

News Release



Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex
26208 Finley Refuge Road
Corvallis, Oregon 97333
Phone: 541/757-7236
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/William_L_Finley/

Date: May 11, 2020

Contact: Brian Root, Refuge Biologist

William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge 2020 Elk Hunts

William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge will again offer elk hunting in 2020. This year's hunt program will provide a total of 25 elk permits, with hunting divided into four hunts that run from August 29th – October 30th. **Only antlerless elk may be harvested.**

A single, 3-week archery-only hunt will begin on August 29th, with 10 permits allotted.

There will be three, 2-week short-range weapon hunts, beginning on September 19th, with 5 permits allotted for each hunt. Only hunters who plan to purchase a Willamette Unit General Season Antlerless Elk Damage tag will be considered for these hunts.

This year's elk hunts will take place in the same designated Refuge areas as during previous years, referred to and marked as Zones 1 and 2 (see refuge website for map).

In order to hunt on the Refuge you must be awarded a special Refuge elk hunt permit *in addition to* a current Oregon hunting license and valid state-issued elk tag. To obtain a Refuge elk hunt permit, fill out an application (located on our website) and make sure it is postmarked by July 1st, 2020. Successful applicants will be notified by COB July 15th and provided additional information about Refuge regulations and hunting information. For more information and details on how to apply, visit our website and refer to the following documents: *2020 Elk Hunt Information* and *2020 Elk Hunt Application*.

Self-service hunt kiosks will be located along Finley Refuge Road at the Display Pond parking area and the Turtle Flats restrooms, as well as off Bruce Road near the east end of McFadden Marsh bridge. Maps and regulations are posted at the hunt kiosks, as well as on the Refuge website:

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/William_L_Finley/

Hunters are permitted on refuge one hour before and one hour after legal hunting time. Overnight camping and after-hours parking are prohibited on the Refuge. Hunters under 18 must have their hunter safety card on their person.

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuges must comply with all provisions of State and local laws. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with Refuge regulations.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and

trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov --FWS--



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
26208 Finley Refuge Road
Corvallis, Oregon 97333-9533
Phone (541) 757-7236



2020 ELK HUNT INFORMATION

WILLIAM L. FINLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

ELK HUNTING IS ALLOWED BY SPECIAL PERMIT ONLY (*SEE FINLEY ELK HUNT PERMIT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS*) AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH OREGON STATE REGULATIONS, AND SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

GENERAL GAME REGULATIONS

- Hunting for **Antlerless Elk ONLY**, during specified seasons on Finley Refuge (see Elk Hunt Calendar) with both a **Finley Refuge Elk Permit AND valid ODFW tag**.
- Hunters must have a **current Oregon State hunting license and valid state-issued tag** including one of the following:
 - **General Archery elk tag**
 - **Willamette Unit General Season Antlerless Elk Damage tag**
- Shotguns (slugs only) and muzzleloaders are allowed during the firearms portions of the elk hunt.
- Hunting is permitted seven days a week. Hunters are permitted on refuge one (1) hour before and one (1) hour after legal hunting time. **You must contact a refuge law enforcement officer after hours to retrieve a wounded animal.** Normal Refuge hours are dawn to dusk daily.
- Unless the dates are listed as archery only, all refuge hunting is restricted to archery, shotguns using slugs, and muzzleloaders.
- We allow only portable hunting stands. Hunters are limited to one (1) stand on the refuge at any time. Hunters may erect their stand one (1) day prior to their permitted refuge hunt and must remove it the last day they hunt. Hunters must permanently affix the owner's name, address, and phone number to stands. Stands and blinds not in full compliance with these regulations will be removed.
- Hunters under 18 must have their hunter safety card on their person.
- Hunters must visit the Refuge website or one of the self-service hunt kiosks on or before their first hunt day to read the most up-to-date Refuge hunt regulations.
- Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on national wildlife refuges must comply with all provisions of State and local law. **Persons may not carry or use firearms while archery-only elk hunting on the Refuge.**
- Note: Elk hunting is not currently permitted on the Snag Boat Bend Unit, Ankeny Refuge, or Baskett Slough Refuge.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- Overnight camping
- After hours parking
- The use of nails, wire, screws, or bolts to attach a stand to a tree, or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven to support a hunter
- Cutting or removing trees and other vegetation
- The use of flagging, paint, blazes, tacks, or other types of markers
- The use of dogs to hunt or track wounded game
- The use of trail cameras
- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances

2020 William L. Finley NWR Elk Hunt Calendar

Tag Required	Month			Restrictions <i>All Hunts are for ANTLERLESS Elk Only</i>	
	August	September	October	Zone 1	Zone 2
General Archery (10 permits)		29 _____ 18 Hunt # 1		Archery Only	Archery Only
Willamette Unit General Antlerless Elk Damage (5 permits each hunt)		19 _____ 2 Hunt # 2		Shotgun with slugs, Muzzleloader, Archery	Archery Only
			3 _____ 16 Hunt # 3		
			17 _____ 30 Hunt # 4		

