



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

Welcome to Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). It is one of over 560 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.

All hunting on the Refuge is in accordance with Federal and State laws and regulations. Hunters can enjoy a quality hunting experience for upland game birds, most waterfowl, mourning doves, some big game, and mammalian predators. The hunting of swans, sandhill cranes, elk, and all other animals not listed above is prohibited.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service cooperates with the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks to survey and manage wildlife populations on the Refuge and to enforce Federal and State hunting regulations. Your support and compliance with these regulations is greatly appreciated.

General Access

- Vehicle traffic is restricted to gravel roads, parking areas, and trails marked for vehicle travel. Driving off-road for any purpose is prohibited.
- Vehicles must be parked at designated parking areas, road approaches, or off the road far enough to prevent obstructing traffic.
- The wildlife drive is closed to vehicle traffic from the beginning of the State designated waterfowl season through January 1.

Medicine Lake itself, its islands, and the adjacent Sandhills Unit are included in the 11,360-acre Medicine Lake Wilderness Area, part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. *The use of mechanical or motorized equipment, including game carts and spinning wing decoys are prohibited within the Wilderness Area.*

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Medicine Lake

National Wildlife Refuge

Hunting Regulations

Refuge Hunting Regulations

- The Refuge is open from sunrise to sunset.
- Overnight camping and open fires are prohibited.
- Hunting areas are identified by public hunting area boundary signs. All areas outside these boundaries are closed to hunting.
- The islands in Medicine Lake are closed to all visitors and uses, and it is unlawful to trespass on them.
- 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).
- The use of non-toxic shot is required for all shotgun hunting on the Refuge. Field possession or use of lead shot is illegal.
- Littering, including leaving spent shotgun shells or remains of hunted animals, is prohibited.
- Shooting into or retrieval of game from areas closed to hunting is prohibited.
- Predator hunting (coyote, badger, fox, skunk, and raccoon) may be conducted after obtaining a free permit, map, and regulations from Refuge headquarters.
- The use of dogs during regular game bird seasons for hunting and retrieving is allowed and encouraged.

Hunting in Areas 1 and 3:

A late season hunt for upland game birds, deer, and pronghorn in Areas 1 and 3 begins each year on November 15 and continues through the regular State seasons.

Hunting in Area 2:

- Upland game birds, mourning doves, ducks, geese, coots, jackrabbits, deer, and pronghorn may be hunted in Area 2 of the Refuge in accordance with State seasons and bag limits.
- Refuge waters in Area 2 are open to non-mechanical boats (canoes, kayaks, and rowboats) used for hunting, with the exception of the Medicine Lake Wilderness Area, which is closed to all boating after September 15.
- Hunting is allowed in Area 2 along the shoreline of Medicine Lake. Decoys must be placed no further than 50 yards from shore. All of the Medicine Lake shoreline outside of Area 2 is closed to hunting.

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. 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 406 / 789 2305, or the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge

- Refuge boundary
- State highway
- County road
- Paved road
- Gravel road
- Wilderness Area
- Hunting Areas 1 and 3
- Hunting Area 2
- Closed to hunting
- Refuge headquarters
- Parking

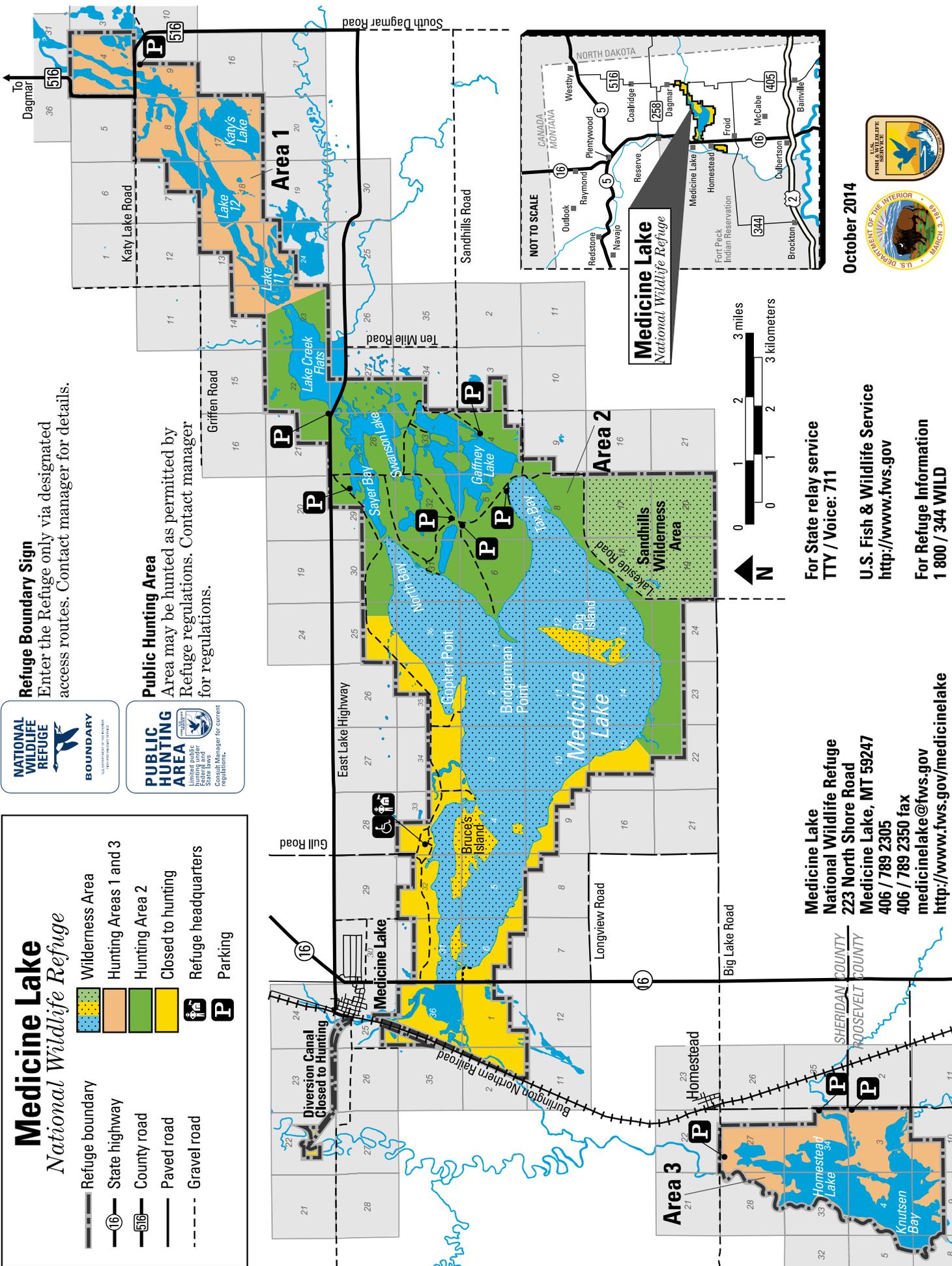


Refuge Boundary Sign

Enter the Refuge only via designated access routes. Contact manager for details.

Public Hunting Area

Area may be hunted as permitted by Refuge regulations. Contact manager for regulations.



**Medicine Lake
National Wildlife Refuge**
223 North Shore Road
Medicine Lake, MT 59247
406 / 789 2305
406 / 789 2350 fax
[medicinelake@fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov/medicinelake)
<http://www.fws.gov/medicinelake>

For State relay service
TTY / Voice: 711

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
<http://www.fws.gov>

For Refuge Information
1 800 / 344 WILD



October 2014

