

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is part of the Chesapeake Marshlands NWR Complex. It is one of over 560 national wildlife refuges in the United States. The primary objective of a national wildlife refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation and protection of wildlife. Hunting on a national wildlife refuge is a privilege and your behavior while participating in a Blackwater NWR hunt may affect future hunting on refuges. **REMEMBER!**

Your hunt permit authorizes you to take specified game only. Harming or needlessly disturbing any other wildlife is a violation of refuge regulations and is cause for prosecution. The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on national wildlife refuges set forth in Title 50: Part 32, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State regulations and the following special refuge regulations.

*Deer harvested during the refuge hunts will NOT count toward the State's regional combined bag limit.*

### GENERAL REGULATIONS

Only participants possessing authorized permits will be allowed to enter the hunt areas. This includes traveling on/accessing hunt unit roads and parking lots beyond entrance gates. Permit holders are allowed on the refuge from 4:30 am to 9:00 pm.

**Youth Hunt** - Hunters must be 16 years of age or younger and accompanied by a licensed or exempt from licensed, non-hunting adult, age 21 or older. The accompanying adult must remain with the youth at all times. Check-in is required at the designated refuge check station (see map). The check station will open at 6:00 am. A valid hunt permit, proper hunting license, and personal identification will be required to check-in. All deer killed must be properly tagged and presented for examination at the refuge check station on the day of the kill.

**Quota Muzzleloader & Quota Shotgun Hunts** - All deer harvested must be properly tagged and presented for examination at the refuge check station on the day of the kill, between 9:00 am and 8:00 pm.

**Non-Quota Muzzleloader & Non-Quota Shotgun Hunts** - The Hunt Coordinator will be available from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm at the Refuge Visitor Center.

### Tagging and Checking Instructions

All deer must be tagged and the Big Game Harvest Record must be filled out, using code 543 as place of kill, before deer can be moved from place of kill. Under Maryland state guidelines, hunters then have 24 hours to obtain a confirmation number.

### Disabled Hunters

Hunters, including archery hunters, wishing to qualify for disabled permits in Area B1\* and Q2\* must provide a completed copy of an approved Maryland Department of Natural Resources - Wildlife & Heritage Service Application for Permit to Hunt from a Vehicle, along with the deer hunt applications.

### Weapons

**Archery** – Crossbows, bows and arrows according to State of Maryland regulations.

**Youth Hunt** – If hunting with a shotgun, hunters must use slugs and/or No. 1 buckshot or larger.

**Muzzleloader Hunt** – Can use a muzzleloading rifle and/or muzzleloading shotgun, according to State of Maryland regulations.

**Shotgun Hunt** – If hunting with a shotgun, hunters must use slugs and/or No. 1 buckshot or larger.

### Access

Motorized vehicles are authorized for access only on designated roads and parking areas indicated on the hunt map, in Area B1\* and Q2\* (vehicles are restricted to field edges and trails). All other access is limited to walk-in or bicycles. Access by boat and ATV is prohibited. Hunters are required to seek permission from a refuge employee to retrieve deer from a closed area.

### Scouting

Scouting will only be permitted by hunters with a permit from 7:00 am to sunset on September 27; October 13 & 27; November 24; December 15, 2013; and January 5 & 12, 2014. The Hunt Coordinator will be available at the Refuge Visitor Center, during all scout days from 9:00 am -12:00 pm for information. All youth hunt permit holders must be accompanied by an adult/guardian age 21 or older.

### Hunter Orange

Same as State regulations.

### Tree Stands

Temporary, removable, ladder, fixed, and climbing-type tree stands are permitted and encouraged in all areas. Tree stands must not damage the tree. Screw in steps, spikes, nails, or other objects that are driven into the tree are prohibited. Strap-on steps are permitted. Hunting from a permanently constructed tree stand is prohibited. Tree stands may be left in the hunting area during the hunting season at the hunter's discretion. Unoccupied tree stands must be tagged in plain sight with permit number and year. The refuge will not be held responsible for damage, theft, or other hunter occupancy. Tree stands can be pre-installed during the scouting days for use during the selected hunts. Stands may be removed the last day of your permitted hunt, on any designated scout day, or during the year end "stand removal" week (Feb 1-9, 2014). Any stands left in a hunt area after February 9<sup>th</sup> will be confiscated and deemed abandoned property.

### Other Regulations

- Hunters are prohibited from being on the refuge (including parking lots) between 9:00 pm & 4:30 am.
- Pets are prohibited in hunt areas.
- Camping is not permitted.
- Only contained-fire cooking devices are permitted, and these are restricted to designated parking areas.
- Commercialization (guiding) is not permitted.
- Baiting is not permitted.
- Only participants possessing authorized permits will be allowed to enter the hunt areas.
- Use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.
- Driving deer is permitted only on December 12-14.
- Area access and hunter participation can be revoked at discretion of the Refuge Manager.
- Shooting from, across or down any designated refuge road is prohibited.
- An open gate designates a refuge road.

