

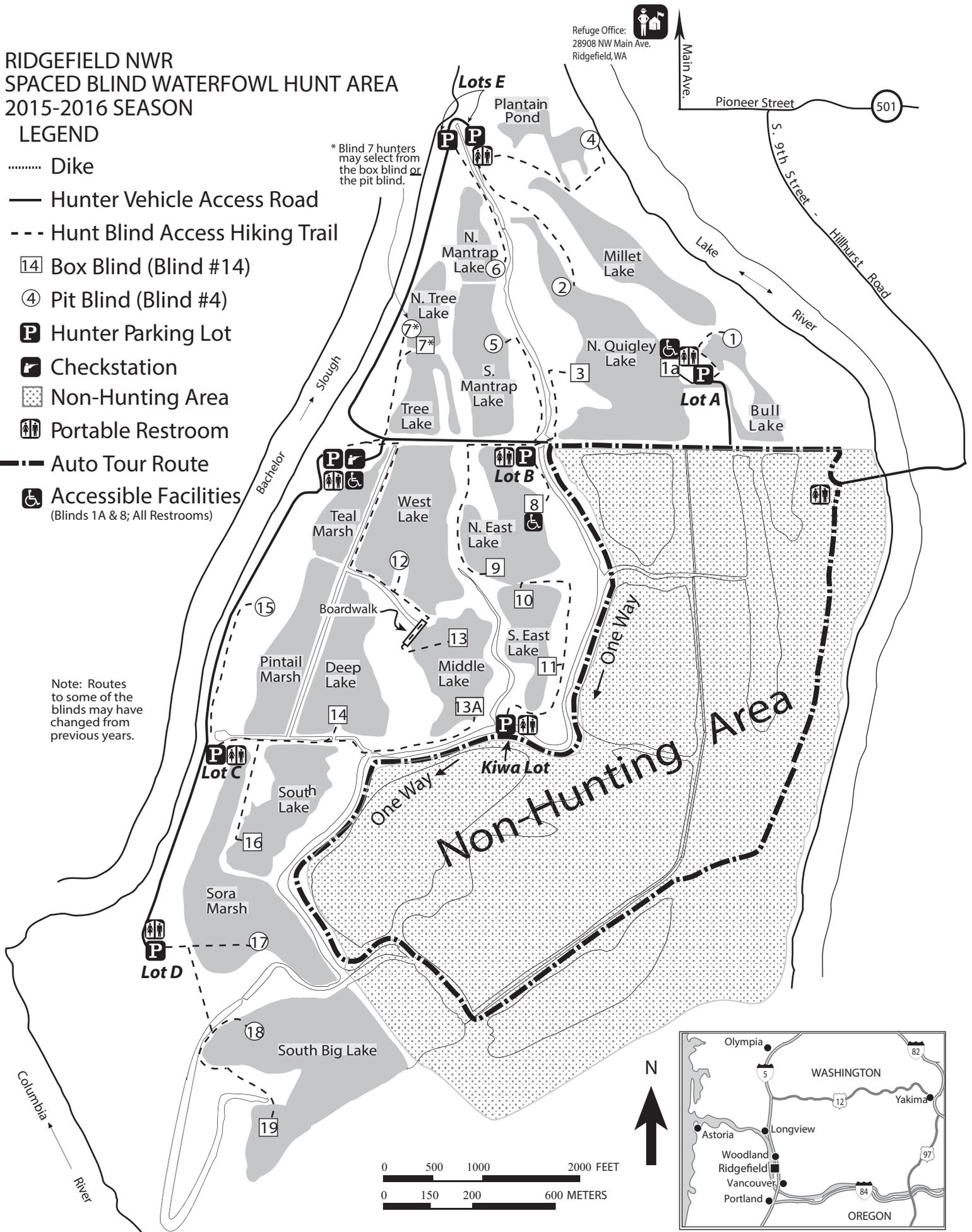
**RIDGEFIELD NWR  
SPACED BLIND WATERFOWL HUNT AREA  
2015-2016 SEASON**

**LEGEND**

- ..... Dike
- Hunter Vehicle Access Road
- - - Hunt Blind Access Hiking Trail
- 14 Box Blind (Blind #14)
- 4 Pit Blind (Blind #4)
- P Hunter Parking Lot
- ☑ Checkstation
- ▨ Non-Hunting Area
- ♿ Portable Restroom
- Auto Tour Route
- ♿ Accessible Facilities (Blinds 1A & 8; All Restrooms)

