



News Release

Las Vegas National
Wildlife Refuge
Route 1, Box 399
Las Vegas, NM 87701
505/425-3581

Southwest Region (Arizona • New Mexico • Oklahoma • Texas) <http://southwest.fws.gov>

FOR RELEASE: September 30, 2021 **CONTACT:** Debbie Pike, Visitors Services Manager
505-425-3581 ext. 205

LAS VEGAS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE CANADA GOOSE HUNT APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Applications for the 2021 goose hunt on the Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge are now available. Applications may be obtained via email: Debbie_pike@fws.gov or by calling 928-304-8995 to have an application mailed to you. Applications are also available by writing to:

Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge
Route 1, Box 399
Las Vegas, NM 87701

You may also email Debbie_pike@fws.gov to obtain an application.

Completed applications should be returned to the refuge, and must be postmarked by October 15, 2021 in order to be considered for this year's hunt, which will run from late November through mid December.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 97-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, which encompasses 553 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 70 national fish hatcheries, 63 Fish and Wildlife Management offices and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Assistance program, which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

- FWS -



Goose Hunt



Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations 2021

Welcome

Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge is one of more than 560 national wildlife refuges located throughout the United States. The primary objective of a national wildlife refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation of wildlife. Carefully managed hunts maintain wildlife populations at a level compatible with available habitat and provide recreational opportunities where people can reconnect to nature.

Access

The refuge headquarters is located 6 miles southeast of the city of Las Vegas on Highway 281, at mile marker 4. Hunt blinds are located a ¼ to ½ mile walk from the parking areas. Access to hunt areas is by foot only.

WHEN: At 5:30 a.m. on the day of the hunt, refuge staff are at the visitor center for mandatory orientation and to loan out decoys. Shooting hours are ½ hour before legal sunrise to 1 p.m.

WHERE: Goose Hunt Area only (see map).

The refuge may close all or part of the hunt area including parking areas without notice to safeguard refuge resources or for safety reasons.

Daily Bag Limit

6 total geese in aggregate, not to exceed State species limit

Season

A hunter is assigned one hunt date:

Tuesday, November 16
Friday, November 19
Tuesday, November 23
Tuesday, November 30
Friday, December 3
Tuesday, December 7
Friday, December 10
Tuesday, December 14

Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge
Route 1, P.O. Box 399
Las Vegas, NM 87701
505-425-3581
www.fws.gov/refuge/Las_Vegas/
June 2021

General Information

Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge is seasonally open to hunting the following goose species: Canada goose, cackling goose, greater white-fronted goose, snow goose, and Ross's goose. Goose hunting is allowed by permit only, see details below.

Accessibility Information

Refuge employees strive to accommodate access to all hunters with disabilities. If you require a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the hunt please contact the refuge. Improvements are being made to increase accessibility of the hunt area. Parking Area B has an accessible gate and a compacted gravel road leads from the gate into the hunt area. A non-hunting assistant may accompany a hunter to assist with accessibility if needed.

Firearms

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuge System lands must comply with all provisions of federal, 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). Shooting is only allowed from the assigned blinds. Each hunter may only possess six or less shells containing approved nontoxic shot while in the hunt area.

Hunting Regulations

Hunting is 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 and in accordance with applicable State of New Mexico regulations in addition to the conditions stated.

Hunters must have a federal duck stamp, State of New Mexico hunting license with a management and access validation and a Migratory Bird Permit Number in their possession. For additional information on licensing and regulations refer to the New Mexico Small Game & Waterfowl Rules & Information booklet or www.wildlife.state.nm.us.

Hunters must check-in prior to hunting, preferably before sunrise, attend a mandatory orientation, and checkout by 1:30 p.m. at refuge headquarters. Hunting dogs are allowed for bird retrieval and are required to be under close control of their handlers at all times.