### PERMIT LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Each hunter must have the following in his/her possession and display them upon request of any FWS employee or DNR police:

1. Valid Maryland State hunting license and stamps.
2. Valid government issued photo identification.
3. Valid Archery, Youth, Muzzleloader, or Shotgun Hunt permit.

### APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- Permits, except archery, must be obtained through mail. Include check or money order made out to the **Friends of Blackwater** in the appropriate amount.
- All hunters must obtain a permit regardless of age.
- Permits are non transferable

### Archery, Youth, Muzzleloader, Shotgun

- Applications will be mailed to hunters that have participated in deer hunts at Blackwater NWR in the past 3 years.
- July 1 - applications will be available at the temporary Visitor Center from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.
- Archery only- after September 15 permits may also be purchased at the Visitor Center.
- Area U and B1\* will be closed to archery during the Youth Hunt on November 2, 2013.

### Youth Hunt

- Permits may also be purchased by walk-in hunters the day of the hunt at the check in station.

### Applications will only be accepted by mail postmarked no later than:

- Muzzleloader- October 5<sup>th</sup>
- Youth Hunt- October 26<sup>th</sup>
- Shotgun- November 9<sup>th</sup>
- Dec. Non-Quota Muzzleloader- November 30<sup>th</sup>
- Jan. Non-Quota Shotgun- December 28<sup>th</sup>

### Permit Application Fees

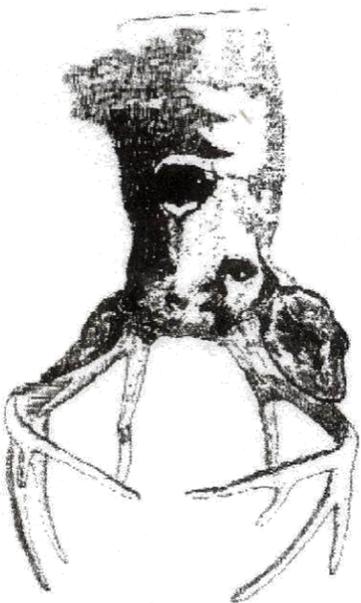
Archery Application: \$20  
 Quota Muzzleloader: \$10  
 Non-Quota (Doe only) Muzzleloader: \$10  
 Non-Quota Muzzleloader: \$10  
 Quota Shotgun: \$10  
 Dec. Non-Quota Shotgun: \$20  
 Jan. Non-Quota Shotgun: \$20  
 Youth Fees: \$5 for each hunt  
 First Year Youth Hunter: Free for Youth Hunt Day

Note: Fees are reduced by ½ for Golden Age Passport/Senior Pass or Golden Access Passport/Access Pass holders. Pass numbers must be provided.

For information, call Hunt Coordinator Allen Johnston at 410-228-5018. During the quota hunts Allen may be contacted by cell phone at 443-205-5290.

Season	Date	Bag Limit	Total Bag Limit
Archery	Sept. 28 – Oct. 16, 2013 Oct. 28 – Nov. 23, 2013 Jan. 13 – 31, 2014	Sika: 2 (only 1 antlered) White-tailed: 10 antlerless and 2 antlered, (2 antlerless must be harvested before harvesting a second antlered)	Sika: 2 (only 1 may be antlered), White-tailed: 10 antlerless and 2 antlered, (2 antlerless must be harvested before harvesting a second antlered).
Quota Muzzleloader	Oct. 18 - 19, 2013 <small>Area U and B1 closed to archery on November 2, 2013</small>	Sika: 1 White-tailed: 11 (only 1 may be antlered)	Sika: 2 (only 1 may be antlered), White-tailed: 10 antlerless and 2 antlered, (2 antlerless must be harvested before harvesting a second antlered).
Non-Quota Muzzleloader	October 24-26, 2013 December 21, 2013	Sika: 1 antlerless White-tailed: 10 antlerless Sika and white-tailed deer within total bag limit for the muzzleloader hunts	Sika: 2 (only 1 may be antlered), White-tailed: 10 antlerless and 2 antlered, (2 antlerless must be harvested before harvesting a second antlered).
Quota Shotgun	December 2 and 6, 2013	See "Total Bag Limit"	Sika: 2 (only 1 may be antlered), White-tailed: 10 antlerless and 2 antlered, (2 antlerless must be harvested before harvesting a second antlered).
Non-Quota Shotgun	December 12-14, 2013 January 10-11, 2014		
Youth	November 2, 2013 Area U, N and B1	Sika: 1 either sex White-tailed: 3 (only 1 antlered)	Sika: 1 either sex White-tailed: 3 (only 1 antlered)
Scout Days	September 27 <sup>th</sup> , October 13 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup> , November 24 <sup>th</sup> , December 15 <sup>th</sup> , and January 5 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>		

**Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge**  
**Cambridge, Maryland**



**Hunting Regulations**  
**2013-2014**

# BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

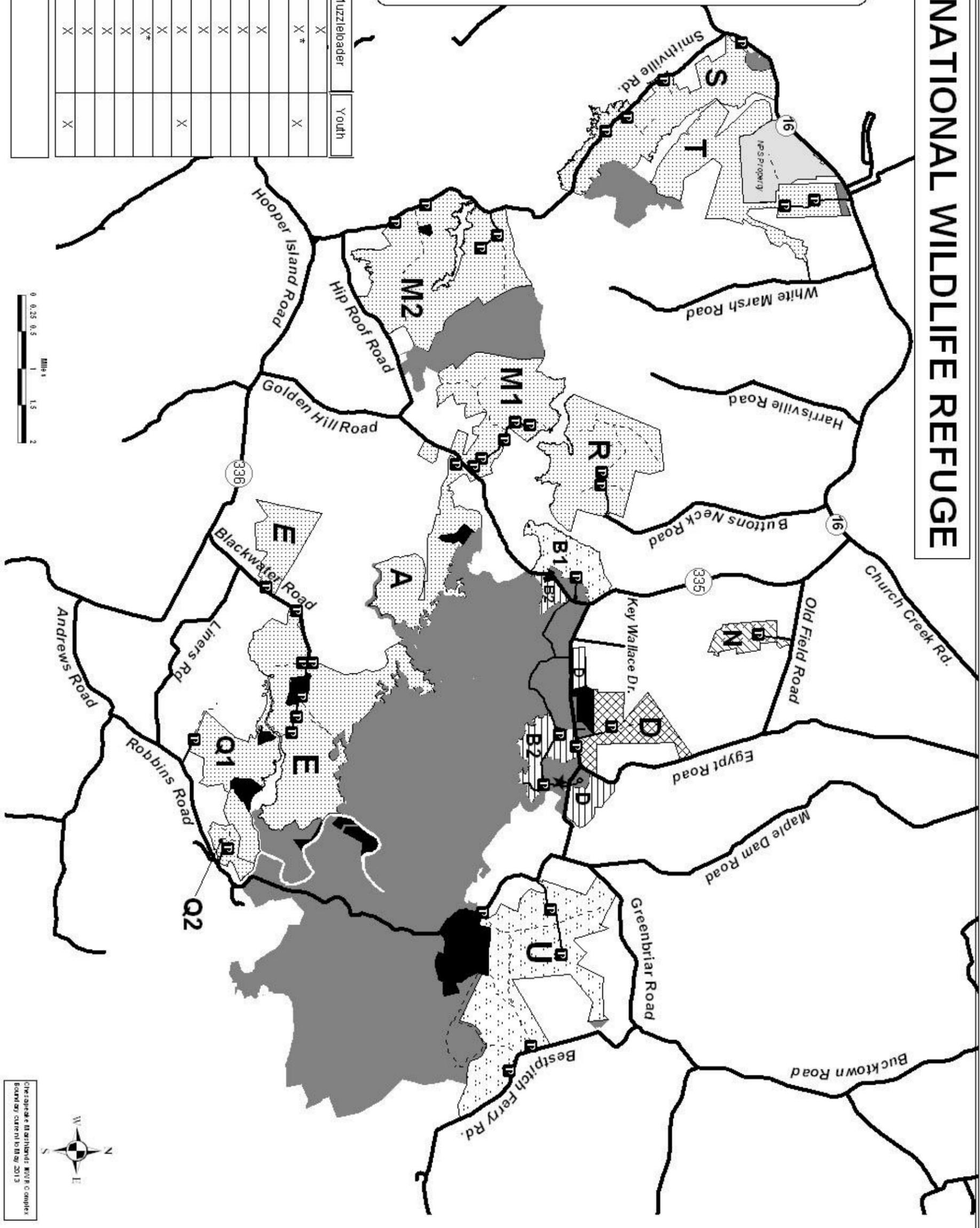
## Deer Hunt Units

2013 - 14 Season

- Shotgun
- Shotgun, Muzzleloader
- Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Youth
- Archery, Shotgun, Muzzleloader
- Archery, Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Youth
- Closed to Hunting
- Private Inholdings
- Closed to All Access: NPS Property
- Check Station
- Hunt Parking
- Major Roads
- Refuge Roads
- Closed to Vehicles

Area	Acres	Archery	Shotgun	Muzzleloader	Youth
A	790	X	X	X	
B1*	369	X*	X*	X*	X
B2	399		X		
D	734		X	X	
E	2240	X	X	X	
M1	1055	X	X	X	
M2	1789	X	X	X	
N	211		X	X	X
Q1	662	X	X	X	
Q2*	143	X*	X*	X*	
R	1152	X	X	X	
S	1200	X	X	X	
T	1125	X	X	X	
U	1925	X	X	X	X

\* B1 & Q2 - Certified disabled only



Overseas & Barnhart Wildlife Complex  
 Boundary current to May 2013