

Rice Lake

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations 2020–2021



Welcome

Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1935 to preserve valuable habitat for waterfowl. The 18,200 acre refuge includes boreal forest, wetland and river habitats, with the shallow 3,600 acre wild-rice producing Rice Lake being the most important resource.

The refuge continues its important wildlife management role today, while providing the community with a variety of recreational opportunities.

Safety

For emergencies, call 911. To report violations:

- Turn in Poachers (TIP): 1-800-652-9093
- Federal Wildlife Officer: 612-283-8963

Firearms

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.)

Shotgun hunters must use non-toxic shot. The possession of lead shot is prohibited while in the field.

Vehicles

Licensed motor vehicles are permitted only on refuge roads as shown on the map. Horses, snowmobiles, ATVs and all other OHVs (off-highway vehicles) are prohibited.

Boats

Boats without motors and boats with electric motors are permitted in all fishing areas.

Accessibility Information

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. For more information please contact the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, www.doi.gov/pmb/eeo/public-civil-rights.

Contact Refuge Headquarters for application procedures for the accessible deer hunt held in the fall.

Hunting Regulations

Hunting regulations are designed to provide safe recreational opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. Hunting is permitted in accordance with federal regulations governing public use on national wildlife refuges, as set forth in Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State of Minnesota regulations subject to the conditions stated below. Brochures may be obtained by mail, at Refuge Headquarters, stocked brochure boxes on the refuge or from the refuge website.

Waterfowl or deer taken with a firearm outside of refuge boundaries may not be transported or possessed on the refuge.

Access

Refuge is open from sunrise to sunset. Licensed hunters may access the refuge two hours before legal shooting time until two hours after legal shooting time.

Hunters must park in designated parking areas, as identified on the map, to access the refuge for hunting.

Dogs

Hunting dogs are permitted, provided they are under the immediate control of the hunter at all times, and used only during the state hunting season, in areas open to hunting. Training and allowing pets off leash are prohibited at all other times.

Tree Stands

All property brought onto the refuge must be removed at the end of each day. This includes tree stands, vehicles, boats, decoys, trash, trail cameras and hunting equipment. Blinds made of natural materials must be disassembled at the end of each day.

Harvest Reporting

All deer taken during the archery and firearm season are to be registered as taken in Permit Area 901. Deer may be registered by calling 888-706-6367 or going online at www.mndnr.gov/hunting.

Prohibited Activities

- The use of artificial lights or automobile headlights to locate or take wildlife.
- Distribution of or hunting over bait, including salts or minerals.
- Disposal of animal carcasses.
- Camping, open fires and overnight parking.
- Target shooting.
- Permanent tree stands, spikes, nails, screw-in steps, screw-in bow holders or other items that penetrate the outer bark of a tree.
- Cutting, mowing, sawing, digging, collecting, injuring or removing vegetation.
- Searching for or removal of any natural items, including antlers, plants, animals and historic and archaeological features.
- Littering. All trash, including shotgun shell casings, must be packed out.
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting.
- Use or possession of any illegal drug or drug paraphernalia.
- Hunting within 200 yards of any public use facility.
- By law, recreational activities on national wildlife refuges are prohibited unless expressly permitted.