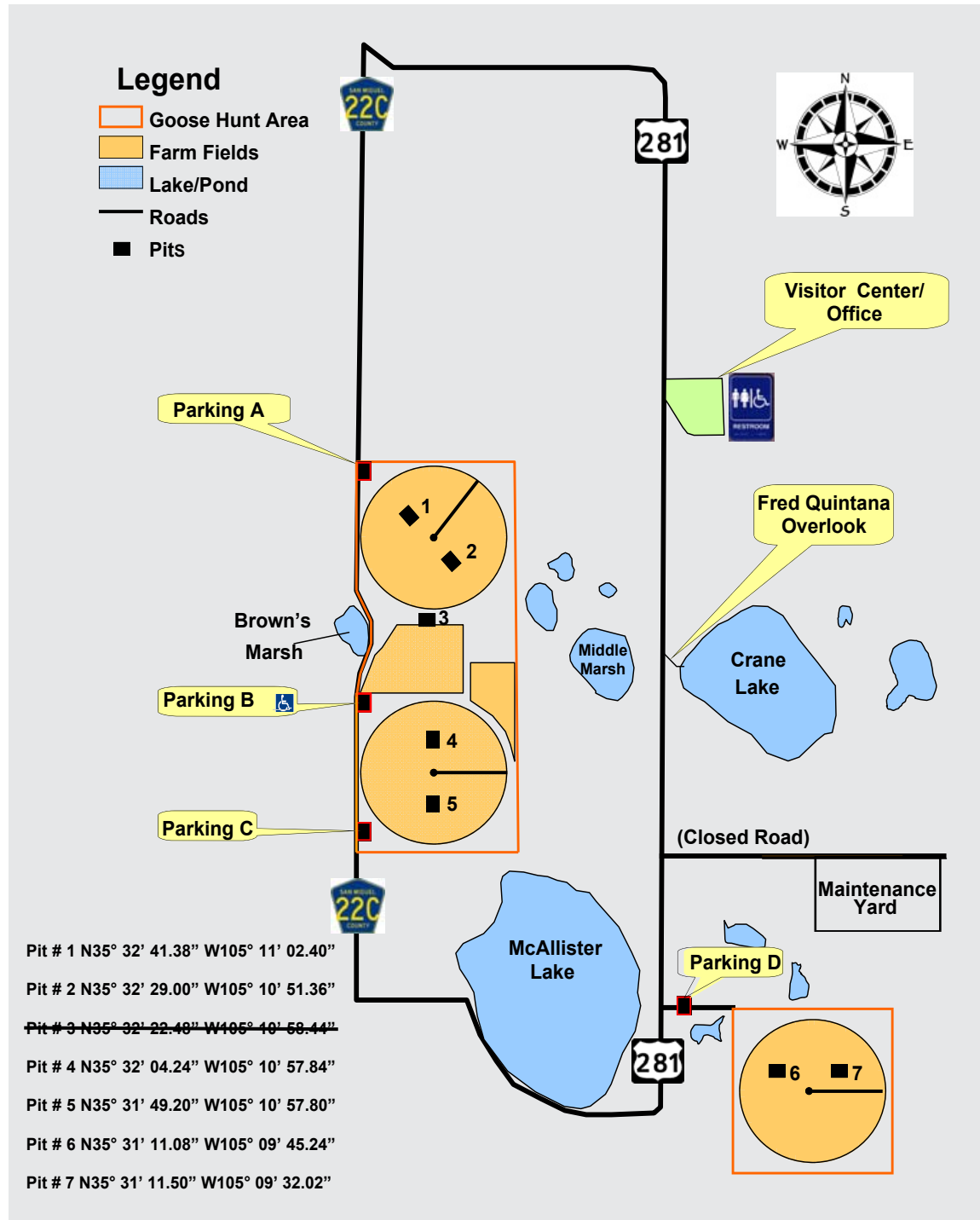
Permit Application, Fees, Blinds and Decoys

Applicants will be selected for permits by random drawing. See the refuge website for the application and instructions at www.fws.gov/refuge/Las_Vegas/ or call 928-304-8995. Applications must be postmarked by October 15, 2021. Each permit is valid for one day from 5:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Permits may not be transferred or dates changed.

Hunters who are successfully drawn on **October 18th** will be notified by letter with further instructions. Hunters are required to pay a \$15.00 (certified check, cashier's check, or money order only; NO CASH) user fee to receive their permit. Payment can be made by mail. You may call after **October 18h** for confirmation.

