big Game Hunting

Hunting for mule deer is permitted during appropriate state hunting seasons.

Areas open for mule deer include the following:

Mule Deer Hunts—West Side:

- Primitive weapons: State Highway 1 to west boundary, with the exception of Unit 3 and those areas closed to hunting (see map).
- Modern firearms: Power-line to west boundary
- Access on the west side of the railroad tracks is either by State Highway 1, or via Gravel Pit Road.

Mule Deer Hunts—East Side:

- All legal weapons: Rio Grande to the east boundary.
- East side access is by foot or bicycle only.
- Bicycle access is limited to established service roads only.
- Access to the east boundary is via San Pedro, off Hwy 380, east of San Antonio. Park at the gate leading into the refuge, but do not block access to the service road.



Mule Deer

Gambel's Quail, Dove, Mule Deer

FWS Photographs

Cottontail

Photograph by Sallie Gentry/FWS

Snow Goose (reverse side)

Photograph by Paul A. and Shirley Berquist

Permitted Species to Hunt



Gambel's Quail



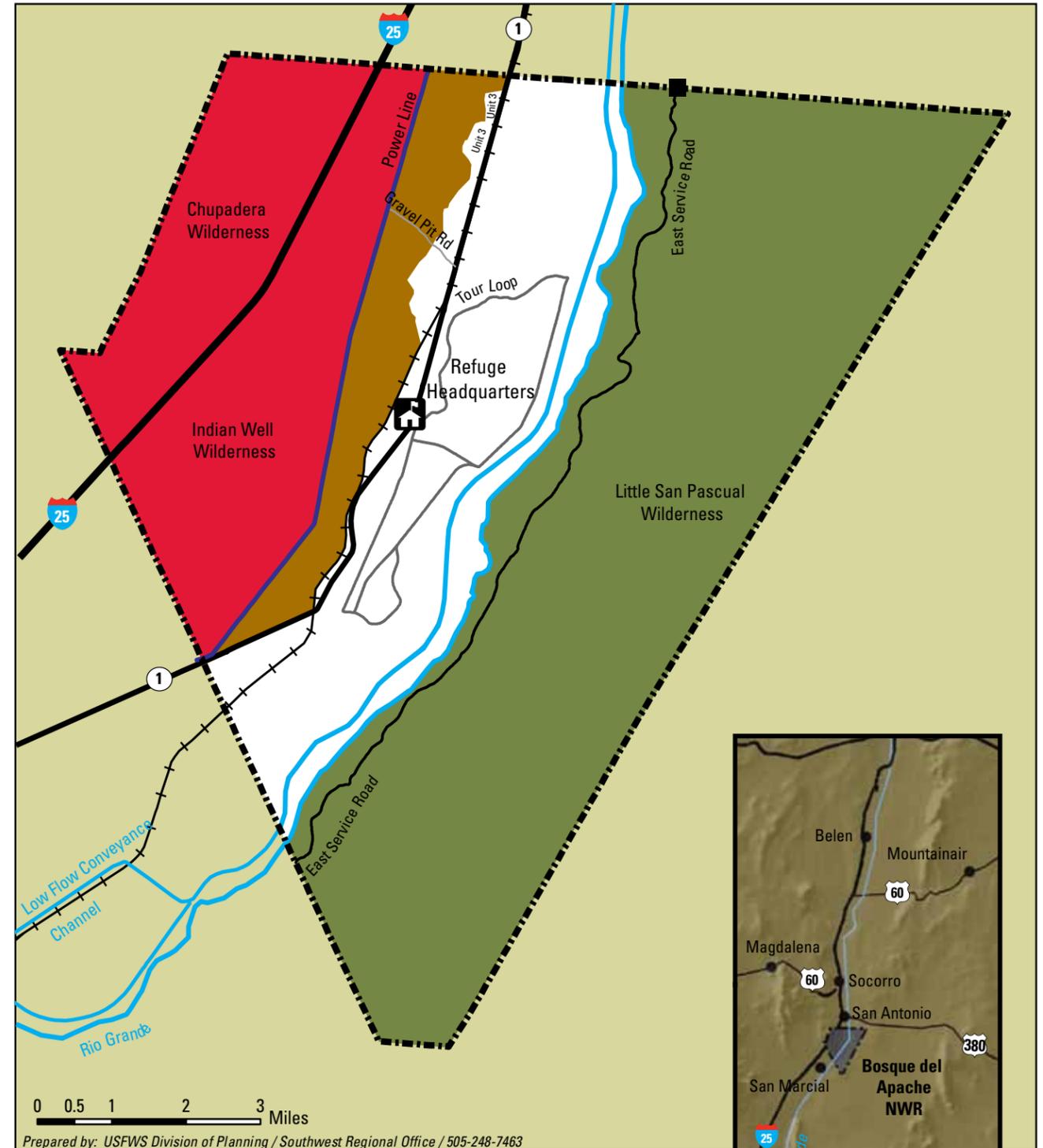
Dove



Cottontail Rabbit

For Further Information, contact

Refuge Manager
Bosque del Apache NWR
P.O. Box 280
San Antonio, NM 87832
575/835-1828
575/835-0314 Fax



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Bosque del Apache NWR Hunt Map

Mule Deer and Small Game	Bosque del Apache NWR Boundary
Small Game (also Mule Deer with primitive arms only)	Railroad
Closed to Hunting	Access Point
Mule Deer and Small Game	

Map created: February 2008

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Light Goose Hunting

Light goose (snow geese and Ross's geese) hunting is allowed on the refuge during a series of hunts in December and January by special permit. Hunters are selected by random drawing. Up to three persons may apply on one application. Each person can only apply once. If a person's name appears on more than one application, those applications will be voided.

Application for Light Goose Hunting

To request an application for the Light Goose Hunt call the refuge at 575/835-1828, or write to:

Refuge Manager
Bosque del Apache NWR
Light Goose Hunt Application
P.O. Box 280
San Antonio, NM 87832

