



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Hunting 2012-2013

Deep Fork National Wildlife Refuge

General Hunting

Deep Fork National Wildlife Refuge provides habitat for many resident and migratory species of wildlife.

The Refuge boundary is currently a checkerboard ownership between public and privately held tracts. Hunters should take care in respecting private property. Refuge boundaries are marked with the white "blue goose" signs. Some parts of the refuge are closed to all public entry (see map for closed areas).

The nearest public boat ramp is at the Deep Fork River Bridge on Highway 266. Although difficult, you can launch light-weight john boats and canoes from the bank at river bridge locations. Use caution when navigating Refuge waters. Numerous submerged tree stumps exist in shallow waters and river currents can be hazardous.

The nearest campground is located at Okmulgee/ Dripping Springs State Park west of Okmulgee along Highway 56.

Persons with disabilities are encouraged to participate in hunting at the Refuge. Contact the Refuge Manager for guidelines to obtain special access.

Refuge Regulations

By law, national wildlife refuges are closed to all public use activities unless expressly opened.

Hunting and other public uses are allowed in accordance with applicable State laws, unless otherwise listed or found the Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations. State bag limits apply unless otherwise noted in this pamphlet. Title 50 provides the general regulations which govern the uses of national wildlife refuge lands.

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuges must comply with all provision 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.)

Hunting on the Refuge requires a signed permit validated for the current year. The signed permit is necessary for general hunting on the Refuge, but is not required for the controlled deer and turkey hunts.

Only species listed on this sheet may be taken on the refuge. See map for locations of areas open to hunting.

2012-2013 Seasons

SMALL GAME

All small game hunting is closed December 5 – 6 due to Controlled Antlerless Deer Hunt.

SQUIRREL: May 15 – January 31 except closed from October 1 - November 30.

RABBIT: December 1, 2012 – January 31, 2013

BEAVER: Special Use Permit only. Contact the Refuge Manager for details.

RACCOON: December 1, 2012 – January 31, 2013

TURKEY:

Youth: April 12 – 14, 2013 (Controlled hunts only) See State controlled hunt booklet for specific regulations for this hunt.

Adult: April 19 – 21, 2013 (Controlled hunts only) See State controlled hunt booklet for specific regulations for this hunt.

BIG GAME

DEER

Primitive Youth: October 12 – 14, 2012 (Controlled hunts only). See State controlled hunt booklet for specific regulations for this hunt.

Primitive (Adult): November 2 – 4, 2012 (Controlled hunts only). See State controlled hunt booklet for specific regulations for this hunt.

Non-ambulatory (Accessible) Hunt: November 2 – 4, 2012. (Controlled hunt only). See State controlled hunt booklet for specific regulations for this hunt.

Bag Limit: The bag limit for the above hunts is 2 deer either sex (bonus). Only one may be antlered.

Antlerless Hunt: December 5 – 6, 2012 (Controlled hunt only). See State controlled hunt booklet for specific regulations for this hunt.

Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer (bonus).

Limited Archery Hunt: November 5 – 16, 2012. Permits will be issued on the third Saturday of September (9/15/2012 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.) and the following Monday (9/17/2012 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.). Saturday permits will be issued from the maintenance facility located north of Cedar Road on the east side of Highway 75 between Henryetta and Okmulgee. Monday permits will be issued from the Refuge Headquarters located at 21844 S. 250 Road near the Cussetah Bottoms area. You must be present to receive a permit. (See map on reverse side.) **A nominal fee of \$10.00 will be charged for this permit this year.**

WATERFOWL: December 1 to the end of the State Duck Season. Closed during those days designated as closed in the Oklahoma Waterfowl Hunting guide.

Specific Regulations:

Open on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. ½-hour before sunrise to 1:00 p.m.

Only portable blinds may be used.

Blinds and decoys must be removed daily.

Goose hunting prohibited.

Specific Regulations:

Sunset to sunrise only.

State firearm restrictions apply.

FERAL HOGS: May be taken during daylight hours of any established refuge hunt. Permits and legal weapons apply for the current season.

General Regulations

All vehicles must remain on existing county roads or in designated parking areas.

Boats used for any recreational activity (hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing) must be removed from the Refuge daily. Boats must comply with all State regulations.

Youth age 14 years old or younger must be directly supervised by an adult at least 18 years of age while hunting.

All hunters using shotguns for hunting small game and migratory game birds on the Refuge must use and possess ammunition containing non-toxic shot ONLY. Non-toxic shot is not required for .22 or .17 rimfire rifles used for small game hunting.

Shotguns, .22, and .17 rimfire rifles are allowed while hunting squirrel and rabbit.

Dogs are allowed for hunting squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, and migratory birds only during designated seasons. Dogs must be removed immediately after the hunt.

Deer harvested during the limited archery hunt must be tagged before transport and checked immediately at the nearest State Check Station or checked in online.

Firearms used for hunting must be unloaded and either dismantled or encased when transported in vehicles and boats while on the Refuge.

Loaded is defined as shells in gun or cap on muzzleloader.

STANDS: Limited to 1 per hunter. Stands may not be set up until the day of the hunt, unless authorized. Stands must be taken down at the end of the hunt.