36289 State Highway 65
McGregor, MN 55760

218-768-2402

Email: RiceLake@fws.gov
Website: fws.gov/refuge/rice_lake

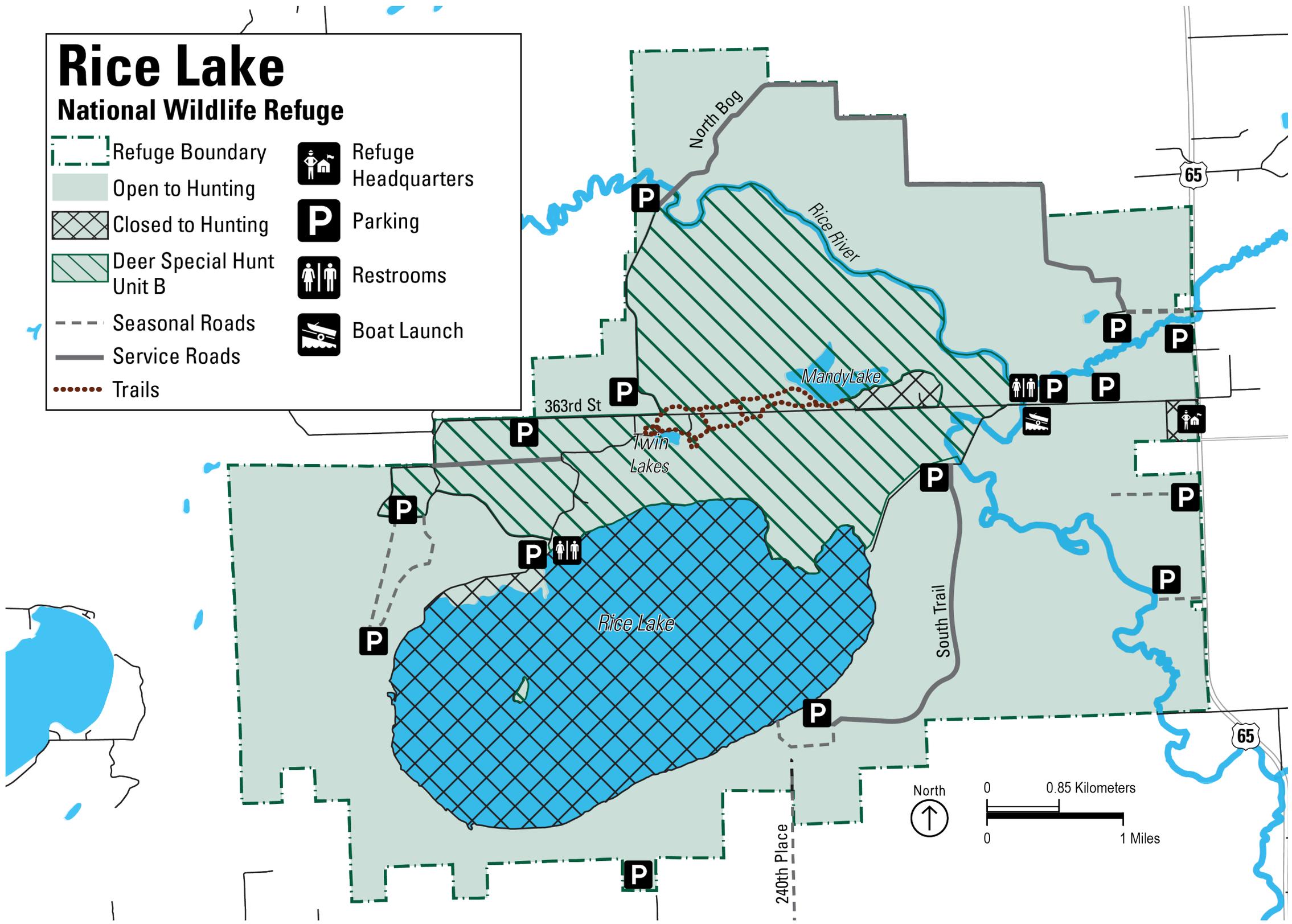
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1-800-344-WILD

August 2020 (All previous versions invalid)



Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge

 Refuge Boundary	 Refuge Headquarters
 Open to Hunting	 Parking
 Closed to Hunting	 Restrooms
 Deer Special Hunt Unit B	 Boat Launch
 Seasonal Roads	 Service Roads
 Trails	



Activity	Species
Small Game	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruffed / Spruce / Sharp-tailed Grouse • Snowshoe Hare • Cottontail Rabbit • Gray / Fox Squirrel
Migratory Birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Woodcock • Common Snipe <p>Note: The refuge is CLOSED to duck, goose, and other migratory bird hunting.</p>
Big Game	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deer, Archery • Deer, Firearms Special Permit Holders for Area 901 ONLY

