

Kirwin

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing



Hunting Regulations Table – Hunting is in accordance with State regulations. In addition, Refuge-specific regulations must be followed and are listed in the table below.

Activity	Season Dates	Method of Take	Other Regulations
Big Game – Mule deer, white-tailed deer	State regulations apply	Archery only	Hunters must obtain and carry a free access permit (by special drawing). Contact the Refuge staff for details. Construction or use of any permanent stand or blind is not allowed. Use of bait and trail cameras is not allowed.
Migratory Game Birds – Coot, crow, duck, goose, merganser, mourning dove, rail, snipe, woodcock	During State seasons that occur between September 1 – April 30	Archery and shotgun	Use of dogs while hunting is encouraged. Use of non-toxic shot only. Use of trail cameras is not allowed.
Upland Game – Bobwhite quail, pheasant, prairie chicken	State regulations apply	Archery and shotgun	Use of dogs while hunting is encouraged. Use of non-toxic shot only. Use of bait and trail cameras is not allowed.
Small Game – Cottontail rabbit, fox squirrel, gray squirrel, jackrabbit	September 1 – April 30	Archery and shotgun	Use of non-toxic shot only. Use of bait and trail cameras is not allowed.
Turkey	State regulations apply	Archery and shotgun	The use of dogs is not allowed. Use of non-toxic shot only. Use of bait and trail cameras is not allowed.
Coyote	September 1 – April 30	Archery and shotgun	Use of vehicles, radios, and dogs is not allowed. Use of non-toxic shot only. Use of bait and trail cameras is not allowed.
Furbearer – Badger, bobcat, grey fox, mink, muskrat, opossum, red fox, swift fox, raccoon, striped skunk, weasel	September 1 – April 30	Archery and shotgun	The use of dogs is not allowed. Use of non-toxic shot only. Use of bait and trail cameras is not allowed.

The Blue Goose is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands and waters managed for the benefit of wildlife and people.



Welcome

Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge is located in the rolling hills and narrow valley of the North Fork of the Solomon River in north-central Kansas. The Refuge is 10,778-acres and was established in 1954 to provide important habitat for wildlife, especially migratory birds.

General Information

The Refuge is open 24 hours per day.

The Refuge headquarters is located 4 miles west of Kirwin, Kansas, on East Xavier Road. The office is open 7:30 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Vehicles can be parked in designated parking areas or along the shoulder of the Refuge roads, within one car width from the edge of the road. Vehicles must not be parked in front of gates or other locations where they will interfere with traffic.

Prohibited Activities

- Driving off-road and driving off-road utility vehicles.
- Collecting plants, animals (including antlers), and historical artifacts.
- Discharge of any firearm for any reason other than the legal taking of game animals.
- Use of rifles and handguns.
- Use or possession of air guns, spears, gigs, or other weapons.
- Fireworks or explosives.
- Overnight camping and fires.
- Non-wildlife related activities.
- Air thrust boats.

- Commercial use, including guiding and fishing tournaments.
- Free-roaming pets (pets must be on a leash except when hunting).
- Littering.
- Possession or consumption of alcohol and controlled substances while hunting.

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.)

Accessibility

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/eo/public-civil-rights>.

Hunting and Fishing Regulations

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 are allowed on the Refuge in accordance with State regulations and the Refuge-specific regulations in this brochure.

Hunting is allowed September 1 through April 30. Hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.

Shotguns and archery equipment may be used in accordance with State regulations.

Game may not be retrieved in an area closed to hunting for that species.

Game Regulations

The Refuge is open to hunting in designated areas as shown on the map. Method of take is restricted to shotgun and archery equipment.

See the Hunting Regulations Table for a list of species that can be hunted on the Refuge, as well as Refuge-specific regulations.

Fishing Regulations

All Refuge waters are open to sport fishing in accordance with State fishing regulations.

A fish cleaning station is located next to the water tower in the town of Kirwin. Disposing of fish cleanings on the Refuge is considered littering and is subject to fines.

Boating

Boating is allowed on all waters unless otherwise designated by signs or buoys. Float tubes may be used in areas open to boating.

Boats must follow U.S. Coast Guard standards. They must be equipped and operated in accordance with Kansas Boat and Water Safety Laws and Federal regulations.

Boating between October 1 and April 1 is prohibited if the lake elevation is 1,722 feet or less, with the exception of the area south of Scout Cove. Boats may be launched at the Bow Creek ramp at Scout Cove even during this time.