On **October 18th**, hunters will be assigned one of six hunting blinds. Up to three hunters may apply and hunt together from the same blind. The blinds are four-foot deep pits with a moveable camouflage cover. Occasionally pop-up blinds are substituted for management or accessibility reasons. Upon request and approval, a hunter(s) may move to another blind and hunt area if the site and blind are not in use. Hunters are encouraged to bring their own decoys, but may borrow up to two dozen goose shell decoys per blind from refuge staff on the day of their hunt. All decoys and other gear must be carried in on foot and packed back out by the end of your hunt.

Goose Hunt Area



Prohibited Activities

- Hunting or taking any species other than Canada goose, cackling goose, greater white-fronted goose, snow goose, and Ross's goose.
- Hunting on any area not designated as the Goose Hunt Area
- Shooting while outside of the assigned blinds
- Possessing more than six shells while in the hunt area
- Target shooting/practice
- Hunting by falconry
- Possessing shells containing toxic shot while in the hunt area.
- Hunters or retrieval dogs entering closed areas to retrieve birds.
- Dogs off leash when not hunting.
- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages or other intoxicants while hunting.
- Goose plucking or gutting, or littering of any kind

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
National Wildlife Refuge System**

Canada Goose Hunt Application

OMB Control Number
1018-0140
Expires 05/31/2018

Follow instructions in the refuge hunt publication; all fields may not be required.
Read and comply with all refuge regulations, including application deadlines.

1. Name of Refuge 2. Date of application

3. Legal Name Area Code/Phone No.

Mailing Address

City, State, ZIP e-mail

4. Method

5. Hunt Date Choice

1st Choice

2nd Choice

3rd Choice

4th Choice

5th Choice

6. Hunt Location Choices

1st Choice

2nd Choice

3rd Choice

4th Choice

5th Choice

7. Special Hunt 7A. Youth Hunt Only: Age at time of hunt

PRINT FORM

8. I have read and understand the refuge hunt regulations and agree to abide by the regulations governing hunting on the refuge.

Hunter signature _____ Print Guardian name and signature here (required for hunters less than 18 years of age)

For Office Use only:

Payment Exempt/No fee Payment required

Payment Type: Amount:

Personal Check Cashiers Check

Money Order Other

Date Received

Notes

Notice

In accordance with the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501), please note the following information:

- The issuance of a permit and collection of fees on lands of the National Wildlife Refuge System is authorized by the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act (16 U.S.C. 668dd-ee) as amended, and the Refuge Recreation Act (16 U.S.C. 460k-460k-4).
- The information that you provide is voluntary; however submission of requested information is required to evaluate the qualifications, determine eligibility, and document permit applicants under the above Acts. It is our policy not to use your name or email for any other purpose. The information is maintained in accordance with the Privacy Act. All information you provide will be considered in reviewing this application. False, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations made in the application may be grounds for revocation of the permit and may be punishable by fine or imprisonment (18 U.S.C. 1001). Failure to provide all required information is sufficient cause for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to deny a permit.
- We estimate the public reporting burden on the applicant for information collection to be 30 minutes. This burden estimate includes time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data and completing and reviewing the form. You may direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the form to the Service Information Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mail Stop BPHC, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington D.C. 20240.
- Routine use disclosures may be made: (a) to the U.S. Department of Justice when related to litigation or anticipated litigation; (b) of information indicating a violation or potential violation of a statute, rule, order, or license to appropriate Federal, State, local or foreign agencies responsible for investigating or prosecuting the violation or for enforcing or implementing the statute, rule, regulations, order, or license; (c) from the record of the individual in response to an inquiry from a Congressional office made at the request of the individual (42 FR 19083; April 11, 1977); and (d) to provide addresses obtained from the Internal Revenue Service to debt collection agencies for purposes of locating a debtor to collect or compromise a Federal Claim against the debtor, or to consumer reporting agencies to prepare a commercial credit report for use by the Department (48 FR 54716; December 6, 1983).
- An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. This information collection has been approved by OMB and assigned control number 1018-0140.