\*Blind 7 hunters may select from the box blind or the pit blind.

Note: Routes to some of the blinds may have changed from previous years.



Refuge Office:  
28908 NW Main Ave.  
Ridgefield, WA

Main Ave.  
Pioneer Street  
S. 9th Street - Hillhurst Road  
501

**Lots E**

**Lot A**

**Lot B**

**Lot C**

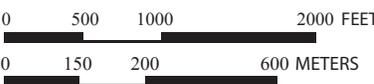
**Lot D**

**Non-Hunting Area**

**Kiwa Lot**

One Way

One Way



## **WATERFOWL HUNTING REGULATIONS for RIDGEFIELD NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

Waterfowl hunting is permitted on approximately 760 acres of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in accordance with all applicable Washington and Federal regulations, and subject to these Refuge Special Conditions.

**ONLY** ducks, geese, and coots may be taken. **ALL** other species are protected.

**Hunting Days:** Hunting is permitted on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday during the regular state season, excluding any Federal Holidays occurring on those days. Please note: the morning of October 24<sup>th</sup> is reserved for a Youth Waterfowl Hunt. The Refuge will impose an Emergency Closure to the goose season should the dusky Canada goose harvest meet or exceed 10 dusky Canada geese. If you are coming to the Refuge specifically to hunt geese, the Refuge's Hunter Hotline at (360) 571-2015 will announce Emergency Closures of the Refuge's goose season. Duck hunting will continue on the Refuge regardless of a goose hunting closure.

**Application Period/Process (New 2015-2016):** Applications will be processed by a new electronic reservation system this year. Reservations for the entire season will be generated in one pre-season lottery. Applications must be submitted electronically to [www.ridgefieldpermits.com](http://www.ridgefieldpermits.com) by October 1<sup>st</sup> at 2 pm (PST). Only one application per person is allowed. Each applicant has the opportunity to apply for thirty hunt days per season. Applications fees are \$1.00 per date selected (up to the maximum) payable on-line by credit card.

**Reservations:** Successful reservation applicants are randomly selected by a computer drawing. Reservations are not transferable. Reservations are valid until **1 ¾ hours** before legal shooting time on the day of the reservation. Reservations lost to emergency or weather related closures of the hunt area will not be reissued. **Important:** Reservations are valid until 1 ¾ hours before legal shooting time, reservation hunters arriving to the checkstation after 1 ¾ hours before legal shooting time will be afforded no additional privileges in blind assignments.

**Program Operations:** The Ridgefield NWR River "S" Unit gate will open two hours before legal shooting time. There is no overnight camping on the Refuge. Hunters **MUST** register at the checkstation by 1 ¾ hours before legal shooting time for hunter registration and orientation. Blind selection for all hunters will be held after registration and orientation. Reservation holders will select blinds in order according to their reservation number (lowest number selecting first). After all reservation holders have selected their blinds, unoccupied blinds will be filled by standby hunters, according to a lottery drawing conducted at the checkstation. Reservation or standby hunters may forego their opportunity for a morning hunt to be placed on a waiting list to refill blinds as they vacate. No blinds will be refilled until 10:00 a.m., at which time, reservation/standby hunters on the waiting list will be offered selection priority for available blinds. Early morning reservation/standby hunters on the waiting list must be present by 10:00 a.m. to maintain their position on the list. Promptly at 10:00 a.m., a second lottery drawing for hunters will be conducted. The 10:00 a.m. lottery will establish the blind selection order among its participants. The 10:00 a.m. lottery will complete the waiting list behind any remaining reservation/standby hunters from the early morning draw. Depending upon blind availability, hunters arriving after the 10:00 a.m. lottery will either be placed on the waiting list or select a blind on a first-come first-served basis.