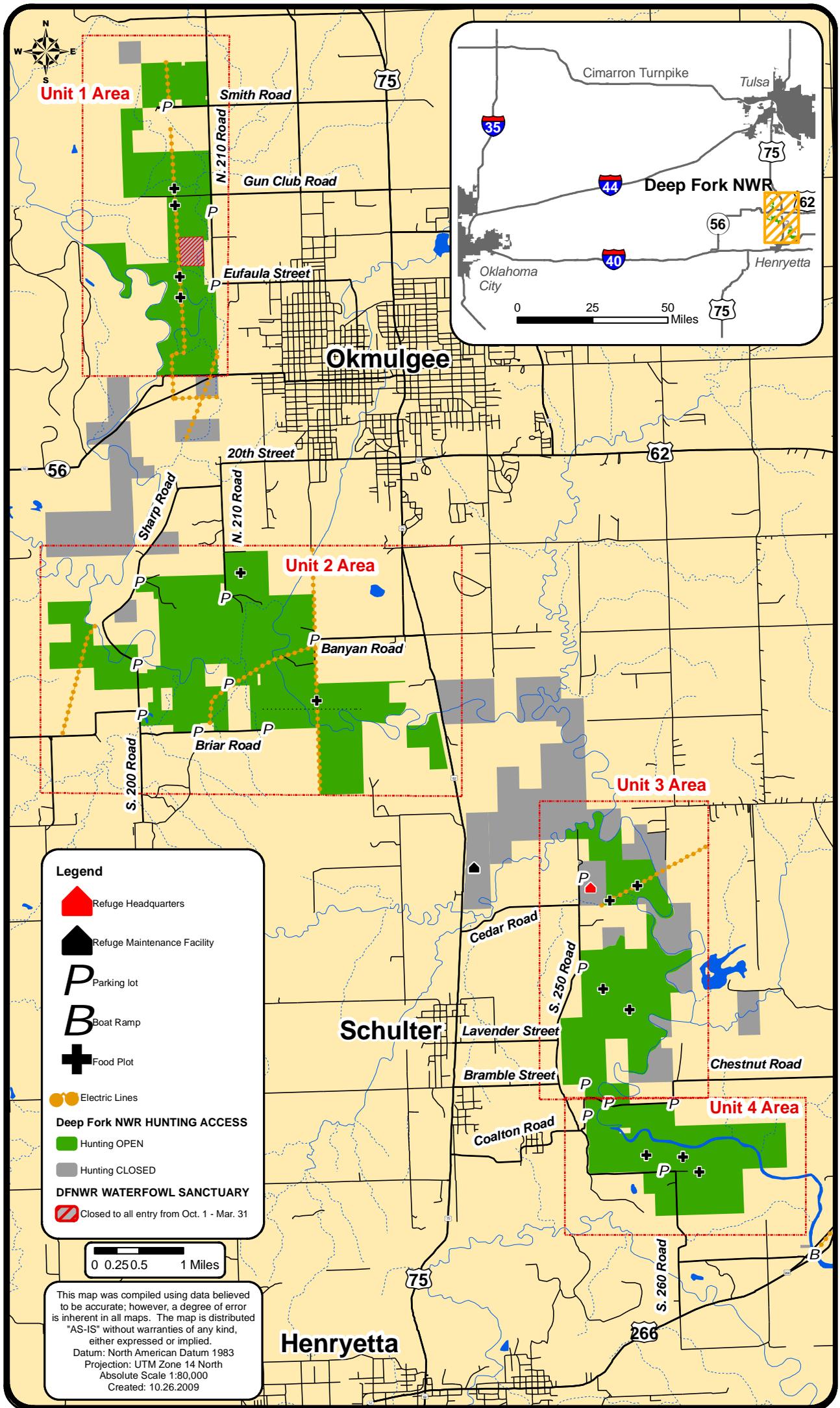
Prohibited Activities:

- Littering, dumping household furniture, trash, brush, or appliances.
- Possession of alcoholic beverages and controlled substances.
- Camping and fires
- Horse and mule riding except on Gun Club Road.
- Use of scouting cameras.
- Baiting or hunting over bait, salt, or any attractant. Hunting scents are allowed.
- Discharging firearms of any kind and target practice unless authorized.
- Taking of wildlife or plants (including cutting trees or brush) unless authorized.
- Searching for or removing any object of antiquity.
- Blocking cattle guards, gates, or roadways with vehicles.
- Marking trails with paint or leaving flagging tape, ribbons, or trail tacks.
- Carrying, possessing, or discharging firearms, fireworks, or explosives on a national wildlife refuge, unless specifically authorized.
- The use or possession of crossbows, bow and arrow, air guns, spears, gigs, and other weapons on national wildlife refuges, except as may be authorized by the Refuge Manager.
- Possession of center fire rifles and handguns on the refuge except as authorized by refuge manager or in accordance with the Oklahoma Self Defense Act: 21 O.S. 1290.1 et. seq.
- Using spotlights/artificial light to locate wildlife.
- Use of drive or screw nails, spikes, wires, bolts, or other metal objects driven into a tree or to hunt from a tree in which such an object has been driven. This includes screw-in tree steps.
- All terrain vehicles, except by individuals possessing a Refuge special use permit.

For Additional Information

Deep Fork NWR
P.O. Box 816
21844 S. 250 Road
Okmulgee, OK 74447
918/652-0456
918/652-3427 Fax
www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/oklahoma/Deep Fork

August 2012



**Deep Fork National Wildlife Refuge
2012-2013 General Hunt Permit**

Signing this leaflet on the designated line validates it as your general hunting permit for Deep Fork NWR. It is required for all refuge hunting except for controlled hunts. Hunters must show the permit, valid state hunting license, and identification upon request of

any Refuge Officer or state Game Warden. The hunter concedes the right of inspection of game bags, hunting coats, etc., as provided by state law, to the Refuge Officers.

I have read, fully understand and will comply with these refuge regulations. This permit is valid through July 31, 2013

Signature of hunter _____ Date _____
 This permit is only valid when signed above by the hunter and must be carried on hunter's person.