Completed Application for Light Goose Hunt

Read the instructions on the hunt application carefully and fill in all the requested information. **Completed Hunt applications should be postmarked no later than November 15th.** A \$6.00 application fee is required for each person to be sent in with the completed application. Checks or money orders should be made payable to: Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge. Send completed application and \$6.00 fee to the above address.

Hunter Information

- Hunters possessing an Impaired Hunting License, please notify the refuge manager one week *prior* to your hunt, if assistance is needed.
- Hunters must use non-toxic shotgun shells.
- Hunters 17 years old or younger **MUST** be supervised by a hunter, who is 21 years of age or older.



Snow Goose

General Information

The signs below apply to the areas behind the signs. Please respect all refuge signs as you travel through the refuge.



National Wildlife Refuge. This sign marks the boundary of the refuge. Consult refuge management for authorized activities



Area Closed. Certain areas of the refuge are closed to visitors for management purposes. Unauthorized entry beyond this sign is prohibited.



No Hunting Zone. This sign marks the boundary of no hunting areas on the refuge. All hunting is prohibited beyond this sign.



Public Fishing Area. This sign marks the boundaries of the selected fishing areas.

Hunting and Fishing on all National Wildlife Refuges is a privilege, please respect it.

Fishing at the Bosque del Apache NWR

Fishing is allowed on the refuge from April 1 through September 30, from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset. In all cases, Refuge Entrance fees apply. A valid New Mexico fishing license is required.

Fishing is allowed in many of the canals within the refuge boundaries (Interior Drain, sections of the Riverside Canal, and the Low Flow Conveyance Channel). Access to the canals is via the Wildlife Drive Tour Loop. Fishing is also allowed in Unit 25AS and 25AN either from the boardwalk or from the shore. Boats or other flotation devices are not permitted. All of the Rio Grande within the Refuge boundary is closed to fishing and frogging.

