

Trustom Pond *National Wildlife Refuge*

Hunting and Fishing Program for 2021



The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide additional hunting opportunities at Trustom Pond National Wildlife Refuge (refuge) beginning in 2021. Currently, hunting opportunities for goose, dove, duck, coot and merganser are available at Field 1, in coordination with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) as part of the South Shore Management Area (Figure 1). Saltwater fishing opportunities are available in designated areas from September 16 through March 31. The Trustom Pond water body is closed to hunting and fishing.

For the 2021 hunting season, there are new opportunities for white-tailed deer hunting at Trustom Pond Unit. Hunting is by refuge permit only, with season and weapon restrictions. Hunters will be selected through a lottery drawing. Rhode Island Archery Proficiency Certification is required for all permitted hunters. State safety regulations apply, including safety setbacks.

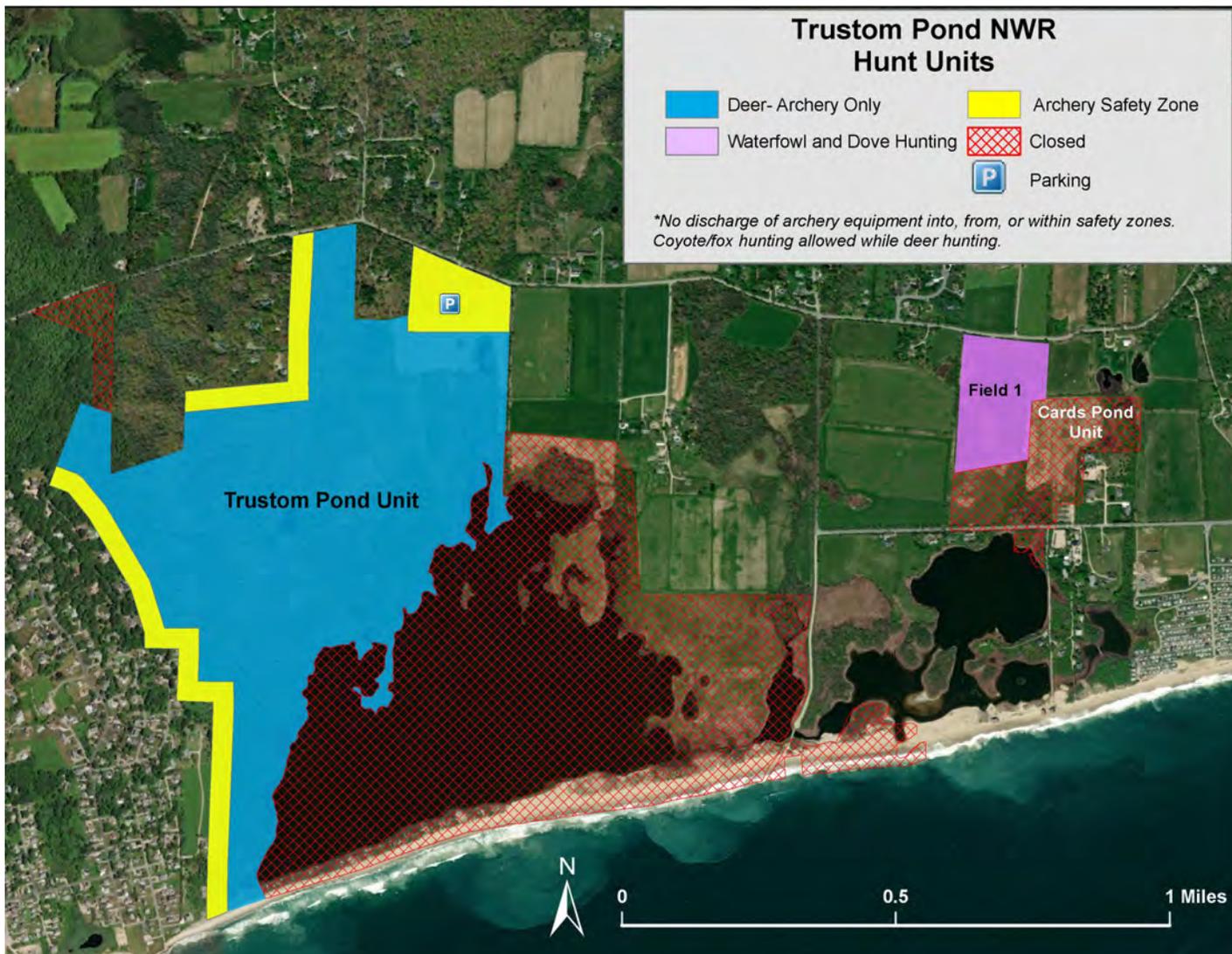
2021 Program Details:

- Trustom Pond hunting unit is open to archery only white-tailed deer hunting.
 - There are two (2), one-week hunting sessions permitted in 2021: November 10 – 16 and December 1 - 7.
 - Ten (10) hunters will be permitted to hunt during each hunt session.
 - Lottery entries and permits will be available on-line at rhodeislandpermits.recaccess.com. Hunters may submit one lottery entry, and will indicate preference for hunting session.
 - Cost to enter the lottery is \$5.00. If selected to hunt, the permit costs is \$15.00.
 - Permitted hunters are allowed to take fox and coyote during their deer hunting session.
 - Hunters must use designated parking on the National Wildlife Refuge.
- Trustom Pond NWR will be closed to all other activities during the deer hunting sessions.
- Field 1 is open to goose, duck, coot, merganser, and mourning dove hunting (September – January).
- No hunting or fishing allowed on the Trustom Pond water body.

Safety measures employed:

- All hunters must have a valid State hunting license, which requires a hunter education course;
- All hunters for deer, coyote and fox must have a Rhode Island Archery Proficiency Certification;
- The number of hunters is limited by a permit system with 10 hunters per session;
- No knocked arrows or discharge of archery equipment within, into, or out of hunt safety zones;
- Hunters will be provided maps of safety zones and hunt unit boundaries to aid in navigation;
- The public will be alerted to annual hunting seasons through news releases, website and Facebook postings, and signage on refuge trailhead notice boards;
- Refuge will be closed to all other users during the deer hunting sessions;
- The hunting and fishing program will be monitored and adjustments made as deemed necessary.

Figure 1. Trustom Pond National Wildlife Refuge Hunt Units. Hunt maps were created using GIS mapping for informational use, not for legal purposes.



The mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System is “to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans” (Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997).

