



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

General Hunting Information

Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge

The following information applies to all public hunts at Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge.

Hunt permits are \$80.00 for each period.

The application period for hunt permits is only during the month of August.

Scouting in the hunt units is allowed only November 7, 8, 14 and 15, 2015.

All hunt fees are non-refundable. All hunts may be cancelled without notice for public safety or resource protection reasons (e.g., high wildfire danger).

Hunt permits are not transferable.

The bag limit for each hunt period is two white-tailed deer: one female and one male; or two females. Unlimited feral hogs and nilgai antelope may be taken as these are invasive species.

A meat cooler is available at the Refuge check station for temporary storage of game. Game must be collected at the end of your hunt period.

Texas State Hunting Regulations apply to hunting on the Refuge. We encourage you to contact the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at 1-800/792-1112 or www.tpwd.state.tx.us for complete information.

The Refuge hunt check station can be reached at 956/371-0773 during the hunt periods.

Hunters with mobility impairments who want to request special access accommodations must contact the Assistant Refuge Manager by October 31 to obtain the application forms.

Hunters using the Refuge are subject to inspections of permits, licenses, hunting equipment, bag limits, vehicles, and their contents by Refuge and State law enforcement officers.

Cattle Fever Tick Quarantine is still in effect on the Refuge and additional procedures related to this issue will be distributed prior to the hunt periods.

Important Refuge Regulations

(1) Taking or collecting any plant or animal (including venomous snakes) is prohibited, except as specifically

authorized by this permit. (2) The use of artificial lights (including car headlights and game cameras) to locate, observe, or take animals is prohibited. (3) Fires, littering, target practice, and commercial guiding are prohibited. (4) The disturbing, molesting, or interfering with any person engaged in the pursuit of an authorized activity on the Refuge is prohibited. (5) The maximum speed limit on Refuge roads is 25 mph unless otherwise posted.

Special Caution

Africanized honey bees, alligators, cougars and rattlesnakes are in the area. Stay alert and watch for bee activity and be cautious of venomous snakes and stinging/biting insects. Wearing of snake guards or boots is recommended.

Archery Hunts

Archery Hunt Dates

Hunt #1 is November 20–24, 2015 (May set up stands November 19)

Hunt #2 is November 28–December 2, 2015 (May set up stands November 27)

Hunt #3 is December 10–14, 2015 (May set up stands December 9)

Permits: Issued on a first-come, first-served basis in person or by mail. Issued Monday–Friday, 7:30–4:00, August 1–31 or until sold out. A total of 800 permits may be issued for the archery season split evenly among the three hunts.

Application: You may apply for a maximum of two archery hunts. Submit the \$80.00 hunt fee for each hunt you apply for with your application. Cash, check or money orders are accepted in person. Checks and money orders are accepted by mail.

Note: No permit will be issued if a mailed application is not postmarked during the month of August or if all permits have already been issued. Checks and money orders will be returned if mailed in and a hunt is full.

Legal Weapons During Archery Hunts: Bows and arrows must meet minimum requirements of Texas State laws and regulations. Only long bows, compound bows and recurved bows are permitted. Crossbows may be used by hunters with

an upper limb disability but a special use permit is required—contact Refuge Manager by October 31.

Firearm Hunts

Firearm Hunt Dates:

Hunt #1 is December 18–20, 2015

Hunt #2 is December 26–28, 2015

Hunt #3 is January 2–4, 2016

Hunt #4 is January 8–10, 2016

Hunt #5 is January 15–17, 2016

Permits: 175 total permits, 35 hunters per hunt. Hunters will be selected by computer random drawing in early September. Successful applicants will be notified by mail and assigned to a hunt period.

Application: You may submit one application for the firearm hunts between August 1 and August 31. Mailed applications must be postmarked within the month of August. DO NOT mail fee with your application. A maximum of three people may be listed on each application. If your application is randomly selected, all applicants listed will be offered the opportunity to purchase hunt permits. Applicants listed on more than one “Firearm Hunt” application will result in those applications being voided.

Legal Weapons During Firearm

Hunts: Only shoulder-fired modern rifles, muzzle-loading black powder (or equivalent powder) firearms, and crossbows are allowed. Black powder firearms must be .40 caliber or larger and modern firearms must be center-fire and .22 caliber or larger. Shotguns are not allowed.

Orientation: Orientations are mandatory for all firearm hunters. Orientation is scheduled for 8:00 a.m. on the first day of your selected hunt.

For Additional Information

Laguna Atascosa
National Wildlife Refuge
22817 Ocelot Road
Los Fresnos, Texas 78566
956/748-3607
956/748-3609 Fax
www.fws.gov/refuge/laguna_atascosa

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