**Hunter Access (New 2015/2016):** Access to blinds is only from designated Parking Lots A, B, C, D, E and the Kiwa Trailhead. Consult the 2015-2016 Hunt Area Map for parking lots and corresponding blinds. Regulations concerning leashes, unloaded weapons, and litter apply to all designated Parking Lots. This season is a pilot program for using the Kiwa Trailhead to access Blinds 10 & 11. All hunters exiting the Kiwa Trailhead must return to the checkstation to checkout from the hunt area by following the one-way auto tour route at posted speed limits.

**Recreation User Fee:** A charge of \$10.00 per blind or \$8.00 per hunter, whichever is greater, will be collected at the checkstation. Please see the hunter information board at the checkstation for additional user fee combinations. Season passes are also available for \$100.00. Checks or money orders should be made out to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Holders of Golden Age Passport/Senior Pass or Golden Access Passport/Access Pass are entitled to a 50% discount of the recreation fee. These Passes are available at Refuge Headquarters during regular office hours. There is no fee for youth hunters, 15 year of age or younger. Youth hunters must be accompanied by a supervising adult at all times.

**Disabled Hunters:** Two hunting blinds with wheelchair access are available (Blind 1A and Blind 8). Please notify the checkstation staff upon your arrival before hunter registration begins, if you are a disabled hunter. Blind 1A will be reserved exclusively for persons with permanent disabilities that possess either a State Disabled Hunter Placard (see WAC 232-12-828 for qualifications) or a Federal Access Pass. Please note, only disabled hunters possessing a Federal Access Pass will receive reduced rates on the blind fee. Non-disabled hunters will only be allowed to use Blind 1A if accompanying a disabled hunter. Blind 8, while accessible, is not reserved for disabled hunters and is available to any hunter on a first-come, first-served basis. Disabled reservation holders have priority access to Blind 1A. A checkstation lottery will select occupancy in the event of multiple non-reservation holding parties of disabled hunters vying for Blind 1A.

**Weapons/Ammunition:** Weapons must be unloaded except at blinds or while retrieving crippled birds. Hunters may not use or possess more than 25 shells per day. Only Federal- and State-approved, non-toxic, shot shells may be used.

**Injuries/Accidents:** Any injury or accident occurring on the Refuge must be reported immediately to the staff.

**Dogs:** Retrievers are valuable for locating injured and downed waterfowl. Dogs must be on leash until at the designated blind.

**Blind & Hunting Information:** Maximum capacity of any blind is 3 persons. All hunters must report directly to their blind after making their selection. Hunting is only allowed from the blind. Hunters are to stay in the blind, unless retrieving waterfowl. Hunters cannot join a hunt party already occupying a blind. Hunters wishing to switch blinds must report to the checkstation and will be either subject to the 10:00 a.m. lottery or placed last on any established waiting lists after 10:00 a.m. All hunters are required to check-in and check-out at the checkstation. While hunting a harvest card must be in possession, as proof of payment. Hunters are to submit accurate and complete harvest cards upon checkout from the hunt area. Failure to comply with Washington/Federal regulations or Refuge Special Conditions may be grounds for citation and/or loss of privileges to participate in the Refuge's waterfowl hunt program.

**Information Contact:** For after hours and weekends, please call the refuge hunter hotline for the most up to date information at (360) 571-2015. The hunter hotline will also announce emergency and weather related closures of the hunt area. Refuge Waterfowl Hunt Information is on the Web at: [www.fws.gov/ridgefieldrefuges](http://www.fws.gov/ridgefieldrefuges).