

**Welcome to
Valentine National
Wildlife Refuge**



*This blue goose,
designed by J.N.
"Ding" Darling,
is the symbol
of the National
Wildlife Refuge
System.*

Valentine National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was established in 1935 to protect a portion of the Sandhills and their wildlife. The unique nature of the Refuge was recognized in 1976 when the Sandhills prairie was designated as a National Natural Landmark.

Valentine NWR is one of over 550 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.

Funding for acquiring refuge lands in the National Wildlife Refuge System was established in 1934 through the passage of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act, more commonly known as the "Duck Stamp" Act. This Act requires waterfowl hunters to annually purchase a migratory bird or duck stamp. Funds collected from duck stamp sales have been used to purchase numerous refuges including Valentine NWR, that provide the habitats needed to sustain a variety of wildlife for both hunters and non-hunters to enjoy.

Accessible boat docks are located at Watts, Dewey, Pelican, West Long, Clear, and Hackberry lakes. Persons with disabilities with a special Nebraska Game and Parks Commission permit may shoot game from a vehicle parked on the shoulder of a refuge public use trail.

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 402 / 376 3789, or the U.S. Department of the Interior; Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240.