SELF-SERVICE HUNT KIOSKS and REFUGE WEBSITE INFORMATION

- Three self-service kiosks are located on the Refuge at the Mill Hill (Display Pond) Parking Area, across from the Turtle Flats restrooms, and the pullout east of the McFadden Marsh bridge on the north side of Bruce Road. Please see the *Elk Hunting Zone* map for kiosk locations.
- **FOR MORE ELK HUNT INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT THE REFUGE WEBSITE:**
https://www.fws.gov/refuge/William_L_Finley/



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U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

26208 Finley Refuge Road

Corvallis, Oregon 97333-9533

Phone (541) 757-7236

FAX 541-757-4450



WILLIAM L. FINLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

2020 ELK HUNT APPLICATION

RETURN VIA FAX OR MAIL POSTMARKED BY JULY 1ST, 2020

Background and Information

Elk hunting has been permitted on William L. Finley NWR since 2015 to help control long-term elk population growth on the refuge. Only antlerless elk are allowed to be harvested. Elk hunting on the refuge requires a special Refuge Permit (obtained from the Refuge through a random drawing) as well as a valid Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) elk hunting tag, as described below.

The timing, location, weapon type, and number of permits for this hunt have been designed to assure a quality hunt that will provide for the safety of visitors and the accommodation of other Refuge visitor uses. The Refuge elk hunts will include one archery-only hunt and three short-range weapon hunts. Hunters are asked to indicate their order of preference (1st and 2nd choices) on their application below.

General Archery Hunt

Hunters can apply for these hunts without first purchasing an ODFW General Archery Elk tag. If successfully drawn, hunters must possess a valid ODFW General Archery Elk tag prior to hunting on the Refuge.

Hunt #1: Archery-only hunting with a restricted bag limit of one antlerless elk. **Hunt #1 begins August 29th and runs through September 18th.** Ten (10) permits will be allotted.

Willamette Unit General Season Antlerless Elk Damage Firearms Hunts

Hunters applying for one of the 3 short-range firearms hunts will be required to use an ODFW Willamette Unit General Season Antlerless Elk Damage tag. Hunters can apply for these hunts without first purchasing an ODFW tag. If successfully drawn, hunters must possess a valid ODFW Willamette Unit General Season Antlerless Elk Damage tag prior to hunting on the Refuge.

Hunt #2: will start **September 19th and runs through October 2nd.** Open to shotgun with slugs, muzzleloader, and archery in Zone 1, and archery-only in Zone 2. This hunt has a restricted bag limit of one antlerless elk. Five (5) permits will be allotted.

Hunt #3: will start **October 3rd and runs through October 16th.** Open to shotgun with slugs, muzzleloader, and archery in Zone 1, and archery-only in Zone 2. This hunt has a restricted bag limit of one antlerless elk. Five (5) permits will be allotted.

Hunt #4: will start **October 17th and runs through October 30th.** Open to shotgun with slugs, muzzleloader, and archery in Zone 1 and archery-only in Zone 2. This hunt has a restricted bag limit of one antlerless elk. Five (5) permits will be allotted.

Application procedures

Please fill out the form below with your name and contact information, and mark the Finley Refuge Hunts for which you are applying (1st and 2nd choices). Fax or mail your completed hunt application to the Refuge. Mailed applications **MUST BE POSTMARKED no later than July 1st**.

All applications will be grouped by their 1st choice hunt and numbered in the order they are received. Random numbers will be generated for each group to select the successful applicants. Second choice hunts will be included in the draws if there are not enough 1st choice applications. **Successful applicants will be notified by COB July 15th** and provided additional information about Refuge regulations and hunting information. An individual cannot be selected for more than one hunt.

Successful applicants will be contacted by Refuge staff and provided specific information about Refuge rules, harvest reporting procedures, and a map showing parking areas and open hunt areas for their specific hunts.

SEE APPLICATION FORM ON NEXT PAGE

RETURN THIS PAGE

William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge 2020 Elk Hunting Application
 (please print clearly)

 Last Name First Name

 Mailing Address

 City State Zip Code

 Home Phone Number -AND- Cell Phone Number

 Email Address

Please identify your **1st and 2nd choice hunts** by marking your choice in the left column. General Archery hunters are only eligible to apply for Hunt #1 (the start date coincides with the Statewide General Archery season). Willamette Unit General Antlerless Elk Damage tag holders are eligible to apply for Hunts #2, #3, and #4.