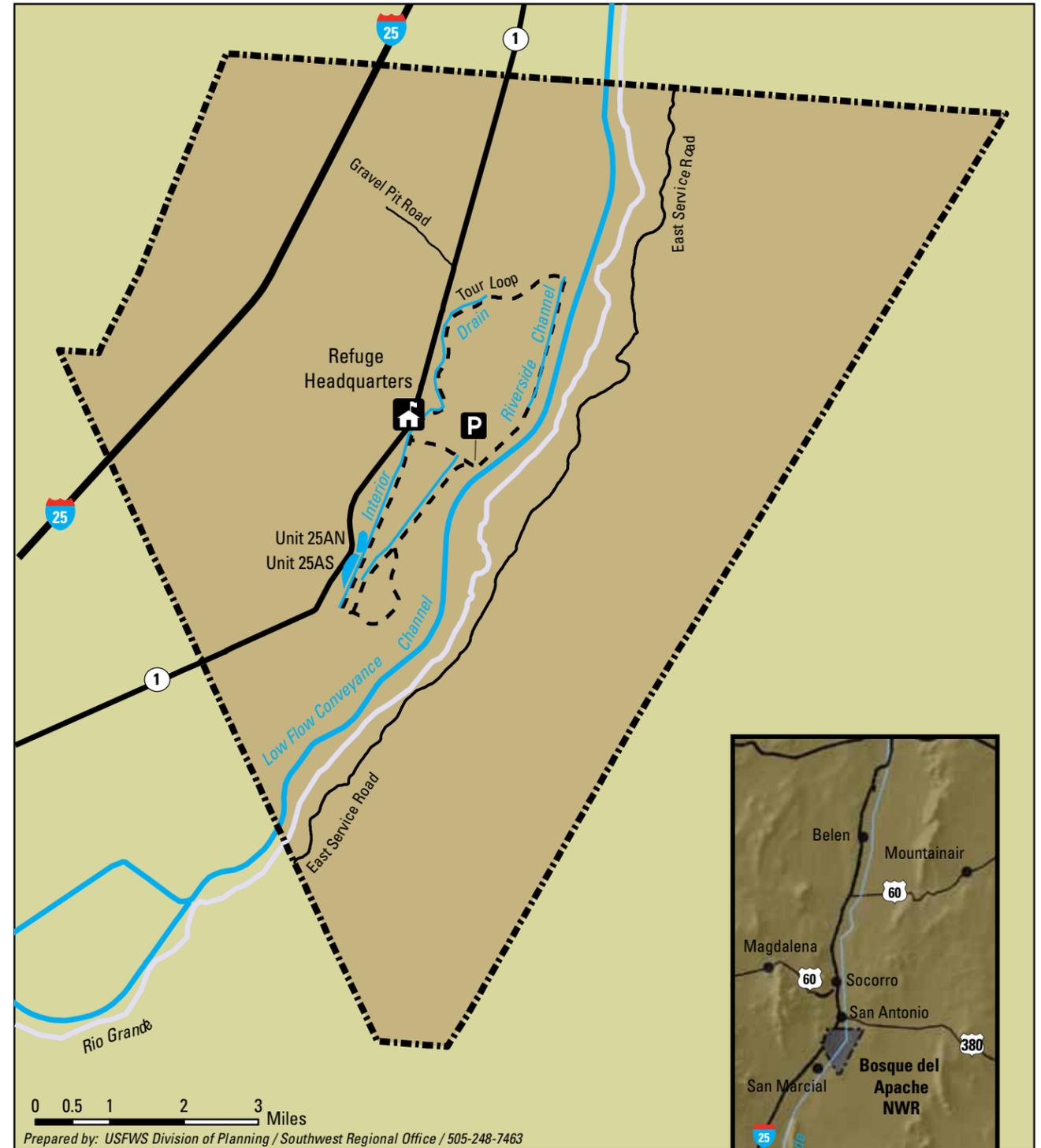
Fishing is subject to New Mexico Department of Game and Fish regulations including species, bag, possession, and size limits. Trotlines, bows and arrows, wading, boats and other floating devices, seining, dip netting, cast netting, traps, bait taken from the refuge, and taking of turtles are prohibited.

Frogging at the Bosque del Apache NWR

Frogging for bullfrogs is allowed on the refuge from June 1 through September 30 in areas already open to fishing (Interior Drain, Riverside Canal, Low Flow Conveyance Channel and areas in Unit 25AS and 25 AN). It is allowed only during daylight hours. Only bullfrogs may be taken during this activity.

General Regulations

The Low Flow Conveyance Channel at the end of the two-way road is open to walk in fishing and frogging only. Parking is permitted at the River Trail parking lot.



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Bosque del Apache NWR Fishing / Frogging Map

Fishing and Frogging Allowed

Bosque del Apache NWR Boundary

Wildlife Drive

Note: Fishing and Frogging is *not* Permitted along the Rio Grande within the Refuge Boundary.



Map created: February 2008