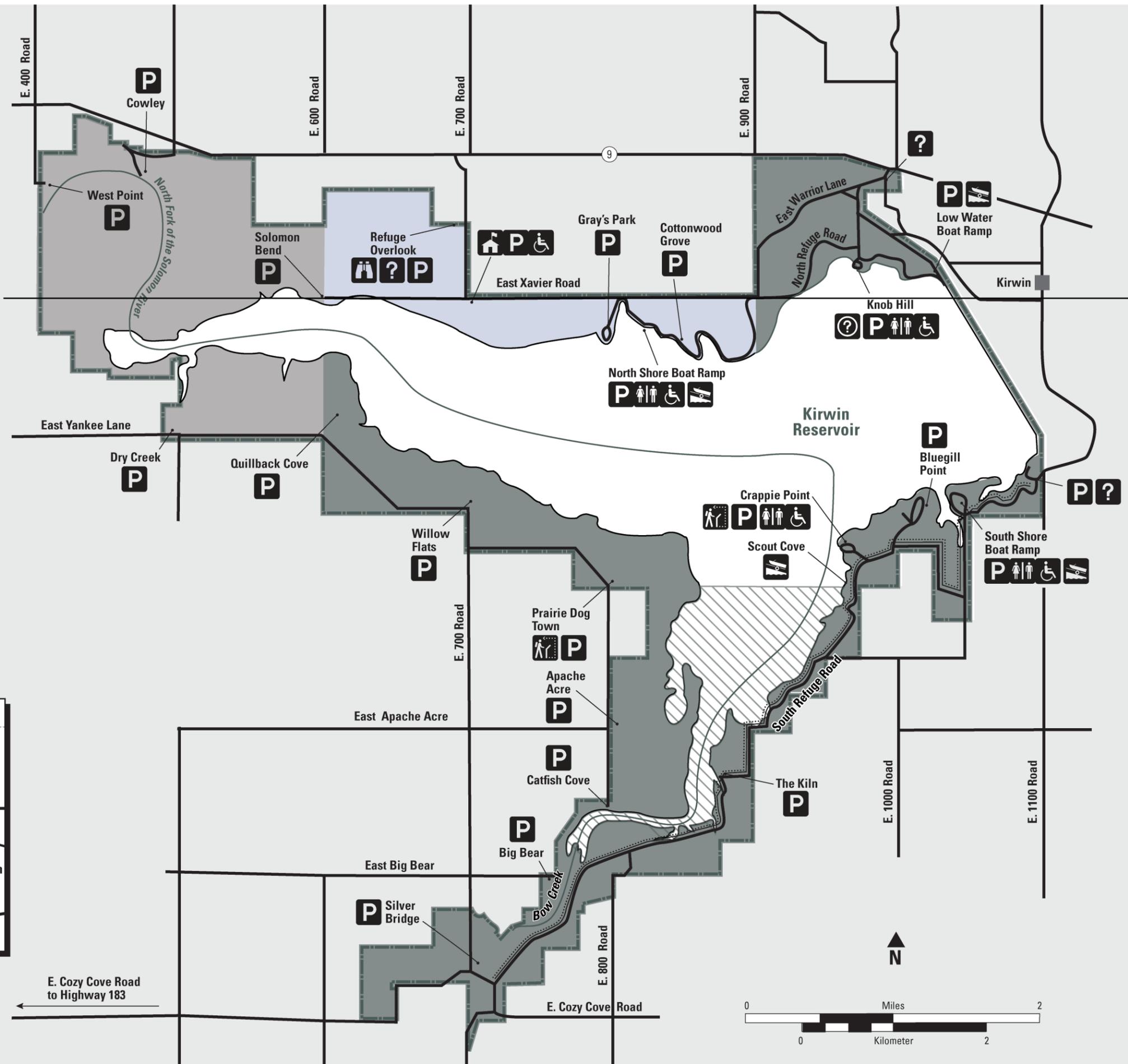
A no wake zone is in effect within 100 yards of all shorelines and islands, as well as the entire Bow Creek Arm.

Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge

- Refuge boundary
- State highway
- Public road
- Auto tour route
- Open to archery (deer and turkey) hunting only.
- Open to hunting for legal Refuge species.
- Closed to hunting.
- Linked symbols designate accessible features
- Refuge headquarters
- Restroom
- Parking
- Information
- Interpretive walking trail
- Refuge overlook
- Boat ramp

A no wake zone is in effect within 100 yards of all shorelines, islands, and the Bow Creek Arm.

Some Refuge roads are subject to limited or restricted access.



Signs
For your safety and the protection of wildlife and habitat, please observe all signs.



Seasonal Fishing Access
Open to Vehicles
April 1st to Sept 30th

Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge
702 East Xavier Road
Kirwin, KS 67644
785-543-6673
kirwin@fws.gov
<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/kirwin>
For State Transfer Relay Service
TTY / Voice: 711
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
<http://www.fws.gov>
For Refuge Information
1-800-344-WILD
August 2020