William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge 2020 Elk Hunt Seasons

Mark Priority Choice (1 st or 2 nd)	# of Permits Allotted	ODFW Tag Required	Month			Restrictions All Hunts are Antlerless Elk ONLY	
			August	September	October	Zone 1	Zone 2
	10	General Archery		29 <u>18</u> Hunt # 1		Archery Only	Archery Only
	5	Willamette Unit General Antlerless Elk Damage		19 <u>2</u> Hunt # 2		Shotgun w/slugs, Muzzleloader, and Archery	Archery Only
	5			3 <u>16</u> Hunt # 3			
	5			17 <u>30</u> Hunt # 4			

Return this Elk Hunting Application form by Fax or Mail.
Applications must be POSTMARKED no later than July 1, 2020 to:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
26208 Finley Refuge Road
Corvallis, Oregon 97333-9533
FAX: 541-757-4450

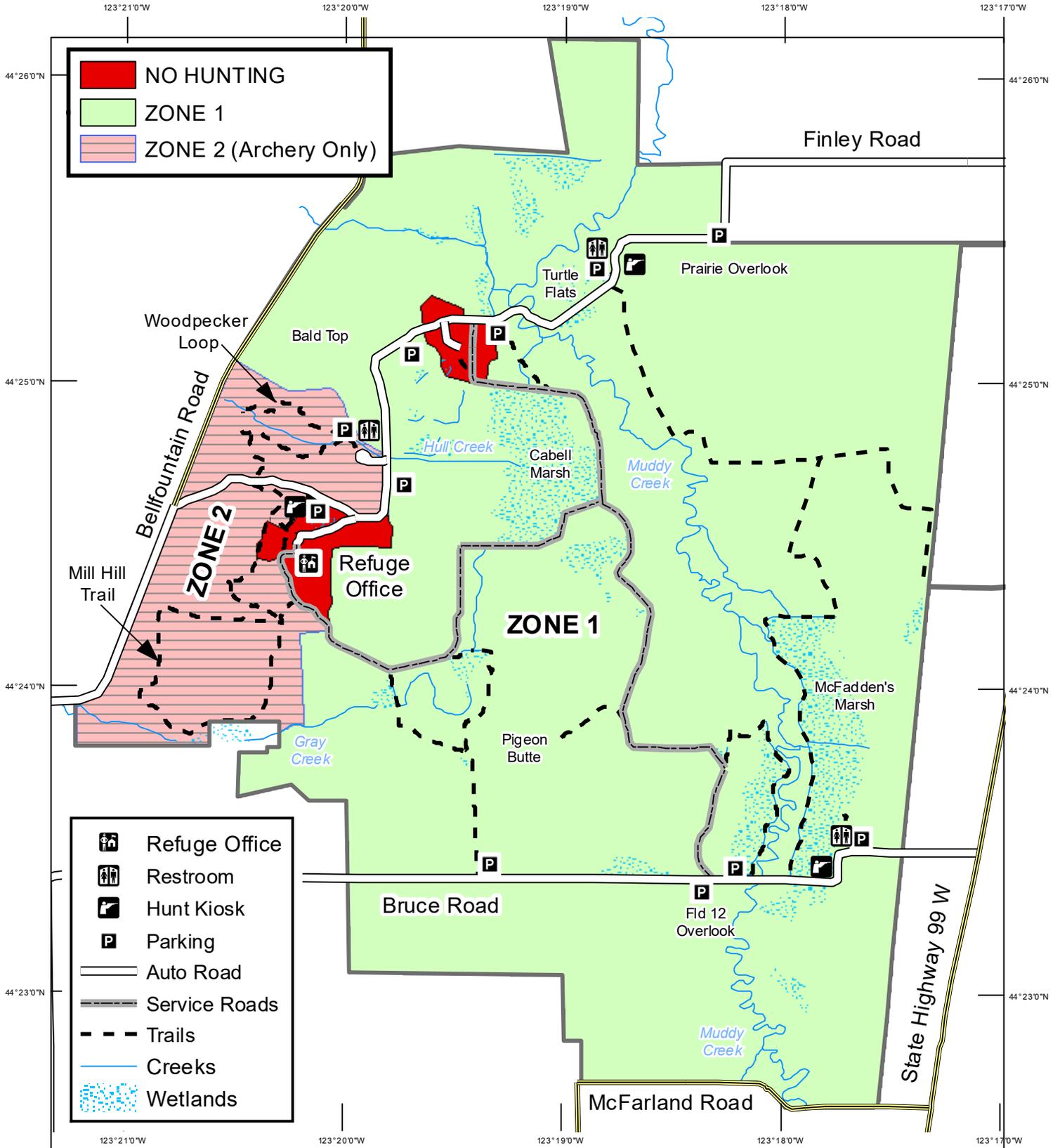


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge

Benton County, Oregon

2020 ELK HUNT



NO HUNTING

ZONE 1

ZONE 2 (Archery Only)

Refuge Office

Restroom

Hunt Kiosk

Parking

Auto Road

Service Roads

Trails

Creeks

Wetlands

**Refuge Elk Hunt Permit
AND
ODFW Elk Tag
ARE BOTH REQUIRED**

